

# PMPO

Spring 2005 - Volume 16

The Palomar Mountain Planning Organization

Board Members: Terri Bailey, Tom Burton, Robert Carlyle, Tracy Dixon, Donna Dose, Bruce Graves, Jim Hamerly, Susan Humason, Scott Kardel, Elliot Miller, Jack Norvall, Bonnie Phelps, Michael Pique, Alan Serry, John Tainer/Elizabeth Getzoff

## *A Message from the Chair* By Bruce Graves

I just finished reading an article in the Valley Center Road Runner by Joe Chisholm. Joe is the long-time Chairman of the Pala-Pauma community planning group. Joe's group is recognized as an official Sponsor Group by the county. I believe their main activity is making recommendations to the County Planning commission. The PMPO is a little different. We are a group open to all members of the Palomar community. At our annual Pancake Breakfast in May we elect a 15 member board whose job it is to protect the interest of our community as best we can. We are not officially recognized by the county but we get their attention just the same. Unlike the sponsor groups, we are allowed to raise money. We may hire consultants or experts to educate the planning Commission and the County Board of Supervisors or other organizations like spring water companies and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Now back to Joe's Article. He says, "Eighteen years ago the focus of the Pala Pauma Sponsor Group was centered on the potential environmental disaster that mounting evidence revealed would come from the siting of a landfill at Gregory Canyon". Today, eighteen years later, the Pala-Pauma Sponsor is still trying to stop the landfill. So It looks like our Palomar Mtn. Planning Org. is not alone in our continuous struggle to shape our communities the way we would like them to be.

I believe it was in the late seventies when the PMPO first began the battle over groundwater rights. It was our efforts that resulted

in the county enacting groundwater ordinances requiring a major use permit for spring water companies. But the struggle goes on today. Now it is the PMPO against the Bureau of Indian Affairs on behalf of the La Jolla Indian Tribe. It is all about 8 acres of land near Cedar Creek on the South side of County Road S7 (the East Grade Road). The owner of this land has tried for the last ten years to establish a commercial spring water company on this land and sell water pumped from a 300 ft. deep well. Because of the San Diego County's Ground Water Ordinance a major use permit was required. The owner was never able to satisfy the county's requirements for an environmentally safe project that would not endanger the surrounding properties or Communities. So he gave up and now wants to sell to the land to the La Jolla Indians who have no need to concern themselves with County ordinances.

This is a whole new ball game for the PMPO. We are now up against a separate nation. A lawsuit might be considered as our last line of defense. This would be expensive. Read more on this and other issues facing our community in the rest of the newsletter. The PMPO Board request your continued help, participation and support. The Board promises our best efforts to accomplish our mission. Sincere thanks for your much needed contributions. A return envelope is enclosed for your convenience. As always I am looking forward to seeing you at our Annual Meeting and Pancake Breakfast May 28th.

Bruce Graves, Chairman

## *Community Center of Palomar Mountain: What's the latest*

By Earl Walls, Chairman



As many of you know, we missed the boat in 2004 in getting a grant application in to the county. One of the reasons, among others, is the fact that we did not have an IRS-approved status as a tax-free entity. In fact, we were not even a formal entity until 27 May when we were registered with the state as a not-for-profit corporation. The corporate name, incidentally, is the

continued on page 6

Front Row:

Scott Kardel...Treasurer

Terri Bailey...Secretary

Tom Burton...Member

Back Row:

Earl Walls...Chairman

Bruce Graves...Member

**Palomar Mountain  
Planning Organization  
(PMPO)**

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PALOMAR MOUNTAIN, CA  
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This newsletter is produced annually  
and distributed in May of each year.

Without the help of many volunteers,  
this newsletter would not be possible.

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If you have any information that  
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pimage1@sbcglobal.net  
attn: PMPO Newsletter

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2004-2005  
PMPO Board of Directors

Front Row:  
Scott Kardell, Susan Humason, Jack Norvall, Bonnie Phelps  
Center Row:  
Pat Jones, Donna Dose, Betsy Tainer (future board member), Libby Getzoff  
(Betsy's Mom), Tracy Dixon, Terri Bailey, Michael Pique  
Back Row:  
Bruce Graves, Dale Norton, Tom Burton, Robert Carlyle  
Not Present: Elliot Miller, Jim Hamerly, John Tainer

# Annual Meeting Agenda

Saturday, May 28th, 2005

Pancake Breakfast 8am-11am

Meeting to Start at 11am

Palomar Mountain Lodge

1. Call to Order 11am
2. Secretary's Report
  - A. Approval of May 29, 2004 Minutes
  - B. Treasurer's Report
3. Reports from Other Organizations
  - A. Palomar Mtn Volunteer Fire Department  
George Lucia, Chief
  - B. Palomar Mtn Observatory  
Scott Kardel, Public Relations
  - C. Fire Safe Council  
Shana Ackerman, Chair
  - D. Community Center Palomar Mtn  
Earl Walls, Chairman
4. Activity Reports
  - A. Dual Survey - Section 14
  - B. General Plan 2020
  - C. Motorcycle Safety Update
  - D. Water Exportation by La Jolla Reservation
5. Elections (for 5 of the 15 seats on the Board)
  - A. Nominations From The Floor
  - B. Introduction of Incumbents and  
Nominees
  - C. Balloting
6. New Business
7. Election Results
8. Adjournment



## PMPO

### Treasurer's Report

Jan. 1, 2004 to Dec. 31, 2004

Tracy Dixon, Treasurer

Balance Carried Forward	\$32,311.00
Income:	
Donations	
\$3,810.00	
Pancake Breakfast	<del>\$05</del>
Total Balance	<del>\$325</del>
Expenses:	
U.S. Postal Stamps	<del>\$300</del>
U.S. Stamps Newsletter	
\$259.00	
Pancake B'fast Food	<del>\$82</del>
Tom Burton Community Center	\$1,000.00
Newsletter & PMPO Stationary	
\$683.10	
Pancake Breakfast Supplies	\$219.97
Cedar Creek Bio Report	\$300.00

