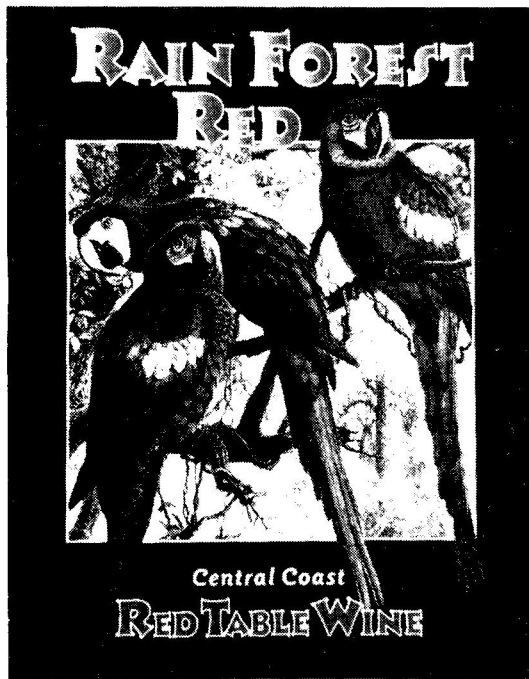




O A K L E A V E S

A PUBLICATION OF THE LOS OSOS/MORRO BAY CHAPTER SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION
P.O. BOX 6442 LOS OSOS, CALIFORNIA 93412 (805) 528-2579 MARCH 1995

Wild Horse Winery Releases Rain Forest Red to Benefit SWAP & Nature Conservancy



Ken Volk, winemaker and owner of Wild Horse Winery and Vineyards in Templeton, has blended and aged a wine "good for the heart and the environment" that will be released on Earth Day 1995. Rain Forest Red is a quaffable, spicy, multi-vintage cuvee of Merlot, Pinot Noir, Napa Gamay, Zinfandel, Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah.

An unprecedented one dollar per bottle from the \$7 retail price will be donated and shared equally between the Nature Conservancy's Guarequecaba Environmental Protection Area (GEPA) representing the largest remaining stretch of Atlantic Rain Forest in the world, and Small Wilderness Area Preservation (US!) representing a cause in Volk's own backyard, the El Moro Elfin Forest Ecological Reserve in Los Osos.

Disabled Access to Public Parks via Monet's Garden

General Meeting
Monday, May 1st, 7 pm
South Bay Community Center
2180 Palisades Avenue, Los Osos

Gary Dwyer, professor of Landscape Architecture at Cal Poly, and students from his Universal Design course will present a panel discussion of issues and practical applications concerning access to public parks for disabled individuals.

The presentation will relate our management plan for the Elfin Forest to the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements. Dwyer will show slides of his recent research on the subject at Monet's Garden at Giverny.

Volk's concept was to provide an opportunity for private industry to work hand in hand with local and international efforts to help raise awareness and funds for the world's vanishing forests. He designed this release to benefit both a global and a local project, naming the benefiting projects specifically on the label so wine consumers would know exactly where their money was going.

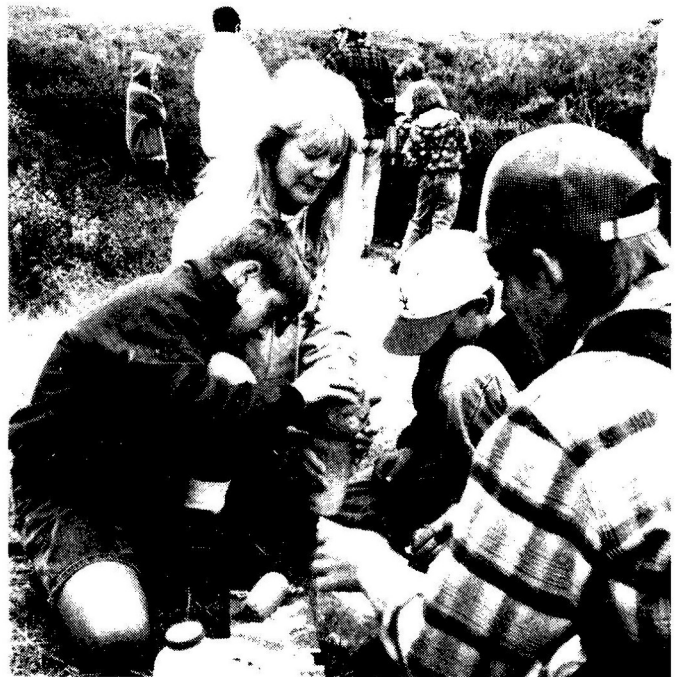
SWAP members are invited to a "debut" wine tasting for Rain Forest Red at 1 pm on Sunday, April 30th in the Elfin Forest. We will introduce the wine and celebrate our environmental/fund raising partnership with Ken Volk and Wild Horse Winery and Vineyards. Look for the colorfully labeled Rain Forest Red in your store and ask for it in restaurants after Earth Day 1995. When you pour your Rain Forest Red, raise a glass to the ingenuity and generosity of Ken Volk!

