



O A K L E A V E S

A PUBLICATION OF THE LOS OSOS / MORRO BAY CHAPTER of SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION
P.O. BOX 6442, LOS OSOS, CALIFORNIA 93412-6442 ❖ (805) 528-0392 ❖ JUNE / JULY 2006

Aggressive Feeder Cleaning Needed To Stop Spread of Newly Arrived Disease

In a news release dated April 17, 2006, the California Department of Fish And Game (DFG) asked California residents to clean bird feeders weekly with a 10% bleach solution to minimize the risk of spreading a newly discovered outbreak of mycoplasmosis, a disease causing blindness in wild finches and other birds (but not humans).

Mycoplasmosis is a bacteria-like disease that has been detected for the first time in wild finches in California. The disease has been present in wild birds in the eastern U.S. since the mid-1990's. Dr. Nancy Anderson, D.V.M., of the Lindsay Wildlife Museum in Walnut Creek first noticed eye infections in house finches brought to the Museum. Subsequent testing indicated that the cause was mycoplasmosis, and it was confirmed by the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory of U.C. Davis.

Affected birds develop an eye infection that may lead to blindness and breathing difficulties. Birds may then rub their heads on branches and feeders, increasing the risk of spreading the disease. The types of feeders that force birds to stick their heads inside are especially risky because the birds' eyes come into direct contact with the sides of the tubes. Other species of birds besides finches may be affected by this disease.

To help control the disease, DFG biologists urge residents to begin aggressively cleaning bird feeders weekly in a 10% solution of household bleach in water. The feeders should then be completely dried before adding new food. Other steps helpful in preventing the spread of this and other bird diseases include cleaning up old food around feeders regularly, spreading small amounts of seed over a large sunny area instead of using feeders, varying locations of seeds to avoid large concentrations of birds, and using plastic or metal feeders instead of wood (which harbors disease organisms and is harder to disinfect completely).

Use gloves when handling dead birds and bird feeders, and wash hands with anti-bacterial soap when finished. Mycoplasmosis is not related to Avian influenza or West Nile Virus. It has not been known to spread to humans. However good hygiene should always be practiced when cleaning bird feeders and areas where birds congregate.

Your editors feel that Central Coast residents with bird feeders should take this news seriously. Even though we are a distance from Walnut Creek, where an alert veterinarian first noticed the disease, it doesn't mean that mycoplasmosis was introduced there. It was probably brought to California by birds that contacted eastern birds during migration, and could have already spread up and down the coast. Cleaning feeders with a 10% bleach solution frequently has long been recommended as good standard practice to prevent spread of avian diseases among our wild flying friends.

Elfin Forest Turns 12

By *Debbie Levi, SWAP Historian*
and *Yolanda Waddell*



May 3rd was the 12th anniversary of the official beginning of the Elfin Forest. On that date (a Tuesday) in 1994, the County Board of Supervisors, swayed by the arguments of District 2 Supervisor Bud Laurent, unanimously voted to appropriate \$52,000 to complete the purchase of the El Moro Elfin Forest. The purchase price of the southern 38.87 acres of the Elfin Forest was \$1.6 million, raised by members of the Los Osos/Morro Bay Chapter of SWAP with state and federal grants, donations, and finally, the \$52,000 from the Board of Supervisors. When the purchase from owner Shirley Otto was complete, SWAP turned the land over to San Luis Obispo County General Services, to be a County Parks Natural Preserve.

Special tribute must go to the strong community support that was given by many friends of Nature as well as the residents of Los Osos, from senior citizens to school children. It is this kind of involvement that enables the preservation of this beautiful wilderness area to continue today.



Happy 12th Anniversary, Elfin Forest!

The Boardwalk: The Why, the Construction, and the Result

By *Ron Rasmussen, SWAP Chair*

In 1994, when the purchase of the Elfin Forest had been completed and SWAP became partly responsible for its upkeep, it was clear that the Forest was being "loved to death." Trails crisscrossed the area, and there was only bare sand in many places. If nothing were done the Forest would eventually become a sand dune partly covered by veldt grass.