### Re-Elections:

#### Five Board Member Positions Are Up Re-Election

Board Members for Re-Election Include:

Robert Carlyle  
 Jim Hamerly (replaced Pat Jones)  
 Jack Norvall  
 Bonnie Phelps  
 John Tainer/Elizabeth Getzoff

### Community Contacts:

EMERGENCY	911	Palomar Mtn Observatory	760-742-
Palomar Mtn Fire Dept (Station)	760-742-3701	2100	
Fire Chief (George Lucia, Sr.)	760-644-9933	Palomar Mtn General Store	760-742-3496
PMPO-Bruce Graves	760-742-3027	Palomar Mtn Soap Company	760-742-8757
USFS-Cleveland National Forest	760-788-0250	Mother's Kitchen	760-742-
Burn Permit (USFS)	760-782-3472	4233	
Palomar Mtn State Park	760-742-3496	Lake Henshaw Resort	760-782-3502
Palomar Christian Conference Ctr.	760-742-3428	Lake Henshaw Restaurant	760-782-
Fire Safe Council (Shana Ackerman)	760-742-8787	2729	
Motorcycle Action Committee	760-742-2321	Bailey's Bed & Breakfast	760-742-1859
Palomar Information (Bonnie Phelps)	760 742-1742	Dollars for Daffodils (Colleen Kenyan)	760-742-0249
		Girl Scout Camp (Linda Holt)	619-610-0767
		Community Websites:	palomarmountain.com
			palomarmountain.org

# 2020

PMPO's GP2020 sub-committee continues to monitor and respond to the glacial pace of the planning process as directed by the County.

As you by now know, general plans are required by State law for each county. Generally, they take a number of years to prepare, and cover a twenty-year period. San Diego County's General Plan for the years 2000 to 2020 has been in the drafting process for a number of years. Because of the importance to our Mountain, your PMPO has been meeting with County planners and supplying input to them since the start of this process.

With respect to land use matters, a general plan is the law - a statement of broad-brush principles that is really expensive, time-consuming and laborious to change (except every twenty years when it's redone).

Zoning laws implement the general plan. You can't get zoning on a property that is in conflict with the general plan, hence, the general plan is really important.

You may recall, the PMPO and community interest was peaked in the General Plan's process by the down zoning that occurred to the commercial parcels that constitute the "Summit" as a result of the Forest Conservation Initiative. Because of the long range impact of the General Plan and its impact on zoning, your PMPO has mounted quite an effort to study County documents and proposals, inform the community of what is going, collect their input and share that with the County.

Our position continues to be that the Mountain's commercial property should be restored to their prior commercial zoning as opposed to "rural residential" which they became in the downzone. The effect of this is that, should the Summit burn down, it could not be rebuilt except in the same footprint, effectively taking away the landowner's flexibility with their property and how they serve the community. Remember the Summit buildings were built in the first half of the last century and we've lived with the continuous fire threat for years.

Our other main point is that greater than one dwelling unit per 40 acres should be allowed for property owners at the top of the Mountain near the Summit where slope and other conditions make that clustered zoning appropriate.

Our main way to accomplish these two objectives had been to have Palomar designated as a "Country Town." Your sub-committee has continued to make these three arguments (the "Three C's": commercial; clustering and Country Town) to the Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors and staff, whenever an opportunity arises.

This past February, the Planning Commission adopted the commercial and industrial segment of the Plan - not including our desires. At that and other meetings, we made our "Three C's" pitch and networked with other similarly situated and interested individuals. We continue to get staff telling us that they agree with our position, but that their hands are "tied" by the County Counsel's legal opinion that we aren't a Country Town and the dictates of the planning process for the County as a whole.

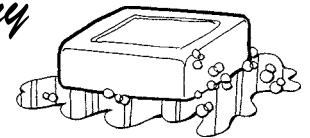
The Board of Supervisors will tentatively be considering the commercial and industrial segment of GP2020 on May 11, 2005. It is important that we not lose heart, continue to put forth our "Three C's" position and work toward a General Plan, which will allow Palomar landowners to preserve the natural beauty and history of the Mountain and at the same time restoring the commercial land use designations with the property ownership flexibility we once had.

If you can, plan on being at the mid-May Board of Supervisors meeting. You can tune in to Mike Pique's website at [www.palomarmountain.com](http://www.palomarmountain.com) or the Yahoo!Groups at [pmpo2020@yahoo.com](mailto:pmpo2020@yahoo.com), where updates are posted on our activities.

The Department of Planning and Land Use has a separate website for GP2020, which contains the calendar, background, committee and detail on each area (we're the North Mountain area). That can be accessed at [www.co.san-diego.ca.us/cntydepts/landuse/planning/gp2020/new.htm](http://www.co.san-diego.ca.us/cntydepts/landuse/planning/gp2020/new.htm).

Although this process still has a year or more before there is a real General Plan 2020, our continued interest, attention and energy will determine what the Plan allows for Palomar Mountain. Hang in there!

## *Palomar Mountain Soap Company*



There is a new business on Palomar! According to Wog Bergman, the last time the little building between Mother's Kitchen and the Post Office was used commercially, it was in the 1950's when there was a gas station and this was the office. Those folks from the 1950's won't recognize it now! We invite you all to stop by and watch our hand-crafted soap being made. We prepare the soap in small batches the old fashioned way atop beautiful Palomar Mountain. It's Cold-processed, biodegradable, and created with quality vegetable oils, essential oils, and our pure mountain water.

We are open on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday; weekdays 11 to 5 and weekends 8:30 to 5. Please mention the PMPO newsletter for 10% off. We will also be open for you on Monday, Memorial Day. Come by and enter our drawing. The winner wins one bar of soap for six months! Anandamayi...760 742-8757

# Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department (PMVFD)

*Here's What's Going On...* By George E. Lucia



Eight Palomar Mountain Volunteer Firefighters recently completed 40 hours of special fire training geared toward wild land fires.

