



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 ❖ OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2006

Local Birders Aim Scopes at 2006 Big Sit!



Our area's best birders gathered at Bush Lupine Point for the 2005 Big Sit! to spot and identify as many bird species as they could in one day. They succeeded, coming in first worldwide. Photo by Mike Stiles.

By Jean Wheeler

A group of local birders, coordinated by Jim Royer at Bush Lupine Point in the Elfin Forest, have led in number of species counted each of the last two (and several earlier) years in the annual Big Sit! Founded by the New Haven, Connecticut, Bird Club in the early 1990's, The Big Sit! in recent years has been hosted by Bird Watcher's Digest and sponsored by Swarovski Optik and Eagle Optics.

Last year, there were 171 circles from 54 states and nations, with 667 species identified worldwide and 392 species in the U.S. and Canada. Other countries participating included Canada, The Netherlands, Panama, the United Kingdom, Vietnam, and India. The Los Osos birders,

counting 113 species from their Elfin Forest circle had the highest number of species identified, with a circle from Texas next with 95 species. Each group establishes a 17-foot circle and records all species of birds seen or heard by participants within the 24-hour day, while inside that circle. Rules allow participants to leave the circle to correctly identify a bird seen or heard at a distance. However, it and other birds identified from outside the circle cannot be counted unless seen or heard by an observer located within the circle before, during, or after the external identification. Members of Jim's team start counting before dawn, in order to "catch" owls and other nocturnal birds before they go to sleep for the day as well as early risers off to distant feeding grounds. They wind up the day after sunset, usually with 105 or more species.

Jim Royer will be leading his annual pre-Big Sit! Walk in the Elfin Forest at 8:30 am on Saturday, October 7. Jim normally identifies 40-60 bird species on this two-hour walk, designed for the enjoyment of anyone who just likes to see birds busy in their own natural world as well as for more dedicated birders. See "Walks in the Elfin Forest" on page five. And if you visit the boardwalk on Sunday, October 8, don't be surprised to see a lot of spotting scopes and binoculars pointed at the estuary, chaparral, and sky from Bush Lupine Point. Our Elfin Forest Birders will be trying to equal or top their all-time record of 122 species from their finish in 2000, or last year's list of 113 species, or at least the 103 from 2004, all three of which were the highest counts of any circle that year!

You are invited to the
**SWAP ANNUAL MEETING
& VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION**

Los Osos / Morro Bay Chapter

Saturday, October 14, 2006

11 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. • El Morro Church of the Nazarene

1480 Santa Ysabel at South Bay Blvd. in Los Osos
(1/2 block east of South Bay Blvd.)

Open to SWAP members and the community

Hear guest speakers from Pacific Wildlife Care, Education
Director Kathy Duncan and co-Vice President Jeri Roberts.

They will bring three of their educational animals that have been rescued and rehabilitated but cannot be released back into the wild. They will talk about their group, its goals, and some of the animals they take in, and will answer questions such as who to contact when you find an injured animal.

We Will Also:

- ✓ Celebrate our volunteers
- ✓ Elect Board Members (SWAP members only)
- ✓ Hear reports from our Treasurer and Conservation Chair
- ✓ Have lunch together after the meeting
(hosted by the SWAP Board)

Please RSVP if you plan to stay for lunch, 528-0392.

We look forward to seeing you!

2007 Elfin Forest Calendar Fundraiser

Don't miss an opportunity to receive the first annual 2007 Elfin Forest Calendar! Thanks to generous contributions of beautiful images by several excellent local photographers, SWAP has been able to produce a very special "limited edition" calendar. Only 250 copies will be printed. It will serve as a daily reminder of the natural beauty we all enjoy in the Elfin Forest. Just mark Item #6 of the SWAP Shoppers Order Form on page 7, fill in your name and address, and send in the form with your \$15 (partially tax-deductible) donation. Calendars will be delivered to Los Osos / Morro Bay; otherwise, add \$2.50 for shipping. The calendar will be available at our booth during the Baywood Park Oktoberfest on October 29, and during the Morro Bay Bird Festival in January. It will also be stocked by the Los Osos Chamber of Commerce. All proceeds will be used to continue maintenance of the Forest.