Boardwalk continued on page 2

Boardwalk *continued from page 1*

Because the Elfin Forest was now a county park, it was important that the public have access to the park without degrading it further.

The idea of a boardwalk was included in the Elfin Forest Management Plan, a set of guidelines for County Parks personnel, in 1995. The Plan was written by a committee of SWAP members under the chairmanship of SWAP President Rose Bowker, as part of our "Adopt-a-Park" agreement with San Luis Obispo County Parks. Mark Dariz, a wheelchair-bound neighbor of the Elfin Forest and an architecture student at Cal Poly focusing on universal access, worked with the group to assure access for people at all levels of mobility.

Some neighbors of the Forest were concerned that the boardwalk would destroy the natural character of the Forest and were opposed to any construction. Moreover, they feared that a boardwalk might attract more visitors and lead to congestion and other problems for homeowners at the street ends bordering the Forest. County Parks and SWAP responded that a boardwalk would serve as an easily accessible trail, and would reduce the impact of visitors on other areas of the park.

Architecture student Mark Dariz invited Cal Poly architecture Professor Emeritus Paul Wolff and Cal Poly construction management student Antoni Artho to form a boardwalk design team. Paul Wolff specializes in designing for universal access to buildings and parks. This team made sure that the boardwalk would be wide enough and sturdy enough to provide access for physically challenged visitors as well as others. To fit with the natural character of the Forest, construction was to be with natural wood rather than synthetic materials.

In 1996, SWAP learned that the County Environmental Coordinator's office required an environmental impact report (EIR) before construction of the boardwalk could begin. Dr. Roger Gambs, Cal Poly biologist specializing in mammals, generously prepared an EIR, pro bono.

State and federal funds for construction of the boardwalk became available by the end of 1998. Fund raising by SWAP provided \$33,000 in matching funds, convincing State and Federal agencies that SWAP was serious about the project. The California Conservation Corps (CCC) submitted the winning bid and began construction at the 16th street entrance on February 9, 1999 with a projected completion date of June 1. Jan DiLeo, County Parks Planner, coordinated the project and formed a Boardwalk Committee consisting of Bruce Bonifas, CCC Work Supervisor, architects Paul Wolff and Mark Dariz, and SWAP members Les Bowker, Gordon Hensley, Bob McDougle (the SWAP Treasurer and Acting Chair), and Yolanda Waddell.

The route chosen was based on the most used sand trails that existed in the Forest. The CCC crew, led by James (JT) Taylor, set a goal of building 100 feet of boardwalk per day. That was a little optimistic. A slower

Boardwalk continued on page 3



Above: Mark Dariz, boardwalk designer, also designed and constructed the boardwalk benches.

*Below: Volunteers who pitched in and helped to install toe rails along the boardwalk included (l to r) Jan DiLeo, County Parks Planner, boardwalk architectural consultant Paul Wolff, neighbor Keith Wimer and Conservation Chair Pete Saraffian.
Photos by Yolanda Waddell*



SWAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of the Los Osos/Morro Bay Chapter of Small Wilderness Area Preservation (SWAP) consists of the following members:

Ron Rasmussen, Chair
Pete Sarafian, Vice Chair
Pat Akey, Treasurer
Yolanda Waddell, Secretary
Bob Meyer, Member at Large
Pat Sarafian, Member at Large

SWAP BOARD MEETINGS

The SWAP Board of Directors meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Coast National Bank, 1193 Los Osos Valley Road.

The next meetings are

Monday, June 12, and Monday, July 10

All Board meetings are open to the public.

To confirm the date, time and location (which are subject to change), phone 528-0392.

