

California Thrasher

By Rosemary Flamion

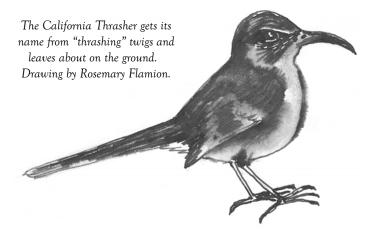
The sedentary California Thrasher (*Toxostoma redivivum* Gambel 1845) is quite common in the Elfin Forest. It is a solitary bird, never seen in flocks, and often seen on the ground. Occasionally, a male Thrasher is visible in an elevated position on a shrub. You might hear one "thrashing" leaves and twigs about on the ground, which provides a good opportunity to find this secretive species on the ground. I've also spotted them running across the Elfin Forest sand trails from bush to bush.

How do you tell a California Thrasher from other birds? It has a dark brown body with a lighter brown eyestreak, is pale beneath, and has a fairly long tail and a long, decurved beak (the beak curves downward).

The California Thrasher is a near endemic to California, extending only into Northwest Baja, Mexico. It breeds in no other state of the USA. The species is a member of the Mimidae Family (the Mockingbird Family). The members of this family mimic the songs of other birds, but mockingbirds are far better mimics than the thrashers. Collectively, they are sometimes called "mimine thrushes." DNA data suggests that they are most closely related to starlings.

Of the 17 species of Thrashers, the California Thrasher is the largest (about 12 inches long). It is mainly a ground feeder in dense thickets and chaparral. California Thrashers have long, decurved, scythe-like beaks which they use for gleaning insects from the ground or the leaf litter under the oaks. They use their beak instead of their feet for stirring up insects. When feeding on

Thrasher continued on page 2



Josh Carmichael, Habitat Restoration Contractor

By Jean Wheeler

Josh Carmichael, formerly of AmeriCorps, has contracted with SWAP to provide miscellaneous habitat restoration services for the Elfin Forest for an indefinite period beginning in September, 2001. His services will focus mainly on revegetation with native plants and erosion control projects.

Josh moved from his native Buena Park to the Central Coast as a child with his family about fourteen years ago, where his father was employed at California State Polytechnic University. He attended Baywood Elementary School and Junior High School in Los Osos, and Morro Bay High School. He currently lives in an apartment in Cuesta By The Sea. His parents and younger brothers and sister also still live in the local area.

After about a year at U.C. Santa Barbara, Josh returned to Los Osos to work locally while attending Cuesta College, where he is taking courses in art and the sciences. His major interests are in painting and in natural history. He has taken landscape architecture courses, and plans to transfer to Humboldt State

Josh has worked with other organizations on various restoration and revegetation projects on the Central Coast and, last year, as an **Environmental Steward** for AmeriCorps. He is keen to get as much field experience as possible on the Central Coast before transferring to Humboldt State, and very much appreciates this opportunity to work on restoration in the Elfin Forest.

University to major in Natural Resources Management. A more distant goal is a desire to study in Spain. Josh has worked with other organizations on various restoration and revegetation projects on the Central Coast and, last year, as an Environmental Steward for AmeriCorps. He is keen to get as much field experience as possible on the Central Coast before transferring to Humboldt State, and very much appreciates this opportunity to work on restoration in the Elfin Forest.

Since contracting with SWAP in September, Josh has worked

Carmichael continued on page 2



Josh Carmichael puts the finishing touches on his "jute taco," which will control erosion on the slope above Bush Lupine Point.

Photo by Yolanda Waddell.

Thrasher continued from page 1

the ground, they hold their tail erect like a wren. Their diet consists mostly of insects and spiders, but also fruit, acorns, and seeds. Jerusalem crickets seem to be a favorite. They apparently meet their water requirement through the food which they eat.

Courtship includes the male singing from a high perch. Females can also sing vigorously and occasionally will counter-sing with the males. As they are monogamous, the male's mate will perform a begging display during the breeding season. The male presents food to her with "courtship feeding". They build a cup-shaped nest near the ground to 4 feet above the ground in a protected area. The hen lays a clutch of 3 to 4 pale blue eggs with faint brown spots a little over an inch long.

