



OAK LEAVES

A PUBLICATION OF THE LOS OSOS / MORRO BAY CHAPTER OF SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION
P.O. BOX 6442, LOS OSOS, CALIFORNIA 93412-6442 ❖ (805) 546-1199 ❖ OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1999

Alien Invasion, Part 2:

German Ivy

By Pete Sarafian, Conservation Chair

This is the Second in a series of articles on alien plant species that are invading the Elfin Forest. Unchecked, the aliens will take over and destroy the plants that have been part of the Elfin Forest for centuries. It is hoped that these aliens may be made more recognizable to members of SWAP and the Los Osos community. Possibly, community members who enjoy the Elfin Forest will want to sign up to assist SWAP and San Luis County Parks Department in controlling these pests. Community involvement could make a big difference in restoring and maintaining the health of the preserve for the long term.

German ivy (*Senecio mikanioides*), more recently called Cape ivy, is a member of the Asteraceae family and originated in South Africa. It is a scrambling or climbing herb with soft, hairless, shiny, ivy-like leaves and disk-like clusters of small yellow flowers. The stem is generally purple. At the base of most leaf stems is a small, ear-shaped appendage. German ivy's hairless leaves feel smooth to the touch, and the plant has no climbing tendrils. This invasive species is most often confused with the native wild cucumber, which it resembles closely. However, the wild cucumber has a green stem (cf. purple stems of German ivy), rough-feeling, hairy, multi-pointed leaves and curly climbing tendrils. The wild cucumber dies off in the summer and is no threat to the Elfin Forest, having coexisted for a long time. If left unchecked, German ivy can smother whole groves of trees such as our coastal oaks.

Because the plant breaks when pulled on, the ivy is hard to remove physically. Also, each broken piece which has a plant node may produce a new plant if left on the ground during the rainy season.

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SWAP Receives Donation from MCI/World Com

Ed. Note:

Everyone dreams of getting a big check in the mail. Last month that happened to SWAP. A check for \$15,000 came from MCI / World Com, who recently put up a building in Los Osos . There was no knock on the door or fanfare – the check just arrived with the rest of SWAP's mail for the day. Needless to say, it was an exciting moment for Bob McDougale, our SWAP Treasurer and Board Chair. He wrote the following letter to Bernard J. Ebbers, President and CEO of MCI / World Com:

The Board of Directors joins me in sending a heartfelt THANK YOU for the generous donation to SWAP (Small Wilderness Area Preservation) for the benefit of the Elfin Forest in Los Osos, California. We greatly appreciate the efforts of Linda Laughlin, Manager-Media Relations, of your Tulsa office. She visited the Elfin Forest and hiked some of its trails with us and followed up on a previous verbal offer for assistance to SWAP and the community.

The major project at this time is a boardwalk that will greatly improve access for the elderly, handicapped and others who have found it difficult to traverse the sandy trails. Your generous donation will support the efforts by SWAP and its many supporters and partners to maintain and care for this treasured natural resource.

Good News!

Boardwalk Loop Is Complete

Elfin Forest Boardwalk Update - September, 1999
By Jan DiLeo, County Parks Planner

The California Conservation Corps (CCC) has completed construction of the boardwalk loop. Remaining segments still requiring construction are the connection to Mayhem Point (renamed Siena's View) and the construction of a platform near the eastern section of the boardwalk loop. The boardwalk section being constructed near Siena's View will be narrow (3 feet - 3.5 feet wide).

The narrow width is necessary to protect sensitive vegetation such as pygmy oaks. It is anticipated the construction of the entire boardwalk will be completed by the end of September, 1999.

After the boardwalk construction is completed, remaining tasks include designing and installing interpretive displays, signs, and monuments; and starting mitigation for the project. The Sign Committee will be meeting soon to complete the design of the interpretive displays, signs, and monuments. The project mitigation includes planting native vegetation along portions of the boardwalk.

To date ten bench orders have been placed. Benches will be located at the three look-outs and along sections of the boardwalk. There are two bench types. The more expensive and heavier bench has no back and has a cost of \$400. The more typical bench design, with a back, has a cost of \$200. The plaque, with 21 letters, has a cost of \$75.00. Four bench spaces are still available.