Boardwalk *continued from previous page*

pace of 30-40 feet per day was partly the result of the irregular route followed and the necessity of having to carry in all materials and equipment. Also, evaluation of the route was necessary by an archeologist (Dr. John Parker), a plant monitor (Stephen Dreher) and a snail specialist (Ed Reeves). Together this team of experts helped plan the actual route of the boardwalk to avoid unnecessary disturbance of archeological sites or the local biota. By September the boardwalk loop was finished with the side trail to Sienas View completed by month's end. Remaining amenities such as benches and monuments were installed during the next few months.

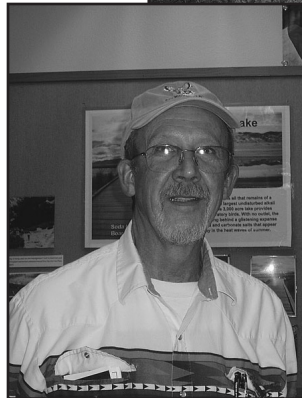
The boardwalk dedication ceremony was held on March 4, 2000. Among those present were past SWAP chair Rosemary Bowker, County Parks Planner Jan DiLeo, Bruce Bonifas and James Taylor of the CCC, former County Supervisor Bud Laurent and boardwalk designers Mark Dariz and Paul Wolff. Many members of SWAP as well as several donors and CCC cadets were also present. The consensus was that the design, construction and resulting structure could serve as a model for others contemplating similar projects.

Since opening the boardwalk the number of visitors to the Forest has measurably increased. However, the boardwalk has clearly reduced the impact of this increase. Now most, but not all, visitors stay on the boardwalk during their visit. A downside of the boardwalk has been that it allows visitors to access areas that formerly were difficult to reach. This has led to degrading of the soil in some oak groves and the opening of new trails off the boardwalk. SWAP has used a variety of methods, such as fencing and revegetation, to try to minimize this damage, and has had some success. On the positive side, the boardwalk has actually increased the opportunity of visitors to get closer to the native plants. Now the soil under the boardwalk is less exposed to the sun and drying wind and tends to retain moisture. As a result plants along the boardwalk tend to grow larger with more luxurious foliage.

Concerns of neighbors about the boardwalk causing an increase in the number of visitors and problems at the Forest entrances have been lessened with good signage that leads the public into the Elfin Forest at all entrances from 11th through 16th Streets. While there are now more visitors than in past years, there have been comparatively few problems. Most visitors respect driveways and mail boxes. Because the boardwalk is now so easily accessible it is likely that even the neighbors visit the Forest more than before. Overall, the boardwalk has proved to be an acceptable way to allow visitors to enjoy the Forest while minimizing adverse effects of their presence. On balance, the boardwalk has had a positive effect on the health of the Elfin Forest.

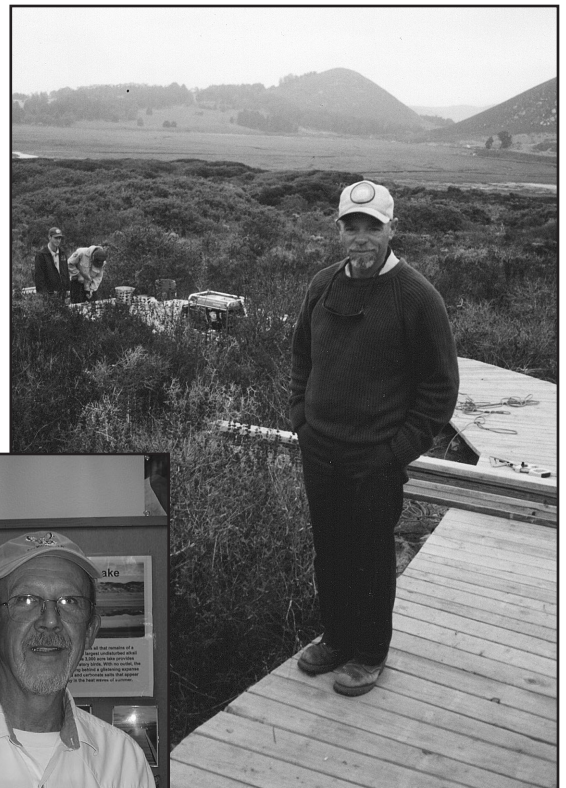
The boardwalk, set on small concrete pilings, was made of Monterey Pine beams topped by 2 x 4s and then planking. It was built over the most-used sand trails in the Forest, All materials and equipment were carried in by the CCC crew members.