The program was sponsored by the California Fire Chiefs Association and included the I-100 incident command system, the S-130 Firefighting training, the S-190 Introduction to wild land Fire Behavior, the L-180 Human Factors, and the CDF Wild land Performance Standards.

Each of the eight Palomar Mountain volunteers completed the training on their own personal time.

Heiser and Encinitas Division Chief Tom Tufts.  
The Class was taught by Encinitas Fire Department Chief Don

The completion of this course was very valuable to the Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department. The Palomar Mountain area continues to be considered one of the most vulnerable wild land fire areas in Southern California due to its high ratio of fuel per acre.

The valuable education received by these volunteers will insure their safety during a fire incident, assist in a prompt response to a wild land incident and synchronize fire operations mutual aid units that may respond to the mountain during a fire event.

In addition to the training program, which was funded through a grant program, each firefighter was issued a full set of wild land turnout gear and equipment as a part of the training grant.



Palomar Mountain volunteers cut fire line during the class.



Chief Don Heiser teaches the wild land fire class.

## Fire Season Is Here!

Fire Season started early this year on Monday, April 18 due to moisture levels dropping so the brush is drying out fast. Everyone needs to get out now and look at your property to start your spring 2005 cutting and clearing. The USFS will start inspections in the Palomar Mountain area on May 30, 2005. The Fire Safe Council is prepared to assist homeowners with their projects clearing brush, thinning trees, limbing up branches, and chipping. All of your efforts will help me grade your land and dwellings and rate the chance of saving your home in the event of a fire.

Contact Information  
George Lucia (Chief):  
(760) 644-9933 or PalomarMtnFire97@aol.com  
Station: 760-742-3701

## PMVFD Barbecue Help Needed

We're making it real easy this year for you to volunteer to help with the Labor Day BBQ! The 'Girls at the Post Office' have volunteered to have help coordinate the volunteers! Stop in to see what opportunities they have for you to help make this another great success! Your suggestions are also welcomed to make it a great day for all! So, go by and see Lisa or Michelle and ask how you can help!



## Palomar Mountain Community Center: What's the latest...

COMMUNITY CENTER OF PALOMAR MOUNTAIN, INC. (CCPM). We chose this to lessen the tendency to possibly confuse it with the Palomar Mountain Community Church (PMCC).

Although we are behind where we would like to be, we have made quite a bit of progress. We have submitted a request (form 1024) to the IRS for classification as a 501(c)(4) non-profit corporation that will provide tax relief as we go forward.

Design of the building is progressing as well. It will be located just west of the house adjacent to the fire station. This site will require the construction of a retaining wall and a substantial amount of fill dirt, but removes any potential set-back problems. It also is a better site with regard to providing a sewage system than the old BBQ pit site. There is a possibility of our using contributions to accomplish the site preparation prior to submitting the grant request. This move, we feel, would enhance our position with the county authorities.

The proposed building is being designed with the intent of using volunteer labor to construct it. In so doing we understand that

Continued from page 1

we are eligible for a 100% grant. A word of caution here. This is no guarantee that we will be successful in attaining a grant since there is a lot of competition for the available money, and thanks to some great effort by our former fire chief, Karl Bauer, Palomar Mountain has had a good share of past grant money.

The building, comprising just under 5,000 square feet, will have a reinforced concrete floor and foundation and a steel frame over which structural insulated panels (SIP) will be attached to form the walls and roof. The exterior walls will be covered in cement board and the roofing will be standing seam painted steel so as to make the building as fire resistive and maintenance-free as possible.

Drawings will be posted at the pancake breakfast, and I will be available to answer questions. Also, please feel free to talk with any of the Board of Directors, who are Terri Bailey, Tom Burton, Bruce Graves, and Scott Kardel.

## Palomar Mountain General Store...

### Stop in For the May Specials!

We have a gift for you! Come by for 10% discount on all gift items for the month of May. We have new arrivals all the time and are continually expanding our book and card collection. You are invited to use the 10% discount on gift items as many times as you want so stop by often!

What is new at The Store? We have a website now [www.PalomarMountainStore.com](http://www.PalomarMountainStore.com)

for your convenience. In the store there is everything from a lucious new line of 100% silk dream sacks used for travel sheets in soothing and relaxing colors, along with eye shades and accessories, to World War I authentic reproductions of airplanes and hot air balloons! New design collections are on their way from the Italian Venetian Glass jewelry designer and there are lots of new painted glass sun catchers. Looking for Palomar Mountain logo gifts? You're sure to like our brand new embriodered sweatshirts and caps with new designs and new colors. Don't forget, when you are on the Mountain during the week when the Restuarant is closed, there is free coffee for the locals here at Palomar Mountain General Store. We sincerely thank you for your partionage and may you thrive!

Francisco V. ...760 742-3496 ...[www.PalomarMountainStore.com](http://www.PalomarMountainStore.com)

Greetings from the



## San Diego-Imperial Council, Inc.

The winter rains have taken a toll on our access road. We are seeking bids from a licensed contractor, and long time friend of Girl Scouts, to repair the road. However, we will wait a little longer until we are confident the rains have stopped.

Luckily, the winter weather has not been a deterrent as many Girl Scout leaders and girls have visited the property weekly to take in the beauty and nature offered by the Mountain.

We are pleased to be included in the Natural Resources Conservation Service fire prevention program. The environmental study has recently been completed. We expect over 200 drought-affected trees to be removed in the coming months.

Although the Palomar Mountain property is a wonderful asset to the Girl Scouts, we do not expect to begin capital improvements on this property for several years. The Girl Scouts has made a concerted decision to make improvements on properties in Balboa Park and our Julian mountain properties before further development of the Palomar property.

For more information about Girl Scouts, contact Linda Holt at, [lholt@girlscoutssdi.org](mailto:lholt@girlscoutssdi.org) or at 619-610-0767.

## What's Cookin' at Mother's Kitchen?

There is always something good cooking at Mother's! Stop by to try something new! We're open to serve breakfast on Monday morning, Memorial Day. Mention that you read your PMPO newsletter and your breakfast is half price!