Contact Jan Di Leo at 781-4089 if you are interested in locating a bench at the Elfin Forest.



Boy Scouts and Mission Prep Students Help With Boardwalk

By Pete Sarafian, Conservation Chair

SWAP, assisted by members of Boy Scout Troops 6 and 216 and students of Mission Prep, helped to install more toe-board rails along the boardwalk on Saturday, September 11th. Bruce Bonifas of the California Conservation Corps provided tools and equipment, and SWAP and the boys provided the brawn. The work party measured and installed the support pads and measured, cut, and installed rails east of the 16th Street entrance to the boardwalk.

Joining in the effort were Karl Appel, Jan DiLeo (SLO County Parks Department), Bob McDougale and Pete Sarafian from SWAP along with a team of boys that included Frankie Daniel, Russell Hunter, Cary Reents, Evan Rochte, Jason Rueda and Michael Woolslayer.

Elfin Forest Boardwalk:

Focus on the Builders



By Sandra Beebe

As many *Oakleaves* readers know, the boardwalk in the Elfin Forest is nearing completion. Previous articles have told you about several people who have worked on this project. This article will focus on those who are the closest to the boardwalk – they are physically building it.

Bids were received from a number of sources. Bruce Bonifas, the Conservation Supervisor of the CCC was approached by Jan DiLeo to submit a bid because she had heard about the excellent work that the CCC had done in the past.

Since I am new to California, I did not know exactly what the California Conservation Corps did and was pleased to interview Bruce about this group.

I had noticed the buildings when I passed through Cuesta College and had also observed the young cadets doing public service work since my arrival in this region. The first thing I learned from Bruce is that this organization is under the California Department of Natural Resources, and not the Department of Corrections as some think. The cadets are between 18–23, and cannot have felonies in their past. They come from many walks of life and are a blend of California's varied cultures. Although this is a residential program here in our area, there are programs which admit those who need to return to their outside lives in their off time. They teach the cadets both work skills and work ethics.

Bruce began to work for CCC in 1980, and was a crew supervisor for 16 years before his promotion to his current job. He was born and raised in San Luis Obispo, and was a history major at Humboldt State University. His job experience before joining the CCC had always involved children and environmental issues so he was a natural for this position.

Not only do the young people of the CCC work long and hard on conservation projects, they are required to volunteer on their own time for other good causes. Recently some of the cadets, who weren't off to Southern California to fight forest fires (which the CCC is mandated to do), spent time to help



Bruce Bonifas, CCC Conservation Supervisor

Focus on the Builders

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move the San Luis Obispo Child Development Center.

Bruce's work centers around getting jobs that will preserve natural resources, be of public benefit and give his members training. The boardwalk met all of these criteria. However, he had never done a project quite like this, so submitting an accurate bid was difficult. He likes to find jobs that will pay the CCC \$12/hour – minimum wages for the corps members – and overhead expenses of the CCC. However, because of a number of complications the boardwalk job entailed, the profit margin will be down. Things have gone slower than expected for there were archeology concerns, biological concerns (how to avoid disturbing the native plant life), and protection of the Shoulderband dune snail's habitat. Further delays were caused by the fires in Southern California, for Bruce had to send most of his cadets there.

Bruce states that his current number one project is to finish the boardwalk in the Elfin Forest. The end is in sight and he knows all that worked on it will be very proud of their accomplishment.

I had the pleasure of interviewing one of the cadets who is working on building the boardwalk. Michele Carter came to the Corps from Modesto, California. She graduated from high school in 1996, and could not find a suitable job in her area. She did attend college – as a psychology major – but was not sure what she wanted to do. Her mother heard about the CCC and they went to Stockton for an interview, where they saw a video of what she could expect in the Corps.