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Above right: James (JT) Taylor, CCC crew chief and construction wizard, had to make many adaptations of the boardwalk design since the dune paths were far from level, and removing plants was not an option.

*Above left, inset: In 1996, Dr. Roger Gambs, Cal Poly biologist, now retired, saved the day for the Elfin Forest boardwalk by preparing an EIR pro bono, thus allowing the permitting process to proceed.
Photos by Yolanda Waddell*



*The Boardwalk was dedicated on March 4, 2000. Shown addressing the gathering of Elfin Forest supporters is County Parks Planner Jan DiLeo. Behind her is event emcee Pandora Nash Kerner, and seated, left, in a white shirt, is SWAP Chair Bob McDougle.
Photo by Yolanda Waddell.*



New Weed Warrior Susan Hightower of Grover Beach drove to Los Osos to join the April weeding crew. Photo by Yolanda Waddell



In April, Weed Warriors Jan Harper and Gail Martin attacked the “small stuff,” young veldt grass plants growing plentifully because of frequent rains. Photo by Yolanda Waddell

CCC Clobbers Cape Ivy

By Pete Sarafian, Conservation Chair

Each year the Morro Bay National Estuary Program funds watershed restoration efforts using labor provided by the California Conservation Corps (CCC). A small CCC crew helped the SWAP weeding effort in early April. For four days in both dry and stormy weather the young Corps members ranged from the extreme northern end to the extreme western end of the Elfin Forest. In pursuit of weeds, they helped to uproot and dispose of Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*), Veldt grass (*Ehrharta calycina*) and especially Cape ivy (*Delairea odorata*). At the western end of the Forest they dispatched about one-half acre of Cape ivy and English ivy (*Hedera helix*). The vines were uprooted and torn down from the tree canopy. Areas that had been impenetrable curtains of non-native vegetation are now virtually vine free. The only thing limiting further work in this area was discovery of a bird nest that had been hollowed out of the Cape ivy vines near the ground and that contained three eggs. The photo below shows the CCC crew surrounding a huge pile of vines that they removed from the ground and trees at the extreme western edge of the Forest. Crew foreman, Frank Salituri led a crew that included Lilia Arturo, Jose Casteneda, Jesse Clinger, Oswaldo Hernandez, Richard Mora, Jennifer Phares, Jason Reid and Alvaro Valenzuela. They did a wonderful job of attacking weeds that SWAP volunteers can't stay ahead of. Thank you CCC.



A CCC crew led by crew foreman Frank Salituri, right, surrounds a large pile of vines which the crew members removed from the ground and trees at the extreme west end of the Elfin Forest. Photo by Pete Sarafian

Weed Warriors Spring Into Action

By Pete Sarafian, Conservation Chair

Spring sprang with a mushy, wet vengeance this year, and it drove SWAP's Wonderful Weekend Weed Warriors into action in the Elfin Forest. It was March madness all over again. The Warriors attacked Cape ivy (*Delairea odorata*) in the oak grove just south of the Bush Lupine Point boardwalk overlook. Over the past five years the vicious vine from South Africa expanded its hold on our beleaguered native live oak trees. The work crew “tore up the place” and “tore the house down.” Vines were uprooted and also removed from the tree canopy. Piles of Cape ivy corpses can be found lying around the grove now, composting to oblivion (hopefully). The volunteers included Rosemary Baxter, Jay Bonestell, Steve Cake, Bob and Sharon Meyer, Ron Rasmussen, Tom Richards, Pete Sarafian, Charlie Sitton, Jean Wheeler, and Rosemary Wolter. Thank you, folks. We couldn't maintain the Forest without your help!