Scott Moringstar  
(760) 742-4233

[www.MothersKitchenPalomar.com](http://www.MothersKitchenPalomar.com)

## *Reincarnation of Yale Well Pumping Project* - by Elizabeth Getzoff

The name has changed, and the project has gotten worse in terms of impact and scope. Mr. William A. Yale continues to pursue his decade-long plan to gain water rights to the entire Jeff Valley watershed by pumping and exporting water from two large wells located on his 7-acre East Grade Road parcel adjacent to Cedar Creek, a tributary of the San Luis Rey River. After failing to satisfy environmental regulations, Mr. Yale withdrew his Major Use Permit application from the County in January 2003. He now plans to transfer his land to the La Jolla Indian Reservation and then pump about 15 million gallons (48 acre-feet) per year through a pipeline that would be built down the mountainside. By legally extending the Indian Reservation a quarter-mile onto his East Grade Road land, the project cleverly avoids having to comply with County and State environmental regulations and laws. If this land transfer is approved, there may be no hope for Palomar water in terms of fair-share use and fire safety. Our only hope now is to gain support from our congressional representatives and senators, and possibly the state government, to stop this precedent-setting land transfer being done to avoid water and environmental safeguards.

Last June, 2004, the PMPO acted at once when the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) put out a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for this "new" project that completely ignored the past history of the project and its potential for significant and irreversible impacts on Palomar Mountain. The BIA received 50 letters (many with extensive appendices) detailing environmental concerns and objections raised by the PMPO, the Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department and many members of the Palomar Mountain Community, and also by the County of San Diego, Vista Irrigation District, City of Escondido, US Fish and Wildlife Service, California Fish and Game Department, and the Sierra Club. Many thanks to those of you who responded directly, or contributed e-mail forwarded with the PMPO's reply (these e-mails were acknowledged by the BIA, but not included in their count of 50 replies).

Shockingly, the final EA released by the BIA in March 2005 ignores the salient environmental issues raised in this flood of public responses, and denies requests to require preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. Although some obvious missing information has now been added, the final EA does not adequately address any of the environmental concerns that were raised, and still contains numerous misrepresentations, self-inconsistencies and incorrect statements. Furthermore, a huge loophole not present in the draft EA was introduced in the final EA: based on the say-so of any State of California Certified Hydrogeologist hired by the project, both the amount of water to be pumped and any proposed mitigation may be changed without notice. Thus, as proposed in the final EA, the well pumping is essentially unlimited.

All available unbiased evidence indicates that the proposed well pumping would not be sustainable, and would have direct and significant negative impacts on both Cedar Creek and neighboring wells. A 1993 well test demonstrated that pumping for only 48 hours dropped water levels in neighboring wells up to 50 feet and tripled the loss of water from Cedar Creek to the underlying aquifer. During the prolonged drought since the 1993 well test, water levels in this well dropped 100 feet, yet no new hydrological tests have been performed.

Despite major water depletion in an ecosystem already suffering fire danger from dead and dying trees, and the availability of alternative water sources already developed for the tribe with BIA funding, the BIA's Pacific Regional Office in Sacramento (contact person Environmental Protection Specialist Patrick O'Mallan at 916-978-6044) proposes to issue a Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for this project. The PMPO responded to the final EA by the April 11 deadline, continuing to request that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be prepared to address the significant environmental effects that will result from this project. Furthermore, due to its precedent-setting character and potentially disastrous impacts on The Cleveland National Forest, the PMPO further requested that this project be reviewed by the Washington D.C. office of the BIA, rather than by Sacramento alone.

The proposed water-mining scheme makes a mockery of ground water policy, Federal regulations, fair-share water planning, and environmental safeguards. The project also would set extremely bad precedents for Palomar Mountain, including the transfer of water and land resources from County to BIA jurisdiction to circumvent environmental regulations, the commercial export of water pumped from a vertical well (rather than collected from a self-limiting spring source), the claiming and use of a very disproportionate share of groundwater resources and rights from the entire Jeff Valley watershed, and the essentially unrestricted removal of water from an ecosystem currently suffering from severe drought and fire danger. In fact, the last severe fire on Palomar Mountain was stopped from devastating Cleveland National Forest right at Cedar Creek, just downstream of these wells. Drying up Cedar Creek will eliminate this natural firebreak, to say nothing of destroying one of San Diego County's rare mountain riparian environments, an enchanting canyon of dramatic waterfalls and year-round, peaceful fern-shaded pools.

At its April board meeting, the PMPO formed a subcommittee now working to obtain political support and legal advice to encourage the BIA to undertake a thorough environmental analysis of the true impacts of this project, and to comply with California water rights law. The final EA fails to follow the BIA's own guidelines for complying with the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). The project fails to protect existing beneficial and lawful uses of water by those who hold valid California water rights. The Palomar Mountain community obtains all its water from wells likely to be impacted by this project, including those belonging to individual property owners and the Palomar Mutual Water Company, used by the Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department.

The PMPO believes that the people of the La Jolla Tribe have been misled into this ill-conceived water-mining venture, perhaps in conjunction with their recently proposed casino development. The Palomar Mountain Community has historically maintained good relationships with the local Indian people, and the PMPO continues their efforts to encourage the La Jolla Tribe to examine the scientific data derived from the well pumping test and listen to our concerns about this misguided project.

For more information and ongoing news about this project, please attend the PMPO's Annual Meeting and Pancake Breakfast, and visit the Palomar Mountain Community website hosted by Michael Pique at [www.palomarmountain.com](http://www.palomarmountain.com).

# The Dual Survey Goes On...

by Jack Norvall and Michael Pique

The PMPO is still trying to resolve the "dual survey" problem that has cost many Crestline residents their right to build on their properties. Crestline is mostly in survey Section 14, and it was Section 14 that the 1975 government survey moved the center line north so that the National Forest took over more land than it had before.