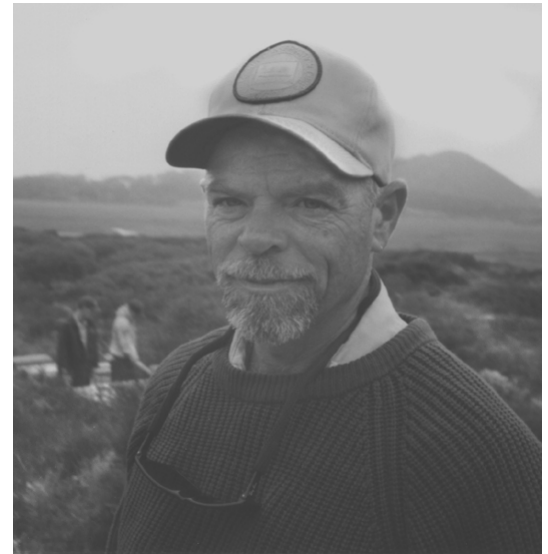
She now has been in the Corps almost a year and has progressed from a blue hat to a green hat, which gives her the option of remaining for another year past the one she is soon to complete. She not only continues to work on the boardwalk, but also helps with training of new recruits.

She loves the work she is doing on the boardwalk, even though it is very hard work. She stated that not only does it allow her to work outdoors in a beautiful area but also it will be something that she can return to in the future and be proud that



John Smith (left) and Mauricio, CCC Cadets, fasten boards in place on the last 200 feet of the boardwalk loop.

James Taylor (JT), Boardwalk Project Crew Supervisor



she was part of it. She feels that this project has taught her and the other corps members respect for the environment.

After Michele leaves the CCC she hopes to find work in the State Parks system and feels the skills she is learning on this project will help her in her future employment. She is a hard working, intelligent young woman and the Parks department would be lucky to have her.

James Taylor is the congenial Project Crew Supervisor who has been directly overseeing the work that the CCC members have been doing on the boardwalk. He has been with the project since the beginning and has worked with everyone involved in this endeavor – botanist, archeologist, architects, state biologist etc.

JT, as he is known, was born in California and grew up in various communities in the San Francisco area. After serving in the Air Force, James joined the CCC in 1977, and later was hired as a staff member. He came to the San Luis Obispo Academy in 1987, when it was still at the National Guard Base. There he taught the members such skills as flood and fire management, CPR and first aid. After the program was decentralized, he became

Focus on the Builders continued on page 3



CCC Cadets Thomas Contreras (left) and Joe McNutt cut boards to length as the boardwalk loop nears completion

From the Chair

By Bob McDougle

I have read several articles in magazines and newspapers in the past few years deploring the short-sighted attitude of Federal and State Government in failing to maintain our parks. I have moaned right along with the rest, written letters and wondered why our elected and appointed officials can be so blind to their responsibilities.

Closer to home, I have been wondering why it is so difficult to convince our members and others to join our committees and Board of Directors. We are very fortunate to have dedicated people to keep up our membership lists and to thank the many who have renewed their memberships and others who have recently joined SWAP. We have managed to publish a newsletter that has been admired by groups we respect. In other areas we are barely squeaking by or doing nothing at all. We simply lack the personnel to get the job done.

I have been of the opinion that we needed the challenge of a new land acquisition in order to generate new enthusiasm amongst our members and attract new members. I was recently brought up short by a reminder that we still have a lot of critical work to carry out our responsibilities in The Elfin Forest.

The Boardwalk is well on its way to completion and a considerable amount of volunteer activity is needed to support this task. The toe-rails along the edge have to be installed. Interpretive signs must be produced. A few talented volunteers are working on these tasks and I have no doubt but that they will be accomplished with style.

The existence of the Boardwalk makes it even more apparent that revegetation is badly needed to repair the damage done by years of indiscriminate trail-blazing. A concentrated effort will be required to rid the Forest of intrusive plants such as Veldt Grass. These projects are not as dramatic as the acquisition of a new parcel of land but must be accomplished before we can seriously believe that we have carried out our responsibilities to the land we have.

We have only about half the number of Board members and about one-third the number of Committee members needed to keep the work going at a reasonable level. If any of you have friends, neighbors or associates that can be convinced to join us, please recommend them to us. If you can spend one evening a month to attend Board meetings and help make the decisions so necessary to complete this important work, please call. If this leads to an additional few hours a month to help plan and carry out the tasks, so much the better for us, for you and for our community.