In April, despite the continuing showers in the month, the intrepid Weed Warriors attacked South African veldt grass (*Ehrharta calycina*) again. This time the work was squeezed in between rainy days and occurred in the area from 15th to 16th Streets. Volunteers concentrated on mopping up small tufts of grass that were sprouting everywhere. Endangered species permit holders (Bob Meyer, Tom Richards and Pete Sarafian) examined a few large bunches of grass for the Morro Shoulderband Snail (*Helminthoglypta walkeriana*). In order for the bunch of grass to be removed, snails first have to be transferred to a safe location. The grass attackers included the permit holders plus Jay Bonestell, Jan Harper, Susan Hightower, Gail Martin, Ron Rasmussen, Charlie Sitton and Yolanda Waddell. It was another great effort from our volunteers. Thank you so much for your work.

SWAP First Saturday Work Parties

SWAP First Saturday Work Parties are held at 9 a.m. to noon on the first Saturday of each month. Please dress for wind, fog or sun. Layers work well. Long pants and long shirt sleeves are good. Sturdy shoes are a must. Meet at the north end of 15th Street at the Elfin Forest entrance. Take care not to park in front of driveways or mailboxes. Call 528-0392.

Let's All Pull Together!

The late rains have given the weeds
A lot of time to do dirty deeds.
They're healthy and green,
With a chlorophyll sheen,
And ready to drop all their seeds.

Seriously folks (do I ever joke?), we need lots of help. The weeds are abundant and full of seed. Your support will keep us from losing the battle this year.

— Yours in the bond of digging and pulling, Pete Sarafian



WALKS in the ELFIN FOREST

Third Saturday Walks

June 17, 9:30 All About the Estuary

What is an estuary and what is being done to preserve and protect the Morro Bay Estuary and adjacent habitats? Cheryl Lesinski, Outreach Coordinator for the Morro Bay National Estuary Program will tell walk attendees about the work of the MBNEP and the health of the Morro Bay Estuary. She will lead walkers to the Elfin Forest's overlooks to view the results of silt buildup in Morro Bay, talk about the effects of pollution on the Bay, and explain the connection between Forest and the Estuary. She'll also introduce walk participants to "denizens" of the Bay, and tell us how local residents can help to protect this important natural resource.

July 15, 9:30 a.m.

Renowned archaeologist, Dr. John Parker, will tell us about the long-ago inhabitants of the Elfin Forest and the Central coast. As he leads us along the boardwalk, he'll take us back to the times of the ancient people who preceded the Chumash, and will show us how archaeologists can determine the rise and fall of the ocean's level by studying human habitations. He'll demonstrate examples of technology development through the ages, and will give us a word image of everyday life in the Elfin Forest during the time of the Chumash, including stories about Chumash money, economy and trade. This walk will open up a complex world of the Elfin Forest's past inhabitants for us, one that we would never suspect while walking along the boardwalk today.

August 19, 9:30 a.m.

Take a journey through time while walking along the Elfin Forest's paths with Cal Poly geologist David Chipping. His story, beginning in the geologic past with the formation of the "Franciscan mélange," will help us to better understand the land around us. A plant enthusiast as well and Conservation Chair of the San Luis Obispo Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, Dr. Chipping will show how local plant communities have formed as a result of geologic action.

Walks in the Elfin Forest begin at 9:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted) at the north end of 15th Street off Santa Ysabel in Los Osos. Wear comfortable shoes, long sleeves and pants to avoid poison oak and mosquitoes. Please park carefully, avoiding driveways and mailboxes. We ask that you leave pets at home. The easy paced walks last 1-1/2 to 2 hours. For more information call (805) 528-0392.