When Section 14 was first surveyed, it was done about 1850 by Washburn but his marker stones were never found again. Later on it was redone by Minto in 1885, and redone again by Barrett in 1975. Barrett's the one that causes the troubles because he moved both southern corners about 300 feet northeast from where they had been considered to be when Crestline and Birch Hill were laid out for sale around 1890.



When Minto did his 1885 survey, he goes to the southeast corner of 24, goes west a half a mile and makes a mound of rocks at the 1/4-section point, which Minto's notes say was 50 chains (356 feet) east of a large arroyo. If you trace Barrett out, he starts down at Highway 76 and goes north, he goes to the SE corner of 24, sets a post, goes west to the 1/4-section point, which he says is 54 chains (330 feet) from a large arroyo. We found out this. Now the difference here is that Barrett is 54 chains to the arroyo and Minto was at 50 chains. Just where they measured is something we cannot determine at this point, but Barrett was east of Minto by 4 chains which is 264 feet.

They both went up the hill along the west edge of Section 24, crossing Cedar Creek. Minto says he set a corner in there of rocks and dirt, which he describes. We think this is the rock mound we found a couple of years ago. But Barrett was further east than Minto and comes up to the SE corner of 14 300-some feet east and north of Minto. Minto then went west and set a mound for the Section 14 south 1/4 point. This is where it gets interesting because his notes say there's a ravine east of there 2 chains (132 feet) that has water running in it. But Barrett couldn't find Minto's mound so he sets his 1/4 point on a side of a hill that's again 300-some feet east of where we think Minto was. We went hiking three times down there below Penny Pines and think we know which ravine Minto was in. From this ravine we can determine that the post Barrett set back at the southeast corner of 14 isn't correct and the original Minto corner was further west and south, right near to where the rock mound is that we found a couple years ago.

The other thing that makes this interesting is county Road Survey 213 (1903) which comes down into that southeast 14 corner. We found this survey on microfilm at Ruffin Road and it shows where this corner was considered to be in 1903, quite close to the rock mound we found. We haven't yet been able to locate and study the original "peg notes" the Road Survey to find out what they found exactly at that southeast corner. They also identified the northwest corner, where the County Park is now, we need that information. Also we'd like to know who set the Indian Reservation fences originally. When Barrett goes north he sets his mark on an Indian fence corner at southeast

24, then sets on an Indian fence corner at southwest 24, then sets on an Indian fence line at southeast 14. In his notes he talks about all these.



We need to know two things right now we don't have. First, who did the survey for the Indian Reservation fences in the first place, and second, what do the actual peg notes say for Road Survey 213. At this point we'd like to give this to the government, what we have, but we're making sure that everything is correct before our final presentation to them. The most important part of this survey we're doing is that although the mound we found would put Minto 200 feet north of a perfect mile square, the mound is where the corner should be east-and-west in relation to the property surveys that were done about 1890 for the upper half of 14. This position puts it correctly as far as we're concerned, back to where we want the National Forest boundary to be. Barrett's Survey that skews Section 14 over 3 degrees east (see map) does not accomplish this for us one bit, in fact it throws the whole section out. If you look again, like we have, at what Minto's notes say, at what RS 213 says, we can't find any reason why Barrett set his corner where he did. And that's the thing we're after right now, to get that resolved and put back in place.





## An Update from the Palomar Observatory

By Scott Kardel

When the weather permits, the observatory continues to operate five telescopes nightly. The biggest event in the last year has been the work that has been done upgrading the adaptive optics system on the 200-inch Hale Telescope. Adaptive optics is a technique that allows astronomers to remove the twinkling of star light. The result is that they get a sharper view of the universe. Palomar's adaptive optics camera remains the fastest in the world. It corrects for changes in our air and its effect on starlight 2000 times a second.

Currently, astronomers at Palomar can use the adaptive-optics technique only if a moderately bright star is sufficiently close to their object of interest. The adaptive-optics system uses the star as a source by which astronomers monitor and correct for the distortions produced by earth's atmosphere. The upgrade makes use of a laser.

Employing the laser will allow astronomers to place an artificial corrective guide star wherever they see fit. To do so, they shine a narrow sodium laser beam up through the atmosphere. At an altitude of about 60 miles, the laser beam makes a small amount of sodium gas glow. The reflected glow serves as an artificial guide star for the adaptive-optics system. The laser beam is too faint to be seen except by observers very close to the telescope (you can't see it from Crestline), and the guide star it creates is even fainter. It can't be seen with the unaided eye, yet it is bright enough to allow

astronomers to make their adaptive-optics corrections. Only two other observatories in the world make use of this technique, putting Palomar in an exclusive club.

On the public relations front, the observatory has added many new exhibits for our visiting public in the last year. By the time this article is published you should be able to visit our newly expanded gift shop. We are also adding a docent program. On weekends, these volunteers will help our visitors to learn about the history and current operations of the observatory. They will also be operating some telescopes that safely show off the sun. Finally, we will be launching a Friends of the Palomar Observatory. Members will be invited to special events like behind-the-scenes tours and talks by Palomar's research astronomers. If it has been a while since your last visit, you may want to come for another. If you can't make it here, be sure to stop by our website: [www.astro.caltech.edu/palomar](http://www.astro.caltech.edu/palomar)

Finally, let me remind you that your outside lights do affect our operations. While there are not as many people living on the mountain as there are down below, the lights up here are closer and noticeable. Remember to please turn off your lights when they are not needed.

## Historical Materials On-Line

by Bonnie Phelps

Historical materials on Palomar are available on the Internet. Peter Brueggeman, a weekender in the Crestline area, maintains [www.peterbrueggeman.com/palomarhistory](http://www.peterbrueggeman.com/palomarhistory), which offers his electronic reprinting of two history books (Catherine Wood's 1937 Palomar from Teepee to Telescope; Marion Beckler's 1958 Palomar Mountain Past and Present), as well as an undated sales brochure entitled "Palomar Mountain, Camp Site & Club House." Peter's website links to other PM historical resources on the Internet, including Baileys, the Observatory, San Diego Historical Society, Valley Roadrunner, and postcard images he has gathered from eBay.