October 11	<p>SWAP BOARD MEETINGS</p> <p>The SWAP Board of Directors meets on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. Board meetings will be held at the NEP Office, 3rd and El Moro Streets in Baywood Park on Monday, October 11, and Monday, November 8. All Board meetings are open to the public. To confirm the date, time and location (which are subject to change), phone 528-4540.</p>	November 8
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Focus on the Builders



continued from page 2

a Project Crew Supervisor.

He has worked on other boardwalks for the CCC before, but never one this long or with the environmental concerns of this project. One of the major concerns is the protection of the native plants. A botanist precedes the building of the boardwalk and does selected trimming. James feels that 99.9% of the plants are still intact.

JT takes great pride in the corps members he is supervising. He stated that not one cadet has quit the project in spite of the hard work. They have moved 150,000 board feet of lumber, 45,000 lbs. of cement squares, and 30,000 lbs. of foundation blocks – all by hand, carrying them up to 2500 feet each trip.

Although the location is quite striking in its beauty, they have worked in both rain and wind without complaints.

Each of the three people I have interviewed have been very proud of the work they are doing and have mentioned the mission of the Corps and how it is perfectly tailored for this project. To quote, "CCC is to provide meaningful work and educational opportunities to assist young men and women in becoming more employable, while protecting and enhancing California's environment, human resources and communities."

If you have not visited the Elfin Forest Boardwalk and seen the

(Michelle) stated that not only does (the boardwalk project) allow her to work outdoors in a beautiful area but also it will be something that she can return to in the future and be proud that she was part of it. She feels that this project has taught her and

Miscreants Did Penance

During the summer, three youths were found building a fort in the Elfin Forest. Damage to the forest included cutting oak tree roots and limbs, digging a large hole underneath some pygmy oaks, and clearing vegetation to create a new path. Since the Elfin Forest contains endangered species, fines for these boys' activities could have been \$25,000 per infraction. Rather than press charges, the vandalism was handled by requiring the three youths to provide forty hours of community work, weeding and collecting seeds in the Elfin Forest, and performing other tasks. It is difficult at this time to determine whether the boys learned anything from their experience.

The County learned that arranging and monitoring community service is very time consuming and thus expensive. In the future, the County will likely press charges when vandalism occurs.

THIRD SATURDAY WALKS

October 16 – 8:00 a.m.

This walk will begin at 8:00 a.m. because walk leader Jim Royer, an avid birder and active Audubon member for almost 20 years, knows that the early birder sees the most birds. Jim will guide bird enthusiasts to places in the Elfin Forest where they can see the striking Spotted Towhee, hear the ping-pong sound of the Wrentit and look at shorebirds and ducks through a spotting scope. Bring binoculars.

November 20 – 9:30 a.m.

Al Normandin will lead us on an enjoyable Fall season discovery tour of the Elfin Forest. During November, many of the plants are “resting,” waiting for the winter rains, but there is much to observe. Al, a Natural History Association docent who also spends a good deal of time in the Elfin Forest, will help us to tune in to the sounds, sights and – yes – smells of the varied habitats in this small wilderness. If you have them, bring binoculars and a hand lens.

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.

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.

Join SWAP's First Saturday Work Parties



SWAP will schedule work parties to assist with weeding, re-vegetation, etc. on the first Saturday of each month from 9am to noon. Mark your calendar to help out on October 2nd, November 6th, and December 4th. We normally meet at the north end of 15th Street.

Anyone wishing to volunteer their time and energy is encouraged to contact SWAP at 546-1199 and leave a message that you would like to help with work parties.