Coastwalkers Again Visit Elfin Forest

By *Pete Sarafian, Conservation Chair*

The California Coastwalks organization visited the Elfin Forest again this year. In a series of over a dozen different walks held each summer, hikers enjoy coastal trails in different sections of California that someday may stretch continuously along our beautiful coastline from Canada to Mexico. The Coastwalkers have visited the Elfin Forest several times in the past during their local stay.

This year Pete Sarafian again led the Elfin Forest hike, this time in early August. Participants from around the state spent about two hours marveling at the coastal dune scrub, maritime chaparral, oak and manzanita complex, oak woodland, fresh water marsh and salt marsh habitats. Other hikes in San Luis Obispo County this year included strolls in the Los Osos Oaks Preserve, along the ocean in Montaña de Oro, along the coastal bluffs north of Cayucos, and the area around El Chorro Regional Park across from Camp San Luis Obispo on Highway 1. Anyone interested in joining or going on Coastwalks locally or in other locations in the future may contact Pete Sarafian at 528-3194 or call Coastwalks directly at 1-800-550-6854 for more information.



*Los Osos resident Dar Reynolds (left) took her visiting son and granddaughter, Chris and Becca Reynolds, who live in Morgan Hill, for a walk in the Elfin Forest during August. Joining them, on leash, was their Toy Rat Terrier, Ziggy.
Photo by Yolanda Waddell.*

Visitor Comments

Dar Reynolds (see photo above) took her son and granddaughter, Chris and Becca Reynolds, who live in Morgan Hill, for a walk in the Elfin Forest during August. They enjoyed using the Trail Guide and learning from it. Dar joined SWAP's First Saturday work party in September, and is a neighborhood weed warrior as well, helping to keep the native plant landscaping along the new El Morro Linear Park in Los Osos free of veldt grass and other invasives.

Another visitor, Rick Halsey of Escondido, came to San Luis Obispo to give a lecture for the San Luis Botanical Garden in September. He sent us the following e-mail:

"I had the pleasure to visit the Elfin Forest Preserve in Morro Bay this past weekend. It was a remarkable experience for me. I am a chaparral ecologist based in San Diego and I've worked studying the chaparral plant community for more than 20 years. What you folks have helped preserve and provide for the community is truly a remarkable achievement. I couldn't dream of a more appropriate and better organized chaparral preserve than the one you have at Morro Bay. I was so overwhelmed by the beauty of the place and the loving dedication that was so obvious at every corner that I found myself becoming touched by some pretty intense feelings. Thank you so much for the work you have done. You can be sure I will be including a long description of your preserve on both my site as well as in our next newsletter. Thanks again."

Rick Halsey, The California Chaparral Field Institute (<http://www.californiachaparral.com/>).



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: Pat Akey, Wendy Brown, Bob Meyer,
Ron Rasmussen, Pete Sarafian, Mike Stiles, Yolanda Waddell,
Dirk and Bonnie Walters, Jean Wheeler.

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

Help Wanted

Trail Trimmers:

The frequent and heavy rains early this year started a growth spurt among our Elfin Forest plants that hasn't slowed down yet. Pat Murray and her SWAP Trail Trimmers need some help. She is starting an "Adopt-a-Trail" program, with each Trail Trimmer committing to the care of a specific trail or area of the Boardwalk. This commitment would be ongoing, but the time requirement isn't burdensome when spread over the year, perhaps two to four hours per month, and the Trimmers set their own schedules. If you would like to help out, leave a message for Pat at 528-0392.

Web Site Designer:

Bob Meyer, SWAP's web master, would like some help in improving the appearance our web site (www.elfin-forest.org), especially the home page. If you like to design web pages, know the process, and would be willing to donate your time, please leave a message for Bob at 528-0392, SWAP's message line.

SWAP's Finances

By Pat Akey, SWAP Treasurer

My first year as a member and treasurer of SWAP has given me a personal appreciation of, and education in the field of Land Preservation. The challenges of the Native Americans so many years ago are basically the same as ours, both physical and mental. We all want to preserve our planet for future generations, without the environment as we know it being degraded during our own generation. Due to groups like SWAP, we can do that, but SWAP needs the generous volunteer efforts of everyone. Thank you to our 314 SWAP members for your dedication and perseverance.