Peter's interest in local history springs from his work interests - he's the library director at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD, and the Scripps Archives with its extensive historical resources on the history of oceanography is part of his operation. His upcoming PM history interests include making Robert Asher's historical materials available to the community; electronic reprinting of Philip Sparkman's 1908 book on Luiseno Indian culture, which includes their historical presence on, and use of, PM; and, compiling excerpts for electronic reprinting from several local history books having facets of PM history. Palomar Mountain history is rich and fascinating reading. For those wishing assistance in making PM historical information more widely available, Peter is willing to help; as a professional librarian, he is inclined towards making such information available for open access on the Internet to ensure the widest readership possible. Peter can be contacted at [pbrueggeman@ucsd.edu](mailto:pbrueggeman@ucsd.edu) or evenings at home 858-535-9577

Interested readers on PM history are also directed to the locally published and indispensable two volumes of Palomar Mountain Views. If you cannot find a copy locally at the store, check [www.bookfinder.com](http://www.bookfinder.com). Copies of Catherine Wood's Palomar from Teepee to Telescope book do show up if you keep checking.



## The Mountain Church

When you are on the mountain on Sundays, you are invited to visit the Palomar Mountain Community Church. See a clear view from the mountain top of what God is doing on Palomar to give hope and joy and peace!

We are focusing on having our own church facility. We have a building fund in place... know anyone who would like to contribute to our fund? We are looking for ideas and possibilities from the mountain people to make this happen. Take time to browse our new website:

[www.themountainchurch.com](http://www.themountainchurch.com).

Can't make it to church? You can 'Listen on

Line' or we have CD's available. The website is updated each week by Tuesday noon with the latest message from the Mountain Church. Our 'Sunday Mornings' link will answer those questions about where and when and you're always welcome at the upcoming events. You can read about the latest on the ever-changing home page. Or, we are glad to mail or give you information over the phone. Concerns? Questions? May we help you? The pastor is on the Mountain on Thursdays and Sundays.

All God's Best to You,  
Pastor John Shackelford  
619-440-2450 • e-mail [jdshack@cox.net](mailto:jdshack@cox.net)

**WELCOME NEW POSTMASTER!**

Lisa Di Paola grew up at Lake Henshaw and has enjoyed her career with the Postal Service for 7 years. She has earned special recognition for her exceptional performance each year since 1999. She brings with her lots of experience at the back country post offices and is excited about her new position. Congratulations!

**WALK FOR THE MOUNTAIN**

Are you tired of looking at all the trash left on the ground on the Mountain? With a nice hike we all can join together to do something about it. Look for upcoming e-mail from the Mountain News. Let's all get together for a local effort to do a clean sweep of the Mountain when the weather gets warmer. Meanwhile, here is a suggestion: When you head out for a walk, you might fold up a plastic grocery bag to tuck in each pocket. Along the way, you'll have those bags filled before you know it and we can all enjoy a cleaner Mountain! No e-mail? Call Michelle Courtney at 760-742-1466 for details.

**COMMUNITY WEBSITES**

Serving Palomar Mountain since the twentieth century, thanks goes to Mike Pique for hosting

[www.palomarmountain.com](http://www.palomarmountain.com)

Visit Mike's site to see hundreds of pictures and read past, present, and future news.

A second website is up and running as an additional resource for information about our favorite Mountain. Thanks to weekender Brian Wagner for developing

[www.palomarmountain.org](http://www.palomarmountain.org)

You'll enjoy surfing his site!

Need your roof repaired, a babysitter, a fix-it guy, or a mountain-made gift? It's all on our Mountain Yellow Pages! For people and companies who serve Palomar Mountain, simply visit: [www.palomarproperties.com/YellowPages.html](http://www.palomarproperties.com/YellowPages.html)  
Additions and corrections welcomed!

**PALOMAR MOUNTAIN NEWS**

Since 1998, property owners and residents have been able to subscribe to a free e-news broadcast. Serving the Mountain in a way similar to a newspaper, you receive messages to keep informed of the happenings of our community. If you were getting the news in the past, and haven't recently, sorry, those spam blockers have been working overtime! Many of you have also changed your address throughout the years. If you wish to receive news of our favorite Mountain, simply send a message to: [mountainnews@palomarproperties.com](mailto:mountainnews@palomarproperties.com) You'll have a reply with suggestions to get set up so the Mountain News doesn't get blocked, or sent to your 'junk e-mail box'. We'll keep the news of your favorite Mountain heading your way!

**BURNING PERMITS**

Wondering what to do with all the trimmings after 'parking up' your property? Would you like to have a campfire or burn your cut brush? A permit is required. Permits are available only when the Forestry feels it is safe. After a rain or snow is often a good option. Call the US Forest Service 782-3472 or 788-0250 to help keep our forest green and fire safe.

**DOLLARS FOR DAFFODILS**

Did you notice the new daffodils blooming on and around the Mountain this year? Thanks to the folks who donated the bulbs and did the planting, we are all benefiting from the burst of color after all this rain! When daffodils are planted in the fall in a sunny location, you can simply 'forget about them' until they paint the landscape with color in the spring and keep coming back year after year. This summer we'll get the word out about buying in bulk. You'll have the opportunity to co-op on bulbs. If you would like to participate but don't want to do the work, a group of volunteers is forming to get them planted. Watch for the 'Dollars for



Daffodil's vases at Mother's Kitchen, the Post Office and Store. We'll also give you a chance to donate or sign up for our Planting Parties at the Pancake Breakfast. More Info? Contact Colleen Kenyon [Pegleg46@aol.com](mailto:Pegleg46@aol.com) • 760 742-0249

**REAL ESTATE NEWS**

What has been happening in Real Estate over the past year? According to the Multiple Listing Service, 22 homes and cabins changed owners on Palomar. Often the question is asked, "What is the average priced home on the Mountain"? As we know, there is nothing 'average' at all about Palomar. Those 22 sales ranged from \$60,000 to \$2,700,000.00. However, thirteen of the sold properties were in the \$200,000 range.