Where To Call, Where To Write

If you have questions about SWAP activities or want to volunteer, please call 528-0392 and leave a message. A recorded message will have information about our 3rd Saturday Walks, Work Saturdays, and other events. If you have questions, concerns or comments about any problems in the Elfin Forest, call or write:

Chuck Lowe, SLO County Parks Supervising Ranger,
1087 Santa Rosa Street, SLO, CA 93408, (805) 781-4417.

Owners of dogs off-leash can be cited.

If you witness dogs off-leash, vandalism or obvious crimes, call the County Sheriff at 781-4550.



Above: While leading his April wildflower walk, Dirk Walters was happy to point out that mosses have had time to grow and hold down the sand due to Elfin Forest visitors staying on the boardwalk. Photo by Bob Meyer.

Below: Marlin Harms demonstrated the benefits of using a tripod and discussed how to deal with contrast lighting in an oak grove during his March photography walk.

Photo by Yolanda Waddell



When Pat Sarafian paid a visit to the East-West Ranch (now called the Fiscalini Ranch) in Cambria, which was preserved by North Coast SWAP, it occurred to her that a social gathering of the two chapters' board members would provide some excellent networking opportunities. With an affirmative nod from the Los Osos/Morro Bay Board, Pat made arrangements for a potluck lunch and walk in the Elfin Forest on Sunday, April 2nd. Later that month, some members of the Los Osos/Morro Bay Chapter traveled north to see North Coast SWAP's annual Wildflower Show. For more information about North Coast SWAP and the Fiscalini Ranch, including photos, visit their web site, www.northcoastswap.org. Photo by Yolanda Waddell.

Panic Veldt Grass — New Invader in Los Osos

By Dirk Walters, Ph.D. and Lauren Brown; Drawing by Bonnie Walters

Panic veldt grass, *Ehrharta erecta*, is a non-native, EXTREMELY INVASIVE grass species that has recently been identified around Los Osos in San Luis Obispo County. It apparently has not yet been seen growing in the Elfin Forest, but we suspect its presence will be inevitable. We hope that the Weed Warriors will be alerted and able to keep it at bay.

There are three species of *Ehrharta* known to have been introduced in California from their native South Africa. We are more familiar with *E. calycina*, perennial veldt grass, which has been recognized as a major problem in the dunes and other sandy soil habitats in the Central Coast for many years. The Elfin Forest Weed Warriors have been remarkably successful in removing this species from the Forest. A third species, *E. longiflora*, is an annual that was recently discovered in the San Diego area and is not presently a problem in our area.

The illustrations of panic veldt grass in this issue were prepared by Dirk and Bonnie Walters. The vegetative part of the plant is represented by a straight digital scan on a photo-grade scanner. The three additional drawings are by Bonnie. The two upper drawings represent the inflorescence or spikelet as would be seen with a hand lens. The inflorescence is a panicle, 2 to 6 inches long, with laterally compressed sessile to sub-sessile spikelets that fall as a unit. There are three small florets per spikelet, two are sterile and one fertile. In this grass, the spikelet is very small, (less than one-eighth of an inch long). The bract to the right of the flower parts is known as the lemma and is the primary subtending bract of the single flower or floret. The fertile lemma is subtended by three sterile or staminate lemmas. The sterile lemmas are without awns, which is a distinguishing feature for the species. *E. calycina* has sterile lemmas with short awns, and the annual *E. longiflora* has sterile lemmas with very long awns. At the very base of the spikelet are two bracts, one approximately ½ the length of the other. These are the sterile bracts or glumes. As can be seen from the drawing, the only thing they have in their axial is a floret or lemma.

