



OAK LEAVES

A PUBLICATION OF THE LOS OSOS/MORRO BAY CHAPTER SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION
P.O. Box 6442 LOS OSOS CALIFORNIA 93412 (805)528-2579 JUNE 1992

Spend an Evening in the Elfin Forest.

Members of the Los Osos/Baywood Park Chamber of Commerce have been invited to mix with the members of SWAP at our general membership meeting which will be held in "A. Woodrat Hall" from 5 to 7 pm on Thursday, June 11th. Come share our project with the community.

Take a minute after a busy day at work to slip into comfortable walking shoes and follow the signs from the north end of Fifteenth St off Santa Ysabel Avenue in Los Osos. Nothing could be more pleasant after a hectic day at work than the magic of the Elfin Forest. Guided walks will be given to Lupine Overlook and Mayhem Point.

A special thank you to the Salty Pelican, Cordero Winston & Company, and The Pacific Cafe for refreshments and to Mrs. Otto, the property owner, for once again giving us permission to meet in "A. Woodrat Hall."

Your Contribution is a Tax Deduction

This tax season we received several calls asking if contributions to SWAP were tax deductible. Yes they are. SWAP was incorporated as a 501(C)3 non-profit public benefit corporation. Everyone on our working board of directors and everyone on our Financial Advisory board serves in a completely voluntary capacity.

We're Number 1!

We have had exciting news! Our proposal for \$500,000 for funds from the CalTrans budget for environmental mitigation and enhancement has been ranked first out of all the proposals received from the Southern California Region by the Resource Agency. These funds are from Proposition 111 Highway bond funds and must be used for environmental projects. CalTrans will make final awards after the start of the fiscal year in July.

This \$500,000 plus the \$20,000 in our land fund means that we have made a significant step toward achieving our goal of preserving the Elfin Forest. It also means that we need to work harder than ever to maintain this position and to tap into any and all possible sources of funds.

And as a reminder, we need your dues! While we are an all-volunteer organization, we do have expenses. It takes money to raise money. More importantly, your current membership is the best way we can demonstrate support for the Elfin Forest Project.

Margaret Mead once said "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it's the only thing that ever has."

While the task of raising \$3 million dollars may seem formidable, WE can do it!

Ray Belknap of the SLO County Land Conservancy shared the following with us at our December Meeting. In a 1943 New Year's Even Toast, his aunt, Lettie Richie wrote

The world over people are still hunting for the springs of eternal youth and know not that the spirit of youth rests in 3 things: A love for God, A love for fellow man, A love for the outdoors.

Toast your fellow man and your eternal youth by making a donation to SWAP.

Emily Polk's Fire Sale and Retrospective Was A Hit!

THANKS to Chuck Wilson of Wilson's Baywood Framing for framing our "Emily Polk Theme Picture" for the raffle, to Joan Sullivan for the biggest sign in Los Osos, to Pat and Larry Grimes, our resident caterers, to Jerry Deitz who handled bookkeeping and money, to Williams Brothers for printing and using "Show Bags" in Los Osos and Morro Bay, to Richard of California Images for printing our Theme Shirts, and to cookie bakers and show staffers Karen Kimura, Phyllis Snyder, Ernie Berg, Doug and Morley Weir, Robert Judd, Julie Hubbard, Clarice Arakawa, Mary Coffeen, Yolanda Waddell, Jacquie Smalley, Flo Ross, Virginia Black, Kathy Sallaz, Barbara Machado, Margaret Mehring, Myron & Priscilla Graham, Susan Draper and Julia Crosby. Les Bowker, Jerry Deitz, and Roger Verity made a great moving crew. Ann Calhoun lent her muscles and considerable talent to hanging the show with Elsie Deitz and Roger Verity. And a big THANK YOU to Elsie Deitz for months of work in preparation for a very successful event. Tell her "Thank You" when you see her.

Please Help Share The Magic

We are working hard to preserve the Elfin Forest because we sincerely believe that it has a value that goes beyond the dollars and cents of an appraised value and that it is more than a list of plants and animals. The Elfin Forest, because of where it is and what it is, has a magic of its own.

A magic we just don't find everywhere today. A magic that is calming. A magic that offers peace — and fun. A place where you can have a mini-adventure just a few minutes from your home or where you parked your car. It won't stay that way unless those of us who enjoy it and believe in its value do something to make sure it does. You have shown an interest in our project. Help us to get others interested. What can you do?

Help us schedule our slide show.

Volunteer to staff our information booth.

Adopt an elf, an oak grove, a manzanita.

Help us to find those people who would be willing to support us financially - from \$5 to \$50 to \$500 to \$5000. Each and every donation is important. We can share the magic if each and everyone of us makes a commitment to help in whatever way we can.

According to a Native American saying, "We do not inherit the land from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children." Help us to preserve this magical wilderness for our enjoyment today and the enjoyment of our children tomorrow.