For those of you who are concerned about growth on the mountain, there are so many restrictions from the county, that there is very little buildable land left. The county has restrictions now that limit lot subdividing to 40 acre minimums. If the 20/20 General Plan goes through, our minimum lot size for subdividing will be 80 acres. In addition to topography, rocks, and trees, other limitations for new construction are water availability, setbacks, leach field layouts and reserves, water storage tank placements, and emergency vehicle road and turnaround requirements. If the property doesn't own a water share, the radius and setback for wells is also an issue. So, with the exception of a very few buildable larger parcels, and cabins getting an occasional "face lift" Palomar Mountain should stay pretty much the way it is for many years to come.

Questions about Real Estate? Call Bonnie Phelps at

888-718-5358

[www.palomarproperties.com](http://www.palomarproperties.com)

**FREE RIDES FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES!**

Our new Fire Chief George, came to us complete with his own fire truck! It an 1929 antique fire pumper Diamond T, nicknamed "The General". It will be out in front of The Lodge during the pancake breakfast for photo opportunities and a fun ride through the neighborhood.



Thanks, Chief George!



The PCCC has been working with the County of San Diego in a variety of ways since the last newsletter. We continue to pursue building permits with the County regarding implementation of several elements of the master plan. These include the Strawberry Flats facility, a "camp within the camp" and an RV parking area for up to 10 vehicles.

We have had some turn over in our personnel this past year. Holly Stover has returned as Horsemanship Director. This position is responsible for the management of the herd as well as conducting trail rides for our guests from September through May. In the summer this position teaches the horsemanship part of our girls Horse Camp Program. Our new Executive Chef is Bill Stevenson. Bill and his family joined us last summer, moving from the Austin, Texas area. Ken Morrish, who has served as Assistant Maintenance Director for seven years, has been promoted to the Facilities Maintenance Director. He will now have two assistants leading two distinct areas of responsibility. One will be the area of facility maintenance and new construction. Richard Chesebro, who has been with the camp for three years, has been promoted to this position. The other position, Assistant Site Manager, which is responsible for the area of maintain the grounds, landscaping, and the infrastructure that supports PCCC, is a position that we are currently accepting applications for. If you know of someone who might be a good candidate for this position, please contact Ken at (760) 742-4488.

As always, we invite our mountain neighbors to come by and see the progress at the camp and enjoy some PCCC hospitality. On Saturdays throughout the summer we you are welcome to watch the Horse Show at the Arena at 10am. We invite everyone from the Mountain to join us!

For those of you who are looking for volunteer opportunities, they abound here. Call Ken at (760) 742-4488. You will be a blessing and I know God will bless you. See you around the mountain!

Kim G Rosier...Executive Director...www.pccc.org



## *Motorcycle Community Action Group*

- Would you like to be a part of a Motorcycle Community Action Group to see what can be done to curtail the racing and reckless driving on the Mountain? I'm looking for a few people who would like to step up to the plate with me to take some organized action to make changes in the safety of our Mountain. Please call or e-mail me directly and let's work together to make a difference.
- Jim Anderson...760 742-2321...palomarmtn\_

## *PMPO Needs Your Financial Support...*

All property owners, residents, and any interested parties in the Palomar community are members of the Palomar Mountain Planning Organization. PMPO is recognized by both Federal and State Taxing Authorities as a tax-exempt organization. This means that your gifts are income tax deductible.

If you have followed our activities over the years, you know we get a big bang for each buck. There are large threats on the horizon most of the time. We need to be ready. Your financial support represents our readiness. We study issues of importance to Palomar Mountain and communicate them to our community along with involved governmental agencies. These efforts have produced significant results.



### **Palomar Mountain Planning Organization -- 2005 Contribution --**

RETURN TO:  
 PMPO, Box 145  
 PALOMAR MOUNTAIN, CA 92060-0145  
 PMPO IS RECOGNIZED BY FEDERAL  
 AND STATE AUTHORITIES  
 AS A TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATION (501-C3).  
 YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I AM CONTRIBUTING: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## *Down At the Lake...*

### *Lake Henshaw Resort*

It is hard to believe that it was just two years ago that we took over the Lake Henshaw Resort. This is the perfect family getaway. You can either camp, hook up your RV or stay in one of our charming housekeeping cabins. We have excellent year round fishing and you can bring your boat or use one of ours. The Lake is home to bass, crappie, blue gill, trout, and catfish. Bring your PMPO newsletter in for 1/3 off your fishing permit! Our General Store has those last minute items you might want to pick up on your way to the Mountain.

Everyone is invited to come on down to the campground on Saturday night of Labor Day weekend. After the PMVFD Barbecue on the Mountain, The Smith Mountain Band will play from 7 pm until ????. It is just \$7.50 per car, so bring your own chairs to sit around the campfire, listening, singing along, or dancing under the stars to the music.

Store Hours 6 am to 8 pm during the summer. We miss all our mountain friends and love having you stop by!

Frank and Janice Mendenhall...760 782-3502

[www.lakehenshawresort.com](http://www.lakehenshawresort.com)  
*Lake Henshaw Grill*

A big thanks to all of you Mountain people who have come down to try out our new restaurant. Being open seven days a week has kept us very busy! We are in the process of acquiring our beer and wine license. As soon as that is in place, we'll have a big Grand Opening with the Smith Mountain Band playing and, of course, our delicious country cooking for you to enjoy.

We invite you to bring in the copy of this newsletter for a 10% dinner discount Monday through Thursday nights. You can also call ahead for a takeout and enjoy our specialties for your picnic, or just relaxing at your getaway on Palomar!

Looking forward to seeing you at The Grill!

