



# ***Morro Bay Open Space Alliance***

## ***Spring 2018 Newsletter***

### **WHAT WE'RE UP TO...**

#### ***2018 Annual Open House & Membership Meeting***



Come join the fun at our Annual Open House at the beautiful setting of the Morro Bay Golf Course Clubhouse. Join your friends and neighbors who are actively supporting the preservation of open space and our viewshed.

Once again, the food is on us; the bar is not. RSVP by responding to the notice sent to our mailing list, or send an email to [info@mbopenspace.org](mailto:info@mbopenspace.org).

Local artists will display their work in nature. Do you remember last fall when pleinair artist Jeff Odell began his painting at the Cerrito Peak Block Party? The final result is breathtaking, and we'll have a chance to see it at the Open House. All of the artwork exhibited will be for sale.

Tickets to the June 8 Kent Nagano Presents concert will be on sale. California will unfold on the big screen, and Eagle Rock / Cerrito Peak will unveil on the little screen.

It's almost here! If you plan to attend, please contact us with an RSVP so we'll make sure there's enough food!

#### **CERRITO PEAK PRESERVATION**

~ Nicole Dorfman

Right here, right now, we have a golden opportunity to counter the federal government's direction of removing protections from public lands and opening them up to private interests. In fact, in this little corner of the California Central Coast, we are going in the opposite direction - purchasing private land atop Cerrito Peak/Eagle Rock and opening it up for public access. Working to preserve Cerrito Peak/Eagle Rock is a tangible thing we can do to protect the earth and her creatures. Although it is a small piece of land, it has historical significance, is a monarch butterfly nesting area, and offers world-class views of the rock, the dunes, Montano de Oro and more.

We have already raised over \$60,000 toward our \$350,000 goal. Please help us preserve this slice of urban wilderness by volunteering your time or making a donation of any amount. Your help WILL make a difference. To quote Mahatma Gandhi, "Be the change you wish to see in the world". Thank you!



**KENT NAGANO PRESENTS**  
**June 8, 2018**  
**at St. Timothy's Catholic Church**

~ Glenn Silloway

The Nagano family has been prominent in Morro Bay for a hundred years or more. On June 8th, one of their famous sons, Kent Nagano, will return to present a unique benefit concert at Saint Timothy's Catholic Church to support MBOSA's Cerrito Peak campaign. This special event weaves together some of the important threads of the city's history while helping us preserve part of that history for the future.



*Maestro Kent Nagano*

Cerrito Peak/Eagle Rock, just a few blocks from the Korisheli house. We imagine that he was like a lot of his contemporaries, and spent many hours climbing on the Peak.

The Maestro's talent and dedication took him far from Morro Bay, through Berkeley to Boston, and then all over the world. Today he is the much-recorded, Grammy-award winning Music Director of the Montreal Symphonic Orchestra and the Hamburg (Germany) State Opera. He's in high demand as a guest conductor and as a recording artist.

Mr. Nagano's life is full of music: his wife Mari Kodama Nagano is a famous concert pianist in her own right, and his daughter Karin Kei Nagano is already an experienced pianist and recording artist at only 22.

The concert Mr. Nagano will present will be a highlight of the year in Morro Bay. It will feature Karin Kei Nagano on piano playing pieces we all love to hear.

We are grateful that Mr. Nagano remembers Cerrito Peak/Eagle Rock, and is helping MBOSA preserve it for those that will follow.

The story began in the 1920's and 1930's when the Nagano family ran a successful farm in Morro Creek Valley — you will still find Nagano Street off Little Morro Creek Road. After President Roosevelt signed Order 9066 in February 1942, the Naganos were sent to an internment camp along with most other Japanese-Americans. Oldsters report that during the remainder of the war, the family's neighbors maintained their property, so the family could return.

Following the war, as the Naganos re-established themselves in the community, Wachtang 'Botso' Korisheli moved to Morro Bay in 1957. As most people here know, Botso was a much loved music teacher and sculptor who shaped and influenced young lives until his death in 2015. And one of his prized pupils was young Kent Nagano.

Kent grew up living in a house at the foot of



For tickets, click here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/kent-nagano-presents-a-benefit-for-mbosa-tickets-45152880481?>





### ***BOARD MEMBERS AWED BY CERRITO PEAK***

~ Janet Gibson

In March, Board members were treated to a special hike around Cerrito Peak / Eagle Rock by longtime resident, businessman, and local historian Bill Martoni. Circling around the peak counter-clockwise, we were surprised at views like the above, that are not seen from the regular path going up and down the peak. We heard the history of plot maps (which read like a good novel), and the families that lived and laughed on the peak. Most importantly, we gained an appreciation of the peak as an important part of the history, culture, and viewshed that makes our city so special.