KCPR Eco-Award

Cal Poly's FM radio station KCPR recognized local businesses during April with Eco-Awards. SWAP's efforts to preserve the Elfin Forest were recognized by KCPR with 8 radio spots describing our Elfin Forest project on April 24th. Congratulations to all of us!

Small Change But No Small Deal!



Each \$2 in change will save a square foot of the Elfin Forest

SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION

P.O. Box 6442 Los Osos CA 93412 (805) 528-2579

What do you do with the spare change in your pants or purse?

Do you have a business where you could put out a donation jar or can?

Christina Garcia placed a jar on the counter at Baywood Video with a note asking customers to contribute their change to the Elfin Forest Land Fund. As May 6th, they had contributed enough to become "stewards" of 14 square feet of the Elfin Forest.

Remember, just \$2 saves a square foot! Every Square foot counts! So cut out the above label, put it in an empty jar, and place it on your dresser or at your place of business. We will send you a Certificate of Stewardship in return for your donation to the Elfin Forest Land Fund.

A big THANK YOU
to Christina Garcia and the
Baywood Video Customers!

Natural Areas Plan Names Elfin Forest As Ecological Preserve

In the first draft of the San Luis Obispo County Natural Areas Plan developed by the San Luis Obispo County Open Space Subcommittee, the Elfin Forest has been earmarked for acquisition as an ecological preserve. Preservation of archeological sites, habitat protection, and passive recreation are the primary management objectives. Public access would be limited to foot traffic. In making this recommendation, the Open Space subcommittee recognizes that the Elfin Forest is an important ecological preserve because of its habitat value and biological diversity, its scenic, cultural and historical characteristics, its unique natural features, the opportunities presented for passive outdoor recreation and/or environmental education, its adjacency to other public land, and its value as a greenbelt in shaping the urbanized area of Los Osos.

A copy of the natural areas plan is available for review in SLO county libraries.



Les Bowker, shares some of the magic of the Elfin Forest with friends.

SWAP's Land Fund

Are you aware that SWAP maintains all donations toward the actual purchase of the Elfin Forest as a separate Land Fund Account? If (and we don't even like to say "if") we aren't able to achieve our goal, donations will be returned to the donor or given to the environmental project of the donor's designation. We have had some very generous donation to our land fund over the past year bringing it to nearly \$20,000 plus the anticipated \$500,000 from CalTrans.

Swing Into Spring A Success

The Community Center was magically transformed thanks to the decorating efforts of Barbara Rosenthal and helper "elves" Katie, Cecilia and Julia Davis and Les, Marc and Shelley Smith, the loan of a "forest" by Shamrock Gardens, a delicious assortment of nibbles by Jacquie Smalley and Margaret Mehring, and the music of DJ Ben Squires. Gerri Chadwick donated space on the Community Center's Events Sign. I-Scream Ice Cream Parlor, The Salty Pelican, La Patisserie, and Baywood Video donated door prizes. Sharon Brazell and Robert Stewer gave a dance demonstration that had us all tapping our feet.

Thanks to Ann Calhoun for publicity, Mike Burke for poster design, Hay Printing for poster production, Karen Kimura and Bill Jackson for posting everywhere, and persistent Flo Ross and her ticket sellers, we took in over \$2600 in ticket sales with a profit of \$2100 for our operating expense budget. A very big thank you to Robert Judd (and Lillian too) who put it all together We had fun! See you next year with live music!

A very special thank you to everyone who supported this event with a ticket purchase.

Teach a Friend about the Elfin Forest

We can all take a lesson from Laura Stenovec a fifth grader at the Montessori School in SLO. As part of Earth Week, she prepared a lesson on the Elfin Forest for the First Grade class. Using materials from our teacher's packet as a starting point, she gave an in-class presentation and arranged a class field trip to the Elfin Forest. Hats off to a very special young lady!

Booth Help Needed

Margaret Mehring has taken on the job of staffing our information and sales booth at public events. We will be holding a training session to familiarize our "booth elves" with the details of our project, progress to date, and procedures for handling sales and donations. We need help with the booth at:

Conservation Day at the Charles Paddock Zoo in Atascadero on Saturday, June 6th.

The **Junefest** in Baywood Park on Sunday June 14th.

The **Morro Bay Watershed Fair and Festival of the Bears**, South Bay Community Park, August 29.

Call Margaret at 528-2552 if you are willing to donate 2 hours of your time to help staff our booth.

Third Saturday Walks For Summer

Our Third Saturday Walks will continue throughout the summer.

On June 20th. **John Muench** will help you see the Elfin Forest as it was used by the **Chumash Indians** making tools, weapons and musical instruments.

On July 18th. **Dennis Sheridan** will introduce you to the smaller creatures of the Elfin Forest, the **insects** who live there.

August 15th. is "**Kid's Day.**" Reservations are requested. Please call 528-4540 if you are interested in a kids and parents walk.

All walks meet at 9:30 a.m. at the North End of 15th. Street off Santa Ysabel in Los Osos. Call Shanda Gibbs at 528-3936 if you would like to help with a SWAP walk.