Artist Donates Etching for Life Members

Ybi Van Ekeren has donated to SWAP 25 of an edition of only 50 signed, numbered and hand colored 13" x 15" prints she has made of the Elfin Forest from a drawing done on location. The SWAP board has chosen to give the "Elfin Forest" prints as premiums for new Life Members of SWAP (\$1000 donation). A certificate of authenticity goes with each etching. If you've been considering becoming a Life Member, this is a beautiful reason to do it now.

Van Ekeren's gallery, Studio Art, is at 731 Santa Ysabel where her work and that of other fine artists is shown.

Drop by to enjoy the work on display there, and add your thanks to our thanks to Ybi for supporting SWAP so generously.



Yvette Nowak makes ceanothus shampoo during the annual Children's Walk in the Elfin Forest. (Photo by P. Brown.)

SWAP Presidents Honored



YOLANDA WADDELL



ROSE BOWKER

Both past president Yolanda Waddell and current president, Rosemary Bowker were honored recently by local groups for their contributions to the quality of life in our community. Bowker was selected as Citizen of the Year by the Los Osos Baywood Chamber of Commerce and Waddell was named a San Luis Obispo Woman of Distinction: Community and Public Service Volunteer by the Cuesta College Women's Forum.

SWAP has long recognized and benefitted from the talent, generosity of spirit, competence, and just plain hard work of these women. We've always been proud of their accomplishments and join in the celebration of their work by the community at large.

Third Saturday Walks

Coordinators Petra Clayton and Yolanda Waddell continue to arrange innovative and informative monthly walks in the Elfin Forest, and in April they have arranged an outstanding walk exclusively for SWAP members.

- ☑ April 8 - A starlight walk in the Elfin Forest with Susan Rocha will begin at 7 pm. Susan, a naturalist at Rancho El Chorro Environmental Center, will acquaint us with some of the forest's creatures of the night and guide us to the Celestial Meadow where she will share ancient and modern star lore. Bring binoculars and a flashlight with red cellophane over the lens. Because we must limit attendance to 25 members only, this walk is open to SWAP members only. It will not be advertised in newspapers. Call 528-4540 for reservations; leave your name & phone number. Rain or fog will cancel this event.
- ☑ April 15 - Heavy January rains have left the Elfin Forest awash in colorful wildflowers. Join Mary Coffeen, author of *CENTRAL COAST WILDFLOWERS*, to discover and learn about the many wildflowers and shrubs in bloom. This will be a 2-hour walk as Mary has much to tell about these lovely Elfin Forest natives.
- ☑ May 20 - The plants of the Elfin Forest live in "neighborhoods" called plant communities. Learn how plants relate to each other from Steve Mueller, Cuesta College biology instructor and plant specialist. Get a greater understanding of why the Elfin Forest is so special.

Our Third Saturday Walks begin at 9:30 am (unless otherwise noted) at the north end of 15th St. off Santa Ysabel in Los Osos. Please park carefully, avoiding driveways and mailboxes. Wear comfortable shoes, long sleeves and pants. The easy-paced walks will last 1-1/2 to 2 hours. Do not bring dogs or other pets. Call 528-4540 for more information.



Pete Waldburger, Les Bowker & Larry Grimes check Waldberger's seedlings for revegetating the Elfin Forest.

Recipe for a Baby Forest

PREPARE IN ADVANCE:

Collect two thousand mature acorns in late summer/early fall. Place acorns in pans of water and discard any that float. Place remaining acorns in a moist sand/oak mulch mixture and store in a plastic bag. Allow Acorns to sprout.