*Some of the MBOSA Board and Leaders on the March hike around little Cerrito Peak, with ever-changing views as we rounded the hill.*



*Looking back toward the top.*



## ***MEMBERS' HIKE at PT. BUCHON in MONTANA de ORO***

~ Janet Gibson

It seemed blustery with even a chance of rain, but that did not deter the nature-lovers needing fresh air and sunshine at the Point Buchon members' hike in March. In only a few hours on a Saturday morning, we felt like we had been transported to another planet of indescribable beauty, with lush rolling green hills and azure ocean bluff views. Groups of California golden poppies quite literally swayed in the breeze.

The trail at Point Buchon is relatively flat, consisting mostly of bluffs above the Pacific waves. However, it is unsurpassed in beauty. So come join us next time, and let us know if you'd like to go back as a group (which always seems more fun, in the long run).



*A blustery day, indeed.*



*Board members Janet & Ken contemplating Middle Earth.*



## ***CELEBRATE THE SOLSTICE with a Members Hike Up Black Hill Thursday, Jun 21, 6:00 - 7:15pm***

~ Janet Gibson

What an inspiring way to celebrate the longest day of the year by looking down at the vistas from the top of Black Hill! Join your fellow MBOSA hikers who get revitalized in nature. We'll go the long way from the east side, around the path that encircles the hill. At the top, we get to talk geology! How and when did this magical place get created?

Meet at the east side trail junction at the corner of Balboa St and La Loma Ave. in Morro Bay,. We'll leave promptly at 6pm, to be able to catch pre-sunset at the top. It's a fairly decent hour workout up the east side, usually 45 minutes to the summit, and 15 minutes for fast downhill return.

What other hikes would you like to see? Email Janet for further directions and suggestions of your favorites at:

### ***CALENDAR OF EVENTS***

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b><i>April 19</i></b> | <b><i>Open House at the Morro Bay<br/>Golf Course Clubhouse</i></b>        |
| <b><i>June 8</i></b>   | <b><i>Nagano Presents Concert at St.<br/>Timothy's Catholic Church</i></b> |
| <b><i>June 21</i></b>  | <b><i>Solstice Hike up Black Hill at<br/>East Side Trailhead</i></b>       |
| <b><i>Sept. 15</i></b> | <b><i>Annual Cerrito Peak Block Party<br/>(Volunteers Needed!)</i></b>     |



**Large Oil on Canvas of Sparkling Wave  
by Local Artist Donated to MBOSA for Silent Auction**

~ Janet Gibson

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The beautiful artwork oil painting above has been donated to our organization by one of our members to help support our cause of preserving open space for ourselves and future generations.

This original oil painting by well-known local artist Debra Sievers titled "Sam's Wave" shows a green ocean wave breaking in a sparkling arc. The background water behind the breaking wave is teal blue. The artist took great care to capture the sparkles we always see on the water, but can't seem to replicate. It is signed by the artist on the front and back. The dimensions are 48" wide x 30" tall. The artist's bio and comparisons with her other work can be found on her website:

<http://www.debrasieversart.com/#!ocean/ckiy>.

Come to the Open House to see it on display. To have it hanging in your home, submit a bid to: [info@mbopenspace.org](mailto:info@mbopenspace.org). Bidding starts at \$525, and will be open until publication of the next newsletter in the summer.

**CALLING ALL POTENTIAL MEMBERS.....**

~ Dianne Bianco

MBOSA is only as strong as its membership list. The more community members who are a part of our organization, the more strength we have to negotiate toward our goal of insuring open space in and around Morro Bay. If you have not as yet joined MBOSA please consider doing so either by filling out the form below or by going online. You will also have the opportunity to join at the Open House event in April. Please be sure to keep your membership current. If you are already a member, you will get a reminder to renew in the month you joined.

We have many events coming up in the near future, such as the Open House in April, the Kent Nagano Concert in June, and the Cerrito Peak Annual Block Party in September. If you want to be a part of one of these fun events, please let us know; we would love to have as much membership help as possible.



Newsletter production by Janet Gibson, with articles from Nicole Dorfman, Glenn Silloway, Dianne Bianco, Ken Green, & Janet Gibson.

Yes, I want to help!

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

- \_\_\_\_ \$25 Individual
- \_\_\_\_ \$50 Family/Household
- \_\_\_\_ \$100 Contributor or Business
- \_\_\_\_ \$250 Advocate
- \_\_\_\_ \$500 Patron
- \_\_\_\_ \$1000 Steward (lifetime member after 3 years)
- \_\_\_\_ \$2500 Guardian of the Land (lifetime member)

MBOSA is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization questions? Contact us at [info@mbopenspace.org](mailto:info@mbopenspace.org)

Tax ID: 81-2375834

Visit the website to join, or cut and return the following:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: MBOSA**

**Mail to:** Morro Bay Open Space Alliance  
PO Box 1029, Morro Bay, CA 93443

☐

New Member

☐

Renewing Member