Thank you to our New and Renewing Members

New Members

Henry Childs, Nancy Ferraro, Wilma Gore, Larry Kerns,
and Andrea Lucero*

Renewing Members

C. Dawn Aulenbrock, Katherine and James Baker,
Lois Barber*, Grace Mitchell and Ernie Berg,
James and Jill Boister-White*, Jane and Lee Broshears,
John and Betty Burnham*, Peggy Childers*,
Kathleen M. Delzell*, Sterling and Virginia Gottlieb*,
Katie J, Karikka, Laura C. Kass*, Philip LaFollette*,
Elera Levine*, Leora Markwort, Malcolm Mcleod*, Margare
Mehring*, Janet Montooth. Marcia Munson*,
Ray O'Dell*, Orr Bookkeeping & Taxes*, Marsha Parker,
Paulette Perlman, Peggy and Gerry Peterson*,
Anna and Robert Phillips*, Nicholas and Dorothy Pier*,
Aryan Roest*, Ron and Lori Ruppert, Nancy Severson,
Gewynn and George Taylor*,
Alphonso and Catherine Topp*,
Chris Ungar and Elyse Yukelson-Ungar*,
Joseph Van Camp*, Tina Van Coops and Mikel Gregory*,
Russell and Eleanore Walt, Michael and Randee Ward,
Harold and Pat Wieman, Leabah Winter*,
and June Wright*

**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.*



A Gift!

Thanks to Ruth Zank, Membership Committee Correspondent, who spotted a nice wooden artist's easel at a garage sale and bought it for SWAP. It is perfect for displaying posters or maps, and was put to use on Estuary Day. Thanks, Ruth!

And a Wish

(Please, Santa, we need a slide projector)

The Education and Volunteer Committees need a carousel slide projector for presentations to school groups and organizations which want to learn about the Elfin Forest and SWAP. Before we use some of SWAP's funds that could better be used for revegetation, we thought we'd ask our readers to consider donating that slide projector that just sits in the closet now, because all of the family events and vacations are on videotape. All donations are tax



Redberry

By Dirk Walters, Ph.D.

The Elfin Forest plant chosen for this issue is one that is fairly common but often overlooked. It is commonly called Redberry (*Rhamnus crocea*). It is a member of the Buckthorn family (*Rhamnaceae*) which contains two Elfin Forest genera (*Rhamnus* and *Ceanothus*). Otherwise the family is more characteristic of drier desert areas. Many of the genera in this family have very unusual shapes and are often succulent. Neither of these is true of *Rhamnus* or *Ceanothus*. Both genera are woody shrubs with simple leaves.

Ceanothus (blue flowered forms are often called California lilacs while the white flowered forms are called buckthorn) is the more conspicuous because of its showy flower clusters. They are commonly sought after for landscaping purposes. On the other hand, the species of *Rhamnus* produce tiny flowers with very reduced and inconspicuous petals. Redberry takes the genus one step further and totally dispenses with petals. Its flowers are less than 1/4-inch across and are yellow-green. They occur in dense clusters in the leaf angles (axiles). The dark red-brown stems contrast beautifully with the dark green leaves.

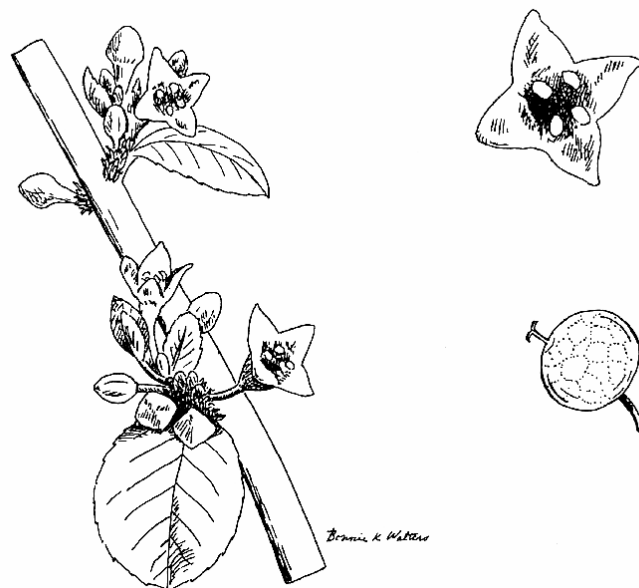
The leaf size varies greatly from plant to plant. Coastal Redberry individuals (such as the ones in the Elfin Forest) have small round leaves with flat margins that display tiny teeth. Redberry plants growing further inland have larger leaves with undulating margins and large spiny teeth.