California Thrashers begin breeding in early December and end in early August, producing 2 clutches per breeding season, and occasionally 3 clutches. When chicks are hatched, both parents attend to their needs for 12-14 days until they leave the nest. Thrasher chicks which have left the nest are cared for by the male if the female renests. Young Thrashers run around on the ground taking several days to learn to fly and become true fledglings.

California Thrashers are not good flyers. Because of their ground habits, their wing musculature has been reduced and their ability to run around on the ground has been enhanced. They are preyed upon by Sharp Shinned Hawks, domestic and feral cats.

Given mainland density of this species in chaparral communities of 0.48 pairs per acre (Yeaton, 1972), an approximate number of California Thrasher pairs can be calculated for the Elfin Forest. If half of the acreage is usable to them, then 21.6 pairs would be their optimum numbers. I am not going to get a head count, but on my walks in the Elfin Forest, I usually encounter one or two.

Breeding Bird Surveys have documented declining numbers of California Thrashers, probably because of habitat destruction. The Elfin Forest has now become a protected island for these birds.

Carmichael cont. from page 1

on planning erosion control and revegetation efforts in the Elfin Forest, doing much of the labor himself, assisted by SWAP volunteers and the Civilian Conservation Corps. His activities are conducted in accordance with the specifications of San Luis Obispo County Parks Department, pending completion of a federally mandated Recovery Plan for the Elfin Forest. Funding for his activities is provided in part by the Morro Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP).

Josh has planned and helped to install a triangular fence near Bush Lupine Point to protect an area for revegetation. He collected seeds of native plants in the latter part of 2001, and organized efforts to broadcast about half of the seeds collected in the restoration area. He is propagating some of the seeds at Cal Poly Organic Garden for planting in the Elfin Forest as seedlings. He is also working with the local Los Osos CSD to prepare a greenhouse for growing native seedlings.

Also in the Bush Lupine Point area, Josh has upgraded erosion control efforts by installing what he calls a "jute taco." This consists of six inches of mulch between the old jute netting of prior control efforts and a new layer of jute netting above the mulch, with care not to crush native plantings from the prior year. Josh is planning further erosion control with new plantings on the old path at the base of the cliff, just below the "jute taco." He is also in the early stages of planning erosion control in other areas in the preserve and is selecting areas for further planting of native oak trees. SWAP's efforts will be greatly enhanced by the training and labor of this young man who has a love for the natural environment and the determination to begin his career in natural resources management right here, in and around our Elfin forest.

Witnessing Vandalism: What to Do

You're taking a walk through the Elfin Forest, enjoying the wildflowers and the birds singing, when suddenly you see someone committing an act of vandalism. What should you do? Confront the person? Shout for help? We asked Ernie Del Rio, County Parks Operations Superintendent and Chuck Lowe, Supervisor of Rangers, for their advice.

Ernie said, "I encourage anyone who sees acts of vandalism occurring anywhere to notify the Sheriff's Office; they are in the best position to respond. They cannot cite unless a misdemeanor is committed in their presence or someone who witnessed the crime files a complaint. That's the law." He added that a witness doesn't need to confront the vandal. Chuck Lowe agreed "that a Sheriff's deputy would usually be the most direct and prompt way of handling things like vandalism. Our staff time in the Los Osos area is limited." However, Chuck can be reached at County Parks Office at 781-1967, and would like to be informed of any vandalism in the Elfin Forest.

The Sheriff's Office number is 781-4550.

SWAP Restores Plot at Bush Lupine Point

By Pete Sarafian, Conservation Chairperson

You may have noticed a new project near Bush Lupine Point in the Elfin Forest. SWAP, aided by Josh Carmichael of IIC Enterprises, has fenced off a half-acre plot, scattered native plant seeds and planted native seedlings. This is the first revegetation project in over three years that SWAP has initiated. The project continues an effort that was begun in the past to restore to native conditions a badly eroded and denuded area that once was used as a dirt bike track. The year 2000 effort included weeding and broadcasting native



Fence builders for the Restoration Project at Bush Lupine Point worked quickly, well and cheerfully, proving that neighbors do make good fences.