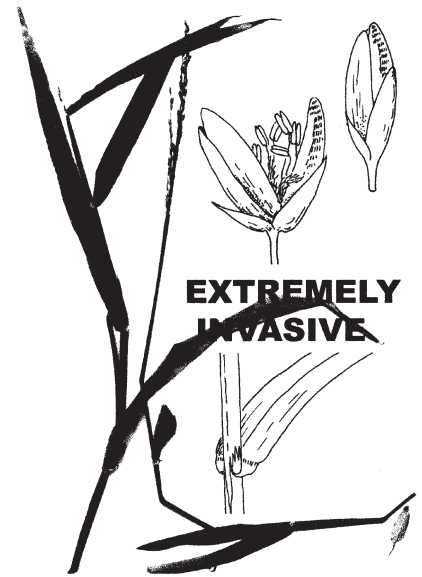
The branching stems may be decumbent or upright, 12 to 24 inches tall. The flat, green leaf blades are 2 to 5 inches in length and 0.2 to 0.4 inch wide. The third drawing by Bonnie is of the base of the blade where it joins the top of the sheath. The conspicuous feature there is the vertical scarious (texture of dry onion skin) layer projecting above the plane of the blade and seemingly covering the stem. This structure is a ligule and in this genus is characteristically toothed or fringed at the top. It is unique to the grasses although the term, ligule, is used for different structures in

other plant families.

Ehrharta erecta is included in the California Invasive Plant Council's (CalIPC) List of Exotic Pest Plants of Greatest Ecological Concern in California (1999), List B (Wildland Pest Plants of Lesser Invasiveness; invasive pest plants that spread less rapidly and cause a lesser degree of habitat disruption; may be widespread or regional). It is spread primarily though wind borne seeds, but can also spread vegetatively.

Previously, this species was not known to occur in San Luis Obispo County. However, it has recently been found in the Los Osos area where it is suspected to have been planted for erosion control or accidentally introduced. Dave Chipping observed this species growing in the understory of oaks at one location, and John Nowak noticed it in gardens where typically more moisture is available. John has indicated that panic veldt grass seems to be spreading in alarming rates in gardens around Baywood and Bay Ridge Estates. Since the publication of Bonnie's illustration in the last local California Native Plant Society Chapter newsletter, *Obispoensis*, several members have reported seeing it in their gardens. Every one is reporting that it establishes itself easily in the understory of shrubs and among other grasses (shady spots) where it grows up through the canopy. This makes it difficult to separate and eradicate. John suggests that panic veldt grass is easy to recognize and recommends pulling it if you find it in your garden (stems are reddish at the base and roots are red-tinged). This is a new invader to the coast of San Luis Obispo County and should be removed as soon as it is seen.

Editors' Note: This article appears in slightly longer form and with references to scientific literature in the May, 2006, edition of Obispoensis, the newsletter of the San Luis Obispo Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 784, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406.



Elfin Forest Sightings

One of the five rarely-seen species of snakes that live in the Elfin Forest is the Gopher Snake. Our Weed Warriors were working near the compost pile on April 1st, when one of them suddenly said, "Hey, a gopher snake!" All rushed to see it as it headed for the compost pile. Bob Meyer mentioned that there are some fat lizards living in the pile, so the snake was most likely looking for lunch.

Gopher snakes are cream-colored with black, brown or reddish brown blotches on their backs. When alarmed, one might hiss loudly and vibrate its tail, which could cause it to be mistaken for a rattlesnake. **However, there are NO rattlesnakes in the Elfin Forest.**



OAK LEAVES

is published six times per year beginning in February.

Co-editors are Yolanda Waddell and Jean Wheeler;

layout is by Katy Budge. Editing assistance by Pat Grimes.

Contributors to this issue: Lauren Brown, Wendy Brown, Debbie Levi, Ron Rasmussen, Pat Sarafian, Pete Sarafian, Yolanda Waddell, Jean Wheeler

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If possible, all copy should be submitted by e-mail to: ywaddell@kcbx.net AND jeanwheeler@charter.net.