These interior Redberries are often given a different common name, Holly-leaf Redberry. The scientific names are somewhat more varied. Some botanists recognize the interior form as a subspecies of the coastal one and give it the name of *R. crocea* subspecies *ilicifolia* while others elevate the subspecies to species and call it *R. ilicifolia*. Either way, the two forms have separate ranges and a distinctly different appearance. Coastal Redberries are usually low, dense mounded shrubs, whereas interior Redberries are taller and more open.

The most recent treatment, *The Jepson Manual*, places the interior and coastal forms of Redberry in separate species: *R. crocea* and *R. ilicifolia*.

The name Redberry comes from the small, usually bright red berries that are produced in the late summer and fall. When in fruit, everyone notices it. The red berries contrast vividly with the dark green leaves. The berries are reported to be excellent eating, especially when stewed with meat.

Birds and mammals eagerly eat the berries. I tried a few



Drawings of Redberry (*Rhamnus crocea*) by Bonnie Walters

as a nibble in order to research this article. I found them very pleasant, although the first ones left a somewhat disagreeable aftertaste. However, after a few more, I even liked the aftertaste.

Why don't we find this low, compact shrub with the beautiful, contrasting dark green leaves and dark, red-brown twigs in more landscaping situation, especially since the colorful berries also make it an excellent food source for attracting wildlife? It is because one has to select carefully which individuals one brings into the garden. Most individuals flower profusely, but very few individuals produce fruits in significant quantities. Why? It is because most of the flowers produce only fertile male structures or stamens. (i.e., the individuals are functionally male, and male individuals don't produce fruits and seeds.) Only a few individuals produce flowers with both female (pistils) and male parts. Of course, only flowers with pistils can produce fruit.

A species that produces both bisexual and unisexual flowers is called polygamous. The polygamous condition in plants is relatively rare. Most species of plants produce both stamens and pistils in the same flower. Such a flower is termed perfect. Slightly less common are species which produce flowers with stamens or pistils, but not both. These flowers are imperfect. Remember that our red berries produce a few perfect flowers and many imperfect, male flowers. This is the rarest condition of all. In an informal survey along the Felsman Trail on Bishop Peak in San Luis Obispo, I had to pass 25 large Redberry plants before I found the first one with a few fruit. My guess is that Redberry individuals which produce significantly large numbers of fruits would be on the order of only one in a hundred.



Book Review
Wildlife Watcher's Guide
to San Luis Obispo County
 by Anthony Krause
 (EZ Nature Books; 1991. 128pp. \$8.95 pbk.)

A review by M. A. Martin

Editor's Note: Our book reviewer and I select the books she reviews by looking in our favorite local bookstores to see what is available. Sometimes we find a new publication to review, and sometimes we select an older title such as the one reviewed this month, because of its general appeal and staying power.

Bitterns, kites, gray whales, coyotes, butterflies, lizards, gilled mushrooms, and nudibranchs. This is just a partial list of the wondrous animals and plants to be found in Anthony Krause's *Wildlife Watcher's Guide to San Luis Obispo County*. After an introduction, "About Wildlife Watching," Krause launches into his voyage of discovery with all oars in full stroke. His eager approach to all things wild becomes contagious as he describes mating dances, migratory habits, and the best spots for viewing same.

Krause introduces each chapter with poems and prose that set the scene and the mood; from John Muir's matter-of-fact statement that "Everybody needs beauty as well as bread..." to Ralph Waldo Emerson's poetic "Nature never became a toy to a wise spirit." We are treated to the idiosyncrasies of many of the coastal critters populating our marshlands, verdant fields, and tidepools. One of the more acrobatic of these creatures is the bittern, who during mating fly directly at each other, grasp together with their bills and feet then turn and whirl in the air until they separate and fall back to the ground. An eye catching display worth the hike to the far end of Laguna or Lopez Lake.