Photo by Pat Sarafian.

seeds of deerweed and wild buckwheat.

The effort in 2001 included weeding and a much more ambitious planting project. The planting project first broadcast seeds of a mix consisting of black sage, ceanothus, deerweed, live oak acorns, mock heather, sagebrush, and wild buckwheat. The seeds were scattered by hand by a crew including Josh Carmichael, Aaron and Susan McTaggart, Alec Rodden, and Pete Sarafian.

The next phase of the project was fencing off a large triangular area with fence posts and green plastic mesh fencing. This will minimize human and canine intrusion into the area and give the new plants a chance to grow and survive. An all-volunteer crew conducted this effort in December, 2001. The workers included SWAP members Susan Bertrand, Rosemary Flamion, Bob McDougle, Sharon and Bob Meyer, Ron Rasmussen, Pat and Pete Sarafian and Yolanda and Jay Waddell and Linda Young. The SWAP volunteers could never have completed the chore without the able and active leadership and help from the scouts and dads of Boy Scout Troop 216. They included the Ames and Brown families, David Chesebro and Mr. Mason. Later, Josh Carmichael completed small sections of fencing that were left to be finished.

Later in December between 100 to 150 native seedlings were transplanted into the area as well. The seedlings included black sage, mock heather, California sagebrush, and wild buckwheat. A few live oaks and holly-leaf cherries were planted also. The seedlings were from stocks grown by AmeriCorps volunteers during the spring and summer of 2001. The planting work crew included Josh Carmichael, Hunter Francis, Bob Meyer, Mike Raynor and Pat and Pete Sarafian. A second planting by Josh Carmichael, Pat and Pete Sarafian and Jean Wheeler completed the effort. As a last step, Josh Carmichael led an effort to conduct watering and mulching of the plants.

"I am I plus my surroundings and if I do not preserve the latter, I do not preserve myself."

Jose Ortega y Gassett (1883-1955) Essayist and philosopher

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 anything that's happening in the Elfin Forest, call or write: Pete Jenny, SLO County Parks Facilities Manager,



O A K L E A V E S

is published six times per year beginning in February.

Co-editors are Yolanda Waddell and Jean Wheeler; layout is by Katy Budge.

Contributors to this issue:

Wendy Brown, Rosemary Flamion, Bob McDougle, Pat Sarafian, Pete Sarafian, Mike Stiles, Yolanda Waddell, Dirk and Bonnie Walters, Jim Weldon and Jean Wheeler. Editing assistance by Pat Grimes.

Printed at Hay Printing, Morro Bay on recycled paper. Labeled and mailed at Achievement House.

Deadline for copy to Oak Leaves is the 1st Wednesday before the month of issue If possible, all copy should be submitted by e-mail to ywaddell@slonet.org.

Sarafians Attend Cal-EPPC Conference

By Pete Sarafian, Conservation Chair

The California Exotic Pest Plant Council held its tenth annual meeting in San Diego this year. Pete and Pat Sarafian attended, and Pat set up a SWAP information booth for the interest of Weed Warriors from other parts of California and the West. This year¹s conference included a joint workshop with the US Geological Survey to talk about weeds in the Southwest.

Presentations included a horrifying talk about the toxic algae, Caulerpa taxifolia, which has devastated the western coastlines of the Mediterranean Sea. It is toxic to fish and destroys the marine habitat near shore. Caulerpa was imported from the tropics for aquariums and was bio-engineered in Europe until it is nearly indestructible. Now it has been sighted in California. It probably is being dumped from saltwater aquariums into the ocean as it was in the Mediterranean. It recently cost over a million dollars to fight a small infestation in San Diego County. It also has been found in the Los Angeles area.

Another talk at the conference was on a rare exotic plant found by SLO County Department of Agriculture in the southern part of SLO County. The fieldrest harrow (*Anonas spp.*) had never been seen in the U.S. before. It was identified and eliminated rapidly to prevent a new invasion from starting. The pest plant was probably introduced accidentally by a traveler who had some seed attached to clothing. This incident shows how the increasing rate of world travel will be causing ever-increasing rates of pest plant introduction.