Cal Poly Plant Taxonomist, David Keil, shared his knowledge of the plants of the Elfin Forest on Saturday, March 21st walk.

Thank You Thank You Thank You Thank You Thank You

Thank you to "Grandpa" in Redondo Beach who read about our "land sale" and wrote that the family had decided to become stewards of the Elfin Forest project (not out of any scheme to cheat on taxes nor to buy up the land for secret foreign investors or speculators), to Mrs. Joan Tipple of Walmer, Kent, England, who sent us \$50 after taking a walk through our Elfin Forest, to the members of the North Cuesta Audubon Society for a \$100 donation to our land fund, and for a memorial gift in memory of Sid Lipshin. And to H. Abrams, S. Anderson, A. Armstrong, J. & R. Armstrong, S. & J. Armstrong, P. Ashley, C. Barrows, J. Myers, K. Bay, M. McAulay, C. Beigle, D. George, R. Belknap, L. Phillips, E. Berg, L. Bowker, A. Bersie, K. Ehrheart, R. Bone, G. Wassel, S. Davidson, S., R. Bracken, B. Leonard, B. Brown, A. Calhoun, CCC Roasting Co., J. Chadwick, Chipping, G. Clare, R. Clark, G. Clucas, L. Cohn, E. Coppola, M. Crane, J. Crawford, M. Cuevas, C. Currey, J. Daugherty, S. Davidson, G. Davis, J. Deitz, E. Dickerson, J. Doe, S. Draper, D. Durst, D. DuVernet, K. Ehrheart, A. Elijah, D. Emerson R. Ewell, M. Exline, H. Fierstine, B&C Forbes, J. Fortier, W. Frederich, F. Freiler, R. Gambs, E. Gates, M. Gates, G. Giannico, S. Gibbs, R. Gibson, W. Gies, J. Godfrey, A. Gold, W. Gordon, K. Gorrindo, M. Gregory, L. Grimes, B. Halladay, T. Hampson, E. Hatten, H. Hecht, R. Hoffman, D. Hollenbeck, M. Hood, Hughes, J. Ireland, G. Janeway, R. Judd, E. Kane, E. Kengel, B. Kesner, S. Knight, R. Koerner, C., Kostas, R. Kransdorf, C. Larsen, J. Laughlin, B. Laurent, J&M LeNoue, B. Leonard, LO/Baywood Chamber of Commerce, W. Loker, C. Long, S. Lusko, B. Machado, F. Martinez, E. Mathias Jr, R. McAfee, I. McMath, M. Mehring, D. Minnix, C. Morgan, H. Morrison, R. Mountain, M. Munson, J. Myers, L&M Neal, M. Ogle, A. Orcott, R. Otis, G. Overman, K&D Panetta, D. Paradies, A. Phillips, L. Phillips, J&E Pierce, D. Piltsburg, R. Pimentel, M. Reents, N. Reid, C. Reynolds, P. Rodriguez, A. Roest, H. Rohen III, C. Rose, W&F Ross, C&B Sandoval, B. Schaeffer, H. Schuchardt, E. Schug, J. Severn, J&N Severnson, R. Sherry, M. Sicher, Sierra Club, A. Smith, M. Smith, M.A. Smith, T. Smith, J. Stead, S. Stein, M. Tait, G. Taylor, Thorp/Mayberry, D. Tresler, T&N Vaughan, R. Verity, F&G Villa, Y. Waddell, B. Wamsley, W. Warren, G. Wassel, J. West, M. Wilhelm, W. Winstanley, A. Withers, I. Wright, D. Young, D., and J. Ziegler.

Are You a Member of SWAP? Check your mailing label. If you are, the date that you last paid dues is in the upper right hand corner of the label. Your membership is a vote of support for preservation of the El Moro Elfin Forest. We are an all-volunteer organization. Your annual dues cover our operating expenses and fund raising expenses. Special memberships go to the Elfin Forest Land Fund after dues and premium costs are covered.

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____

- _____ \$12 Member - Newsletter subscription with membership
- _____ \$ 25 Steward - Newsletter and Elfin Forest Notecards
- _____ \$ 50 Protector - Newsletter and Elfin Forest T-Shirt
- _____ \$100 Defender - Newsletter and Elfin Forest Re-Usa Bag
- _____ \$250 Champion - Newsletter and Framed Elfin Forest Print
- _____ \$1000 Life Member. - Newsletter and Bronzed Plaque
- _____ Send information on how I can help as a volunteer

Celebrate Father's Day! Give Dad an Elfin Forest Certificate of Stewardship. At \$2 a square foot plus \$0.75 postage, there isn't a better "land bargain around" and you will honor him in a lasting way.

Make check payable to SWAP
 Mail to Treasurer, SWAP
 P.O. Box 6442
 Los Osos, CA 93412

Los Osos / Morro Bay Chapter
SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION
 A Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation
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