Meriah Druliner & Jenna Allen...760 782-2729

**OPEN**

**Sunday through Thursday 7 am to 7 pm**  
**Friday, Saturday, 7 am to 8 pm**



### *My Country Club*

For those longing for hunting, fishing, and camping in an unspoiled paradise, we created My Country Club for you. It is for people who have a passion for the great outdoors. As a member you will enjoy any of our beautiful private properties 365 days a year. We have over 7000 acres nestled in the local area of Palomar Mountain, Santa Ysabel, and Mesa Grande. Our goal was to structure an environment where you can escape to wild, unspoiled, paradise, for one low annual fee. Please visit our website or give us a call for the details.

Frank and Janice Mendenhall...760 782-3503

[www.mycountryclubinc.com](http://www.mycountryclubinc.com)



## *Playing It Safe...*

### *Palomar Mountain Fire Safe Council*

#### *Report*

By Shana M. Ackerman, FSC Chair

Your Fire Safe Council is proud to report on our amazing successes so far this year. Working together with the community, the PMFSC has accomplished an amazing amount of brush chipping and dead tree clearing. We are currently at a total of 3,479,804 cu feet of brush; that's almost three and a half million cubic feet of brush cleared and chipped. We have cut down and processed 340 large dead trees and cleared 2,036.8 acres. We are currently working with the "10 ton weed eater" masticator and have cleared approx 40 acres for firebreaks along Crestline Road. Thanks to the PMO and all our mountain neighbors for doing their part to make the mountain safe!

## *Small Lots?*

For those of you who have more than one small lot, you might consider this free service offered by the County Assessor office. You can save money on your taxes and usually add more value to your land by combining your lots into one parcel. Of course, if your additional land is buildable, you would not want to consolidate. We're glad to get your questions answered for you. If it is something you are interested in, we have all the parcel maps for the area, the required forms, and can process your request at no charge. Call Bonnie Phelps (760) 742-1742



# U. S. Forest Service News

by Kerri Uglik

The Palomar Mountain community has made tremendous progress in removing dangerously flammable material from around their homes and properties to create a defensible space to help against the potential threat of wildland fires in their community.

The United States Forest Service would like to commend and encourage all property owners to continue their efforts to maintain these areas of space to protect your homes. As each of you works to clear the dead and heavy fuels from around your homes you also become an important part of a completed link to protecting your neighbors homes and therefore, also your community.

The Cleveland National Forest which surrounds a large portion of Palomar Mountain and is adjacent to large privately owned parcels of land, has also been working to contribute to the transistion of fuels and to create and maintain fuel breaks around the Palomar community as much as possible. Many of the larger fuel breaks are hard to see and are located at a distance from the community, they have been created to try to stop or slow down the intensity of fire spread by creating a fuel -type conversion or a fuel-break. Several of the fuel project areas are on the North and East side of Palomar Mt. and have been maintained and enlarged over a span of over twenty years. The Palomar Divide road has been treated (crushed or burned) from near Highway 79S, to all the way past High Point Look-out (no longer used) and onto the Palomar Observatory property up to several of the Observatory residences. The Masticator machine (cutting/grinds brush) is continuing to work in the Observatory fuelbreak/Deer Flats area and will continue to work along the Palomar Divide road. The Oak Grove Truck Trail is currently undergoing brush crushing, and will also continue on the Palomar Divide.

Closer to your home on Palomar you may have seen a very LARGE Masticator machine continuing to work on the Birch Hill project (90 acres) located on the East Grade near the county disposal site. The Frye Creek Campground area is nearing completion of it's dead tree removal, which will be followed by Masticator work and then understory (low intensity, under the trees) prescribed burning. You will also continue to see smoke (as weather permits) on the North East side of the Palomar Divide road (North Slope Project) which is an on going prescribed burn project of 1,500 acres. Preparations are also underway to start the 2,700 acre Mendenhall project for 2006.

The Forest Service is currently working with the Palomar Mt. Firesafe Council Foundation to help them to receive grant money which will allow them to continue a fuel break from an already existing forest fuel break which will continue around nearby homes.

Submitted by Kerri Uglik - Fire prevention Officer  
Cleveland National Forest....Palomar Ranger District

## We're Looking for New Board Members...

## Would YOU Like to Volunteer?

### *Bailey's Palomar Resort*

Since 1888

Camping • Lodging • Events



For over a century now, folks have been coming up to Bailey's for a special slice of San Diego's back country.

Bailey's sixty-acre mountaintop environment is a unique blend of cool forest and rich meadow.

The historic General Store, Dance Hall, and the newly restored Hotel provide an authentic look and feel to a valley that has changed little over the last 100 years.

Lodging at the Bailey House, camping,

### *2004-2005 PMPO Recognition*

Thank You  
for your ongoing  
dedication and support to the  
Palomar Mountain Planning Organization

Chairman:  
Bruce Graves  
Secretary:  
Michael Pique  
Treasurer:  
Tracy Dixon  
Dual Survey Project:  
Jack Norvall/Michael Pique/  
Robert Haase  
Newsletter Coordinator:  
Susan Humason  
Cedar Creek Project:  
Libby Getzoff/Michael Pique

Mailing List:  
Bonnie Phelps  
County Liaison/Consultant:  
Jerry McLees  
2020 County Plan:  
Tom Burton  
Annual Pancake Breakfast:  
Donna Dose

Palomar Mountain Planning Organization  
P.O. Box 145  
Palomar Mountain, CA 92060-0145

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**Come Say Hi To  
Smokey The Bear!**

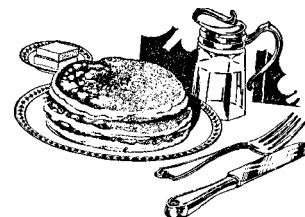
## **Annual Pancake Breakfast & PMPO Meeting**

*Saturday, May 28th, 2005*

Breakfast 8am-11am

Annual Meeting follows after Breakfast

The Palomar Mountain Lodge  
at the end of Crestline Road



Breakfast Menu:

Fresh orange juice, strawberries,  
hot mountain pancakes,  
bacon & sausage and steaming coffee

\$2.00 - Adults  
\$1.00 - Children

Come on out and meet your neighbors!