Krause references the best time of the year to observe gray whales breaching off Montaña De Oro; pups being born to elephant seals near Piedras Blancas; bald eagles soaring over the calm waters of Lake San Antonio; and magnificent monarch butterflies painting the eucalyptus trees at Pismo State Beach with hues of orange. He tours mountain streams for newts and salamanders; remote back country for bobcats and mountain lions; sandy beaches for sanderlings and willets; and tidal pools for octopi, seastars and, of course, nudibranchs. Krause also ends each section with a useful and informative bubble titled "Finding Them" that holds the best time of the day, night, and/or season the reader can find the previously outlined animal, exactly where they can be found, and useful directions on how to reach specific areas.

This entertaining book catalogs marvelous ideas for all naturalists, would-be naturalists or just plain folk on how to get the most enjoyment out of the wonders of nature here on the central coast.



German ivy (or Cape ivy), *Senecio mikanioides*, is an invasive vine with shiny green leaves. Photo by Pete Sarafian.

German Ivy continued from page 1

German ivy thrives in coastal plant communities and lowland forest margins, shrub lands, rock lands, roadsides, and house gardens. German ivy is an invasive species that has moved into such diverse locations as California, Hawaii, and New Zealand. (In New Zealand the common name Cape ivy has been given to a totally different plant, *Senecio angulatus*).

The German ivy climbs over small shrubs and trees. It can extend up to sub-canopy levels. It hinders plant growth by smothering and out-shading other species. German ivy also spreads over large areas of ground beneath the forest canopy, stopping the free regeneration of the ecosystem.

The plant can spread by the wind, moving water, or human activity. Plants grow well in open environments but will germinate in the shade of the forest canopy, near to its margin. The plants spread rapidly by sending out runners.

Because the plant breaks when pulled on, the ivy is hard to remove physically. Also, each broken piece which has a plant node may produce a new plant if left on the ground during the rainy season. For this reason, it is best to seek out the base of the stem and dig the plant out. Disposal can be by composting or mulching with other plant materials or by physically removing the vines from the locale.

In the home or garden, German ivy can be killed readily with Roundup (or Rodeo in wetlands) and Bush-B-Gone. However, in the Elfin Forest only a person licensed to perform such spraying (under the supervision of SLO County Parks Dept.) may do so. It is recommended that readers who have this invasive in their yards or gardens and are unsuccessful in removing the plant by digging, contact the County Agricultural Commissioner's Office on Sierra Way in San Luis Obispo, 781-5910.

Anyone interested in helping to eradicate German ivy and other invasive species from the Elfin Forest is encouraged to



OAK LEAVES

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Contributors to this issue:

Sandra Beebe, Jan DiLeo, Madeline Martin, Bob McDougale, Pete Sarafian, Yolanda Waddell, and Dirk and Bonnie Walters

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Where To Call, Where To Write

If you have questions about SWAP activities or want to volunteer, please call our phone message service at 546-1199.

A recorded message will have information about the Third Saturday Walks and other current events.

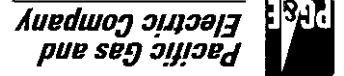
If you have questions, concerns or comments about anything that's happening in the Elfin Forest, call or write:

Pete Jenny, SLO County Parks Facilities Manager,
 1087 Santa Rosa Street, SLO, CA 93408, (805) 781-5930.



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(805) 546-1199



How Do I Know When It's Time to Renew?



To find out, check the RENEWAL DUE DATE located next to your name on the address label. You can use the adjacent membership form for your renewal. Select your membership category and mail off the form along with your check as your anniversary date approaches. Joining S.W.A.P. for the first time is just as easy.

Our basic membership is \$12 which covers our operating costs and brings you our bimonthly newsletter, Oak Leaves. Memberships above the basic level provide our all-volunteer organization with funds for habitat restoration and weed control projects.

Thank you for your membership and support of S.W.A.P. We look forward to hearing from you!
- Katie Davis, Membership Committee Chair

**RENEW YOUR COMMITMENT
TO THE ELFIN FOREST TODAY!**

MEMBERSHIP FORM

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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!

Have you renewed your membership on time?

Check the label on this newsletter
for your renewal due date.

EVERY membership counts!!

Make checks payable to SWAP,
Mail to Small Wilderness Area Preservation,
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