PREPARE EARLY IN THE DAY:

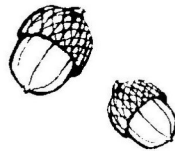
1.5 yds. forest humus (ground bark)
6 bales peat moss
3 bags #2 perlite
1/2 yd. Los Osos sand and oak mulch
3.75 lbs. super phosphate
4.5 lbs. dolomite lime
1.5 lbs. potassium nitrate

Use three strong people to mix well for 3 hours with flat-nosed shovels, add water to adjust moisture content.

TO PLANT:

Gather three hundred 30-inch long half sections of 3-inch pvc pipe. Reassemble pvc pipe halves with duct tape, placing one strip of tape across one end. Fill each pipe with potting mix adding two sprouted acorns just under the surface of the mix. (7 people/5 hours) Lightly sprinkle 17-6-12 slow release fertilizer with micronutrients over each pot. Place pots in a sunny spot covered by 30% shade cloth. Hope for rain, but water as needed so roots won't dry out.

THE OAK SEEDLINGS SHOULD BE READY TO TRANSPLANT WITHIN THE YEAR!



From the President

The Natural History Association invited me to participate in a panel at their annual meeting on Valentine's Day. We were asked to share tips and pointers from their "success stories" with the audience.

We really do have quite a story to tell. Ten years ago a handful of neighbors banded together to try to find the means to protect the parcel we have come to know as the El Moro Elfin Forest. Little did we realize the effort that would go into making that dream a reality!

Our success represents the efforts of so many people each doing something. Leading walks. Staffing our booth. Writing articles for our column in the Sun Bulletin. Making presentations to service organizations. Bake sales. Garage sales. Art shows. Concerts. Penny drives. More than I have space to list.

We are working on the management plan. Our first task was to make an accurate map of the existing trails and areas of use within the Elfin Forest. We are working with biologists to identify sensitive resources and to find the best way to provide public access while protecting the natural resources of the Elfin Forest. We will ask you for help with weed removal, trail work, revegetation efforts, walks and special events.

We would like you to help be our eyes and ears. If you see inappropriate activities within the Elfin Forest, call 781- 5200 and leave a message for Tim Gallagher, SLO County Parks Facilities Manager, call the Sheriff's Department at 781-4550, or Crimestoppers at 781-STOP.

Meanwhile, don't forget to bask in the glow of what we have accomplished.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to ...

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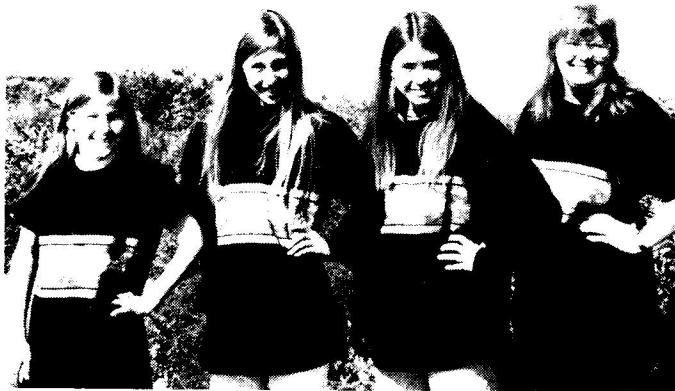
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New SWAP Board member, Lesa Smith (r) models our new T-shirts with (l to r) Cece and Julia Davis and her daughter, Shelly Smith.

Beautiful Elfin Forest Mural T-shirts Bring Demand for Sweat Shirts Too

Our new SWAP T-shirts featuring a full color picture of Barbara Rosenthal's Elfin Forest Mural offset on a black background have been wonderfully well received. We've had to reorder both short and long-sleeved versions, and now have sweat shirts as well. Don't miss out on this classic design!

To order, call Elsie or Jerry Deitz at 528-7136. Add \$2.75 per shirt for shipping & handling for mail order delivery.
 Short Sleeve T-shirt . . . L, XL, XXL . . . \$15.02 w/tax
 Long Sleeve T-shirt . . . S, M, L, XL . . . \$17.70 w/tax
 Sweat Shirts M, L, XL, XXL . \$34.32 w/tax

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 If not, please renew...
YOUR SUPPORT IS IMPORTANT!

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