Thank You to Our New and Renewing Members



Compiled by Wendy Brown, SWAP Database Coordinator

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Betsy & Michael Kinter*

Martin & Deborah Levi*

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Florence Appel*
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**Thanks to those listed above who donated more than the \$12 membership dues.
The additional donations will be used for special projects in the Elfin Forest.*



SWAP Shoppers Order Form

1. MURAL SHIRTS (Older Design) - circle sizes

Words on shirt: "El Moro Elfin Forest Natural Area,
Small Wilderness Area Preservation, Los Osos, California"

___ Short Slv. T-Shirt (med., Lg, XLg, XXLg, XXXLg) @ \$15.00 = ___
___ Long Slv. T-Shirt (med., Lg, XLg, XXLg, XXXLg) @ \$17.00 = ___
___ Sweatshirt (med., Lg, XLg., XXLg, XXXLg) @ \$25.00 = ___

2. MURAL SHIRTS (New Design) - circle sizes

___ Short Slv. T-Shirt (Sm, Med, Lg, XLg, XXLg, XXXLg) @ \$15.00 = ___
___ Long Slv. T-Shirt (Sm, Med, Lg, XLg, XXLg, XXXLg) @ \$17.00 = ___
___ Sweatshirt (Sm, Med, Lg, XLg, XXLg, XXXLg) @ \$25.00 = ___

3. PHOTOS OF THE ELFIN FOREST

Original photo note cards by Bob Meyer @ \$3.00 = ___
Original photo postcards by Bob Meyer @ \$1.00 = ___

4. MURAL PRINTS

___ signed prints by artist Barbara Rosenthal,
image size 4"x16"; mounted on foamcore @ \$20.00 = ___

5. NEW POCKET GUIDE

Useful 56-page guide to plants & animals of the Elfin Forest @ \$2.00 = ___

SUBTOTAL

(Prices include tax) _____

Shipping cost if outside Los Osos/Morro Bay

Pocket Guides & Note Cards \$1.00 = ___

all other items \$2.50 = ___

TOTAL OF ORDER

(Please print when filling order — and indicate HOW MANY)

Name _____

Phone (with Area code) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Make checks payable and mail to:

SWAP, P.O. Box 6442, Los Osos, CA 93412 - 6642.

Call-in orders may also be made: (805) 528-0392

New Item!

SWAP has recently published a 56-page Pocket Guide update titled, "Plants and Animals of the Elfin Forest Natural Area." It contains lists of the Forest's mammals; reptiles and amphibians; birds; common arthropods including a separate list of butterflies and moths; gastropods; a descriptive list of vascular plants, mushrooms; and a 56-species list of lichens. There is also a Habitat Map of the Elfin Forest.

The Pocket Guide sells for \$2.00.

New invasive grass and wild finch disease have reached California. See pages 1 and 6.

Los Osos / Morro Bay Chapter
 SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION
 A Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation
 P.O. Box 6442, Los Osos, CA 93412-6442
 (805) 528-0392



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Booth Workers Needed for Los Osos Family Fun Fest

This year's Family Fun Fest will take place on June 11th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Second Street in Los Osos/ Baywood Park. SWAP will be an exhibitor, and we need help tending our booth.

Would you enjoy a couple of hours talking to people? Our booths are set up to be self-explanatory, and we'll provide you with a question and answer sheet for the most commonly asked questions. We'll sell T-shirts, mural prints, our new pocket guide, and note cards and postcards with Bob Meyer's beautiful pictures of the Elfin forest. Also available will be brochures, newsletters, and our trail guide. Our past booths have brought us supportive new members, including some of our effective officers and weed warriors.

If you can help us, please call our answering machine (528-0392) and state whether you'd prefer a two-hour shift in the morning or afternoon. We'll get back to you soon to answer your questions and confirm your shift schedule.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

New Member Renewing Member

Member \$12 Defender \$100

Steward \$25 Champion \$250

Protector \$50 Guardian \$500

Life Member \$1000

I want to help, please call me!

Memberships include a subscription to SWAP's bimonthly newsletter, *Oakleaves*. All donations to SWAP are tax-deductible.

EVERY membership counts!

Make checks payable to: SWAP.

Mail to: Small Wilderness Area Preservation,
 P.O. Box 6442, Los Osos, CA 93412-6442.