Now to our numbers: During the fiscal year of July, 2005 through June, 2006, our SWAP chapter earned \$44,000 in membership, merchandise, interest on Certificates of Deposit, and donations. We spent \$18,000 for conservation, education, and publicity (Trail Guides, Pocket Guides, Oakleaves newsletter and Community Activities). Our net income was \$26,000.

Thank you again for the opportunity to be your Treasurer.

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 Murray, 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, October 9, and Monday, November 13

All Board meetings are open to the public.

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

SWAP Helped Build it; Did They Come?

By Ron Rasmussen, SWAP Chair

About 10 years ago, shortly after SWAP became responsible for upkeep of the Elfin Forest, a management plan was developed with the goal of improving access to the Forest. Options included a parking area, restrooms, an information and nature center, and a boardwalk to aid elderly and handicapped visitors' enjoyment of the Forest. Some neighbors of the Forest were very concerned that a horde of visitors would descend on the streets adjacent to the Forest causing traffic jams, pollution, and crime problems, resulting in reduced property values. Enough time has now gone by to allow an assessment of whether these dire predictions have come to pass.

Traffic and parking problems did occur at the end of 16th Street, which has handicap parking and a wheelchair ramp. For a while, only 16th Street had a sign pointing to the Elfin Forest. When the County Public Works Department installed more Elfin Forest signs along Santa Ysabel Street, indicating access to the Forest at all street ends from 11th through 17th, the problem was mostly resolved. At each street end there is room for at least two or three cars without blocking driveways or mailboxes. There are only rare reports of visitors parking improperly. Field trips for school children sometimes involve buses. To avoid blocking residents' driveways, buses can let the children off and then park elsewhere until it is necessary to retrieve them at the end of the field trip.

With regard to pollution, there are trash receptacles and Mutt Mitt dispensers at each entrance. Most visitors with pets use the Mutt Mitts, but volunteers also routinely pick up trash and pet droppings in the Forest, keeping the Forest remarkably clean. While vandalism is a continuing problem, more serious crimes have not been reported.

The options of a parking lot, restrooms and a nature center have not been undertaken. There are at least three important reasons for this. The first is lack of funds. It was proposed to place the principal entrance to the Forest on South Bay Boulevard, just south of the Los Osos Creek bridge. The parking lot, restrooms and nature center were to be constructed north of the bridge across from Turri Road. A new pedestrian bridge across the creek was planned. This scenario is unlikely to occur since the area in question is part of the State Park and would require scarce state money. The second reason seems to be that, given its size, most visitors do not spend more than an hour or two in the Forest, and restroom and camping facilities are available at nearby Morro Bay State Campground. Finally, the present situation seems to be satisfactory. Visitors can find parking at one of the street ends, and information about the Forest is available from interpretive signs and Trail Guides. The option of a boardwalk has been followed through, and its success was reviewed in the June/July, 2006 *Oakleaves*.

The effect on property values of SWAP's activities in the Forest has been clearly positive. The halting of erosion and restoration of native vegetation has made the Forest a prime example of California coastal chaparral (see Visitor Comments, p. 2). One need only read ads for homes that are currently for sale near the Forest, to see that proximity to the Forest is a strong selling point. Thus, although the number of visitors to the Forest has increased over the past few years, the impact on the neighborhood has been minimal. SWAP will continue to maintain the unique character of the Forest and is always ready to hear from nearby residents about possible problems.



Removing a very heavy growth of the invasive Cape ivy from a grove at the west end of the Forest left a steep slope bare. Weed Warriors installed a silt fence to prevent erosion until native ground cover plants can grow in. Photo by Pete Sarafian.

Slope Stabilized By Wily Warriors

By Pete Sarafian, Conservation Chair

During the August 5th work party, SWAP's Wonderful Weekend Weed Warriors installed erosion controls in the extreme western end of the Elfin Forest. A steep hillside between a higher elevation oak grove and the fresh water marsh at the edge of Morro Bay was ready to slide away with the next winter rains. The area had been the site of an extremely dense infestation of Cape ivy (*Delairea odorata*) and also some English ivy (*Hedera helix*). With the help of the California Conservation Corps this spring, SWAP managed to clear nearly an acre of vines, some so dense that they blocked any travel. The vines were as much as two feet deep along a hillside as well.