Chapter members attending the SWAP, Inc. meeting in Santa Barbara last November, included (l to r) Sue Higman and Kathleen Modugno, Santa Barbara; Yolanda Waddell, Los Osos/Morro Bay; Jim Higman, Santa Barbara; Kat McConnell, now living in Santa Barbara but representing the North Coast (Cambria) chapter; Bob McDougle, Los Osos/Morro Bay; and Maria Gordon, Santa Barbara.

Photo by Yolanda Waddell.

Message from the Chair

Dear members:

SWAP NEEDS YOU

That's right - we need your help.

Can you staff a booth for two hours?

Are you willing and able to pull weeds once a month?

Could you write an article for the *Oakleaves* on a bird, a plant, an insect or an animal? Or write up information on the history, geography or geology of our area?

How about putting together a slide presentation for schools or visiting groups?

Last but not least, what about serving on the SWAP Board of Directors? Five of us on the Board have been doing the work of many.

PLEASE HELP where you can. Phone us at (805) 528-0392. Thank you for your continued support.

Jim Weldon, SWAP Board Chair

Treasurer's Report: Calendar year 2001

By Robert H. McDougle, SWAP Treasurer

Our income remains steady due to our faithful members who, more often than not, renew with more than the minimum amount. All membership fees over the first \$12 go into the fund for special projects. This income is augmented by merchandise sales and interest on savings.

This year we were pleased to receive a substantial grant from the Morro Bay National Estuary Program (NEP) that will be used for erosion control and replanting within the Elfin Forest. We have begun to incur expenses on this three-year \$13,000 project and will be reimbursed by the NEP up to a total of \$7,850.

We have met nearly all of our financial commitments on the boardwalk and monuments and continue to fund projects for weed control and replanting. The remaining funds from the County grant for the monuments will be used for replanting. Due to the expenses for these projects and start-up costs associated with the NEP grant project, our total assets have decreased by about \$13,000. However, total liquid assets remain at a comfortable \$35,900. In the next year we will be searching for additional sources of funds to support ongoing and future projects.

Annual Meeting of Statewide SWAP

Because the Los Osos/Morro Bay Chapter of SWAP functions more-or-less independently, few members are aware of the umbrella organization of which our chapter is a member, SWAP, Incorporated. Our chapter is one of four currently using the SWAP name: North Coast SWAP (Cambria); Los Osos/Morro Bay SWAP; Santa Barbara SWAP; and Verdugo/San Rafael SWAP (Glendale/Pasadena). SWAP, Inc. held its annual meeting on November 10, 2001 to discuss the status of SWAP, its finances and to elect officers. Those elected were Kathleeen Modugno (Santa Barbara), President; Bob McDougle (Los Osos/Morro Bay), Treasurer; and Yolanda Waddell (Los Osos/Morro Bay), Vice President and Secretary.

WALKS in the ELFIN FOREST

Third Saturday Walks

February 16 - 9:30 a.m.

It's time again for SWAP's annual Fungus Foray with fungophile Dennis Sheridan. Here's hoping that we'll have plenty of rain to entice the multitudes of mushrooms living below the forest litter to pop their varied heads up for us to see. Dennis knows where all of the fascinating fungi are, and will help us to find Earthstars, Wood blewits, Yellow staining agaricus, the very poisonous Amanitas, Shaggy parasol mushrooms and dozens of others. Dress for the possibility of getting dirty — mushrooms grow low to the ground. Bring a magnifying lens.

March 16 - 9:30 a.m.

Bill Hilton, a Natural History Association docent at Montaña de Oro State Park, will take us back to the 19th century and earlier as we walk along the Elfin Forest Boardwalk. He'll provide mental pictures of what life was like on the Central Coast, and specifically on the Pecho Ranch (now Montaña de Oro) during the times of the Chumash, the Spanish and Portuguese explorers and settlers, and the Mexican Californios when the Pecho Ranch was part of a large land grant owned by Captain John Wilson and Ramona Pacheco. He'll also relate the story of the Spooner family who moved to the Pecho Coast at about the same time that Bill¹s grandparents moved to a ranch in Humboldt County. Join Bill for some great stories about the past.

April 20 - 9:30 a.m.

