



OAK LEAVES

a publication of the Los Osos/Morro Bay Chapter of Small Wilderness Area Preservation

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BUD LAURENT TO SPEAK ON SILTATION OF MORRO BAY

Bud Laurent, a California Fish & Game Marine Manager, will speak at our regular meeting on February 10th at 7:30 p.m. in Room 2 at the Trinity Methodist Church on the corner of Pine and Los Osos Valley Road. He will discuss the problems caused by the ever-increasing siltation of Morro Bay. All members of SWAP are encouraged to attend and to bring friends who may be interested in this important concern. A short business meeting will follow.

NEW LEAVES

Plans and projects are leafing out on every branch of SWAP's agenda thanks to the efforts of many individuals. Rose Bowker and Katy Davis are preparing two fund-raising projects: a children's coloring book and a set of note cards featuring the estuary and the elfin forest. Sally and Mike Noack and Tom Richards are developing an Elfin Forest nature walk which will encompass all the ecological zones on the property. Les Bowker is heading the committee writing the prospectus to present to public and private funding sources. Myron Graham is organizing a proposed "Artist's Day in the El Moro Elfin Forest" which will include a brunch. Yolanda Waddell and Steve LaMarine have put together and refined a slide show and script for presentation to groups who may be interested in supporting our project. Bill Newman and Pat Grimes are beginning the grant proposal writing process and Bill and Mary Ehrmann have taken on the publicity tasks. Our thanks go out to all these people since each of these efforts will benefit SWAP significantly. Anyone interested in assisting any of these endeavors should call one of our message telephones (528-1868 or 528-1050) or attend our regular meetings on the second Monday of the month. **TIME, ENERGY & MONEY ARE ALL NEEDED!**

OAK LEAF MULCH

Contributions and new memberships continue to trickle in and enrich our potential for success. Sincere thanks to everyone who has supported this project with seed money for our various activities. Publishing our prospectus to solicit grant funding will be a major expense so we must expand our base of support. If you can make a connection with an interested group or individual, we need your help. Spread the word about our project to friends, too. Our address is P.O. Box 6442, Los Osos, CA 93402.

BLOWING LEAVES

News of our project is beginning to spread. Yolanda Waddell gave a slide presentation to the South Bay Community Council Nature Night meeting and she has been invited to a Sierra Club meeting soon. Rose Bowker, Phil Ashley and Yolanda were guests on "Central Coast Perspective" on KCBX on January 29th and news of our project has or will appear in the SCOPE and ACORN newsletters. We want letters of support from every kind of community group who might have an interest in preserving the wilderness quality of the forest as well as in having a unique recreational and educational resource in our community. Bring your ideas to our next meeting.

--UPDATE ON THE PROJECT--

SWAP has made some preliminary inquiries of the owner of the El Moro Elfin Forest who has indicated she is interested in a tangible offer to buy the property. In addition, our assemblyman, Eric Seastrand has also written to us of his interest in a creative effort to preserve this small wilderness area, perhaps with the assistance of the Coastal Conservancy. SWAP is anticipating some significant developments soon which may require an intensive effort on the part of our membership to demonstrate community support for our project. Share this newsletter with your friends and neighbors. Encourage them to join SWAP.

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Each town should have a park, or rather
a primitive forest, where a stick would never be cut . . .
a common possession forever for instruction
and recreation. --Thoreau