The removal of the dreaded ivies left the hillside completely denuded. Unless SWAP intervened, erosion gullies were bound to form with the coming seasonal rainfall. The First Saturday workers installed a 100-foot long black plastic silt fence across the center of the slope. Two other shorter silt fences were installed in a very steep section adjacent to a large tree. Some finishing work remains to ensure that water doesn't run under the steepest sections of fence. The September work party was scheduled to add jute matting or cocoa mat to the base of the fencing in the steepest sections. The August volunteers included Bob, Elizabeth and Sharon Meyer, Marie Moore, Ron Rasmussen, and Pete Sarafian. Thank you all for being such great volunteers. The Elfin Forest is looking so much better without nasty alien plant species invading it!

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.



Carrying a roll of jute matting after doing erosion control work at the west end of the Elfin Forest in September, were (L-R) Weed Warriors Alon Perlman and Dave Bowlus. Photo by Yolanda Waddell.

Students Strew Wood Chips

By Pete Sarafian, Conservation Chairperson

The director of the of the California Conservation Corps Los Padres Center, Domenic Santangelo, brought two dozen high school graduates to the Elfin Forest one afternoon in July to assist with conservation work. The students were taking part in the Bridge Program, an opportunity for the grads to plan their futures. The students spent about three months at Cuesta College working as interns, learning more about college, honing job hunting skills, writing resumes, and experiencing the demands of working life. As part of the program the CCC taught the students about conservation and gave them the opportunity to perform volunteer work in the field.

The Elfin Forest activity consisted of hauling and spreading wood chip mulch at entrances to the park to cut down on dust and erosion. Wood chips were loaded into the bed of a pickup and into a trailer from the pile at 15th Street and hauled to 17th, 14th, and 11th Streets where the students spread out the mulch. Several cubic yards of mulch were spread over the course of the afternoon. All in all, it was a very successful effort. Most of the mulch heap has been used up. Only 12th and 13th Streets remain to be treated with mulch later this year. Thanks go to the students and especially to the CCC for continuing to support SWAP and the Elfin Forest with their equipment and labor.

Let's All Pull Together!

Dear Wonderful Weekend Weed Warriors and Wannabes:

We've plenty for you to do,

With the SWAP volunteers (what a crew).

We can stabilize soil,

Or do other toil,

Something always arises anew.

And if anyone would like to suggest

A project that they would like best,

I am perfectly willing

To do your brand of killing,

As long as the species is a pest.

Yours in integrated pest management,

Pete Sarafian



WALKS in the ELFIN FOREST

Third (and First) Saturday Walks

October 7, 8:30 a.m. (First Saturday - Note earlier time)

This First Saturday walk, beginning at 8:30 a.m., will be a preview of an international event, the Big Sit! The following day, Sunday, October 8, is the day for the Big Sit! at Bush Lupine Point in the Elfin Forest. Coordinator Jim Royer, an experienced and avid birder, will lead the walk on Saturday. Join Jim on his tour of the Elfin Forest to find and identify many of the bird species that are active during the day; usually Jim and walk participants find 40 to 60 species. This walk is for those who just enjoy looking at birds as well as for more experienced birders. You'll come away from this experience knowing more about birds, their calls, their habits and habitats.

October 18, 9:30 a.m. (Third Saturday)

SWAPs guest walk leaders, John and Yvette Nowak, will take a look at some of the native plants in the Elfin Forest. John, a horticulturist, and Yvette, a teacher and naturalist, will fill you in on how to identify plants in the various habitats of the Elfin Forest, even when they aren't in bloom; and how they fit into those habitats. You'll learn how some of the plants were used by the Chumash and early California settlers, and will get some ideas on how to incorporate native plants into your garden. This walk occurs shortly before the San Luis Obispo Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) holds its annual native plant sale (Saturday, November 4), and John will be glad to give information about the best native plants to buy for a particular area. Take a look at the CNPS web site, www.cnps-slo.org, for details on the native plant sale.