Pat Brown will take you on a butterfly walk. Pat teaches nutrition at Cuesta College, and one of her hobbies is taking photos of butterflies and collecting information about them. She has a shelf full of books on butterflies, and before the walk will display some of the books and all kinds of butterfly-related materials. Pat knows what plants attract certain butterflies, and how they use the plants to complete their life cycle. Join her for a most interesting walk along Butterfly Lane! She recommends that you bring a hand lens and a pair of close focusing (5-10 ft.) binoculars.

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

Let's All Pull Together!

SWAP First Saturday work parties are held at 9 a.m. to noon on the first Saturday of each month. Volunteers should meet at the north end of 15th Street. Dress for sun and wind and bring work gloves if you can. Some work gloves, tools and drinking water are provided. Call 528-0392.



And the Winner Was...



Jim Royer (left, rear) led a pre-Big Sit! birdwalk on Saturday, October 13th in beautiful clear weather, perfect for spotting birds. Unfortunately fickle fogs descended on the day of the Big Sit!

Photo by Pat Sarafian.

Member Pat Brown forwarded to us the following e-mail sent by Mike Stiles of Los Osos, who was a participant in the 2001 Big Sit! last October:

"The Elfin Forest Big Sit! placed second in the world this year with 106 species. The winner, from Rotterdam Netherlands, had 107. There, but for a bit of fog... The results are posted at: http://members.aol.com/nhbirdclub/bigsit.htm

Thank you to JIM ROYER for coordinating our Big Sit! It's always a lot of fun. Mike Stiles, Los Osos, CA"

(*Editor's note*: Sunday, October 14, the day of the Big Sit! dawned with a few clouds and then became increasingly cloudy and foggy as the hours passed. By 12:30 p.m., the fog was so dense that no birds were visible in any direction from Bush Lupine Point, where the Elfin Forest Big Sit! was held.)



A discouraged group of Big Sit! bird spotters at Bush Lupine Point, hoped the heavy fog hiding the estuary and Elfin Forest from view, would lift. It never did, but before the fog closed in they had identified 106 bird species, taking second place in the world.

Photo by Yolanda Waddell.

Twenty-Fourth in a Series

California Sycamore

By Dirk Walters, Ph.D.: Drawings by Bonnie Walters

Bonnie's several drawings for this article are of one of our most distinctive native trees. Although it is found commonly along streams from Northern Baja California through the Coast Ranges and Sierra Nevada into Northern California, it is not common in the Elfin Forest. California sycamore, *Platanus racemosa*, is only absent in California's deserts and higher elevations. Although it is on the Elfin Forest species list, I was not able to spot it from the boardwalk. I suspect a few trees can be found near Los Osos Creek above the influence of the saline tide waters.

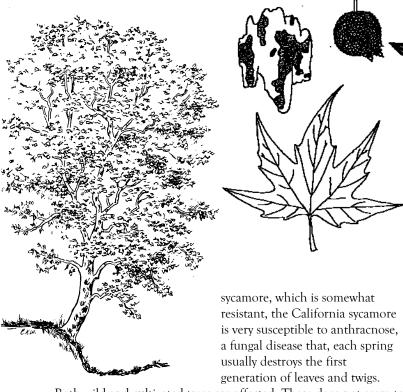
Most likely, California sycamore is usually recognized by its whitish, mottled bark and its often sprawling, picturesque growth habit. Its lower branches often spread laterally and become as massive as the main trunk so that a single tree can become as wide as it is tall. Thus a single tree can resemble a small grove.

The leaves of a sycamore have five or more veins arising from the top of the leaf stalk (palmately veined) and are deeply lobed palmately in the manner of a maple leaf. However, sycamores bear leaves that are covered with finely branched hairs as well as always being arranged singly, but alternately, along their twigs. On the other hand, most maples lack any hairs on their leaves as well as having their leaves always arranged in opposite pairs along their twigs. Sycamores also have a large leaf-like ring (stipule) at the base of the leaf stalk (petiole).