November 18, 9:30 a.m. Literary Stroll

Do you enjoy having someone read to you? Here's your chance! Take a literary stroll through the Elfin Forest with Robert Pavlik. Bob has an interesting job. He's a historian for Cal Trans, and his book collection includes many by California natural history writers. As you stroll along the boardwalk with him, Bob will introduce you to a variety of authors and poets who have written about natural history, and will apply their perceptions to the Central Coast.

December 16, 9:30 a.m. Sketch Walk

Join artist Barbara Renshaw for a stroll along the Elfin Forest boardwalk to take in the views of the Morro Bay estuary and sandspit from the Bush Lupine Point and Siena's View overlooks. You'll stop in the Woodrat Hall oak grove to marvel at the ancient gnarled coast live oak trees. As you go, you can sketch the bay, birds on the saltmarsh, oaks, or some of the Forest's varied plant life. No drawing experience is necessary. Bring a pad of drawing paper (no larger than 9-1/2 by 12-1/2 inches), colored pencils or pastels, and some drinking water. Consider bringing a camera too. You'll be surprised how quickly you discover the artist in you!

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 not bring dogs or other pets. The easy paced walks last 1-1/2 to 2 hours. For more information call (805) 528-0392.



*Geologist and plant conservationist, Dr. David Chipping (left), explained the drought tolerant characteristics of the Elfin Forest's native plants during his 3rd Saturday walk in August. At the right of Dr. Chipping are Los Osos resident and frequent SWAP walk leader Al Normandin, and Virginia and Barry Garelick, visiting from Virginia.
Photo by Bob Meyer.*

Elfin Forest Sightings



During July's First Saturday work party, Pete Sarafian found a very interesting purple-colored plant that he hadn't seen before (see photo). It was growing in the corner of one of the steps on the Orchid Trail leading down to the Don Klopfer Grove, near South Bay Boulevard. Marlin Harms, a SWAP member and nature photographer, heard about the plant and took a photo, which we then sent to botanist Dirk Walters for identification. Dirk checked the county floras by Hoover, Mathews, and Smith, as well as *The Jepson Manual* and the Philip Munz *A Flora of Southern California*. He also visited the Cal Poly Herbarium, and concluded that our "new" plant is *Orobanche californica*, California broomrape. This plant hadn't been seen in the Elfin Forest for a number of years, and now can be added to the online version of our Pocket Guide. The guide already mentions Clustered broomrape, *Orobanche fasciculata*. Now we have two. Our thanks to Pete, Marlin and Dirk for enriching the Elfin Forest flora with an additional plant.
Photo by Marlin Harms.

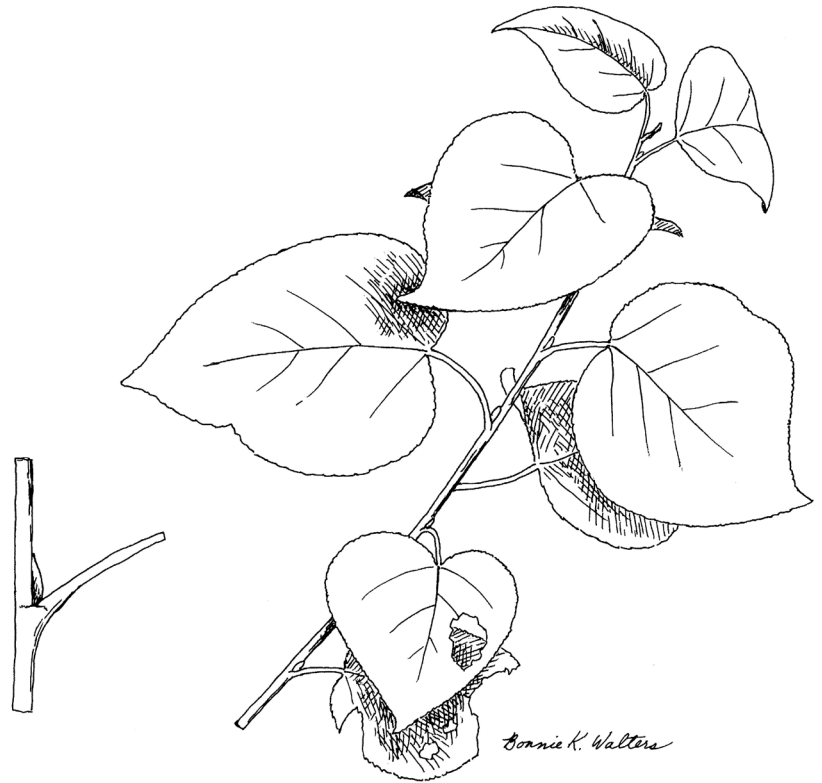
Black Cottonwood

By Dirk Walters, Ph.D.; Drawing by Bonnie Walters

The plant profiled in this issue of *Oakleaves* is a tree that may not be in the Elfin Forest at all. It appears on some Elfin Forest species lists and not others. One thing is sure; one will not see one from the boardwalk. If present in the Elfin Forest, I would expect to find it just above the salt water influence where fresh water seeps out from under the dunes. I would also expect it to occur along the banks of Turri Creek. Black cottonwood ranges widely from Southern California north into Alaska and east through the Rocky Mountains. It is in the Rockies that it overlaps with the more easterly ranging balsam poplar (*Populus balsamifera* ssp. *basamifera*). The Pacific Northwest is where the black cottonwood reaches its greatest stature and highest densities. In California, it is smaller and much more widely scattered. In the Sierras it is a mountain tree of intermediate altitudes. Here along the coast, it is a tree of coastal canyons and dune swales. In our area, the tree generally occurs as either as widely scattered lone specimens or in small groups. The only place where I have seen large groves is in the swales at Dune Lakes and on Coreopsis Hill in Southern San Luis Obispo County. I hope to hear if any of you know of other groves.

Black cottonwood is one of our more easily recognized trees even though it is highly variable in leaf size and shape. Bonnie's drawing shows leaves of the most typical shape. But they can vary from widest in the middle (oval) to more commonly widest at the base (ovate). Leaf edges can be nearly smooth (entire) or more commonly displaying small rounded teeth. The leaves tend to be quite large, up to 4 or 5 inches long and 2-4 inches wide. The only tree with which it might be confused is the Fremont cottonwood that has much more pronounced marginal teeth and is wider than long. Also, whereas the black cottonwood leaves are egg shaped, Fremont cottonwoods tend to be shaped like the Greek letter delta (clearly triangular or deltoid). Fremont cottonwoods are common from the Salinas valley eastward and only extremely rarely found west of the Santa Lucia Mountains.

Bonnie has not drawn any flowers or fruits for this plant. It does flower from January through April. Individual flowers produce either stamens or pistils, i.e. they are unisexual or better imperfect. Both staminate (male) and female (pistilate) flowers are borne in elongate, pliable clusters known as catkins, which are produced on different individual plants.



Fruits replace the pistils. Fruits are tiny capsules that when mature open to release millions of tiny seeds, each covered with cottony hairs. These tiny "cotton fluffs" are carried on the wind where they get can be caught in screens or pile up in ditches. Worldwide, cottonwoods usually grow in small patches or woods. The trees in these cotton-producing groves were long ago given the name cottonwoods.

In older floras, Black cottonwood was recognized as a full species and given the scientific name *Populus trichocarpa*. All recent identification books and species lists (including the Elfin Forest Pocket Guide) recognize the Black cottonwood as a subspecies of the very wide ranging and highly variable species, Balsam poplar (*Populus balsamifera* ssp. *trichocarpa*). As a teacher of plant taxonomy, I hear regularly the question, "Why did 'they' change the name on me?" There are many reasons. I would like to introduce just one of them at this time. I think all of us would accept that no two humans are exactly alike; that each of us is different and unique. Further, most of us would accept that all humans alive today (almost 6.5 billion of us) represent a single species. Hopefully, most of us will also accept that other species are as variable or more variable than are humans. Therefore, if what we recognize as a "species" is in fact a variable group of individuals, then the limits of that group can be subject to interpretation.

Now, in humans, we (*Homo sapiens*) long ago eliminated any species that might be confused with us, but this is not true for much of nature. Many forms show variation that can be divided up more-or-less consistently into recognizable subgroups. When this happens, we are forced to ask, "What is the significance of these subgroups?" "Are these subgroups distinct species or are they merely variants within a single inclusive species. Unfortunately significance is often in the eye of the beholder. If I judge differences as significant, I will call the subgroups species. If you judge the differences as less significant, you will either choose to ignore the subgroups completely or you will recognize them but only at the form, variety or subspecies level.

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.

Thank You to Our New and Renewing Members

Compiled by Wendy Brown, SWAP Database Coordinator

NEW MEMBERS:

Ray & Ursula Bunster*
Ruth Christiansen
Mark Chytilo*

Margaret Gemanis
Gene & Mimi Kalland*
Tony & Julia Kelly

Sylvia Rosenberg
John & Mary Whelen*
Celia Zaentz**

RENEWING MEMBERS:

Thomas H. Alden & M. Sinel*
Ruby V. Avelar*
Mary Baker
Linda Bailey*
Sandra Beebe*
Wendy Brown*
Doug & Lee Buckmaster*
Steve & Sue Burns*
Stephen Cake*
Peggy Childers*
Jan Clucas*
Paul Crafts
Elaine and Craig Cunningham
David & Evelyn Dabritz*
Katie & Jerry Davis*

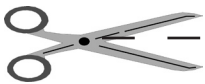
Robert & Gail Davis*
Bernard & Fran Deitchman*
Elsie & Jerome Deitz*
Margaret Diehl
Lurlie Edgecomb*
Francesca Fairbrother
Joanna Frawley*
Sterling & Virginia Gottlieb*
Susan & Pascal Grimaud*
Carla Grindle*
Mary Harrison*
Jim & Karen Havlena*
JoAnne Heaney
Joseph Johnson*
Heidi Kausch*

Roberta Knapp*
Christine A. Lancellotti*
Barbara Machado*
Leora Markwort
Earle & Peggy Mayfield*
Margaret Mehring*
Howard & Marlo Miller*
Denise Fourie & Mike Multari*
Patricia Murray*
Al Normandin
Mary O'Dell*
Al & Carrie Pardo*
Joan V. Powell*
Rebecca Rasmussen*
Ronald E. Rasmussen*

Deborah Schreiber*
Jan Simek*
John Steinbeck*
Tomoko Sugano*
Dean Thompson
Alphonso & Catherine Topp
Yolanda & Jay Waddell*
Jeri Walsh*
Edward Walter*
Bonnie & Les Wamsley*
Jean D. Wheeler*
Elizabeth Will & Ben Burgoa*
James & Jean Wood*
Ruth L. Zank*

*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.

** Welcome to Celia Zaentz as a new Guardian of the Elfin Forest (\$500 donation).



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 = ___

6. 2007 ELFIN FOREST CALENDAR

Scenes of the Elfin Forest to enjoy all year round! @ \$15.00 = ___

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 _____

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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 2007 Elfin Forest Calendar is now available in a limited quantity of 250 copies. The calendar is filled with scenes of the Elfin Forest as well as full-page and smaller photos of birds, wildflowers, butterflies, and other inhabitants of the Elfin Forest. Your \$15 donation (partially tax-deductible) will help with SWAP projects. Get one for yourself and give some as gifts.

SWAP Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition
Oct. 14, with speakers from Pacific Wildlife Care

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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Volunteers Needed for Oktoberfest

Los Osos will be celebrating its 28th Annual Oktoberfest this year on Sunday, October 29 on Second Street in downtown Baywood Park. Included in a day full of fun activities from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm will be crafts, ethnic food, music, a 4-mile run, and kayak races. SWAP will have a booth at the Baywood Park Oktoberfest.



Would you enjoy spending 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 need volunteers to talk with visitors, give out literature, and to sell T-shirts and sweatshirts, photo note cards and postcards, mural prints, and pocket guides. If you can work a two-hour shift between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm on that day, please call SWAP's message phone at 528-0392. Give your name, shift preference, and phone number. Join us, you'll have fun!

MEMBERSHIP FORM

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City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewing Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member \$12 | <input type="checkbox"/> Defender \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steward \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Champion \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Protector \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member \$1000 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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.