Another unusual feature of the sycamore leaf is the axillary bud from which new leafy twigs arise. The bud is completely enclosed by the hollow base of the leaf stalk or petiole and therefore cannot be seen without removal of the covering leaf. Its flowers are also unique. They are very small and borne in separate, small, spherical heads. While the staminate (male) flowers are in heads about 1/2 an inch in diameter and survive only a short time, the pistillate (female) flowers are borne in larger spherical heads (ca 3/4 inch in diameter) that double in size as the fruit ripens. Both staminate and pistillate flowers lack ordinary sepals and petals. These are replaced by several series of dry bristles. The fruit is an unusual achene-like capsule that doesn't open. California sycamore usually requires moist soils and a period of cool temperatures before it will germinate.

There are only about six species of sycamores world wide and only one is native to California. Sycamores are placed in their own family, the Platanaceae. All of the species are cultivated in one place or another. The most common sycamore in cultivation in California is the maple-leaf sycamore, *P. xacerifolia*. This "species" of sycamore was first recognized as seedlings in the Kew Botanical Garden in England in a grove of sycamores made up of the eastern North American sycamore (*P. occidentalis*) and the western Asiatic sycamore (*P. orientalis*). Characteristics of the maple-leaf sycamore are intermediate between these two probable parent species.

All of the sycamores attain a huge size, which makes them unsuitable for all but the largest of estates. Unlike the maple-leaf



Both wild and cultivated trees are affected. There does not seem to be any long term harm from the disease except that it may be the cause of the intricate branching forced on the tree by the death of its first leaves, twigs and buds.

Leave No Trace

By Rosemary Flamion

Keep our Elfin Forest great for future generations.

- 1. Stay on the boardwalk or designated trails.
- 2. Control dogs at all times (must be on leashes).
- 3. Bring trowel and plastic bags for dog poop removal.
- Let nature's sounds prevail and avoid loud voices and noises.
- 5. Do not feed the wildlife.
- 6. Bicycles, roller blades, skateboards, and other roller vehicles are prohibited because they disturb the peace and endanger walkers and wheelchair users.
- 7. Wheelchair users need to be careful on any steep grades.
- 8. Carry trash out with you to dispose of at home.
- 9. Parties and other large group functions must be given a permit by SLO County Parks, 805-781-5930.
- Camping and fires are not permitted in the Elfin Forest
- 11. Leave rocks, plants, and other natural objects as you find them.
- 12. Examine but do not touch cultural or historic artifacts.

Thank You to our New and Renewing Members

Compiled by Wendy Brown, SWAP Database Coordinator

New Members:

Caroline Gmelin* Herbert & Debra Holt* Susan & Aaron McTaggart Dorothy Sylvester Michael Walgren*

Renewing Members:

R. H. & June Boyer* Darline Broneske

Frank Bush

Eileen & Craig Cunningham

Stephani & Stuart Denker*

Ernest & Barbara Eddy Alta Hall*

Howard & Donna Krueger*

Annette Lindeman*

White matted Mural

Lois & Frank Martinez*

Roy Moss* Elaine Olson* Al & Carrie Pardo*

Barbara & Robert Rosenthal'

Shaunna Sullivan & Ron Ruppert

Harold & Pat Wieman*

*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.

SWAP BOARD MEETINGS

ebruary 11

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 on Monday, February 11, and Monday, March 11. All Board meetings are open to the public. To confirm the date, time and location (which are subject to change), phone 528-0392.

march 11

SWAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of Small Wilderness Area Preservation (SWAP) consists of the following members:

> Jim Weldon, Chair Pete Sarafian, Vice Chair Bob McDougle, Treasurer Yolanda Waddell, Secretary Pat Sarafian, Member at Large



SWAP Shoppers' Order form

(Please *print* when filling order – and indicate HOW MANY)

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Address		City/State/Zip	
Make checks payable and mail to: SWAP	, P.O. Box 6442, Los (Osos, CA 93412 - 6642. Prices include tax	
1. MURAL SHIRTS (indicate sizes) Words on shirt: "El Moro Elfin Forest Natural Area, Small Wilderness Area Preservation, Los Osos, California"		4. POCKET GUIDES A very useful 24-page guide listing plants and animals of the Elfin Forest @ \$1.00 =	
Short Slv. T-Shirt (med., Lg, XLg, XXLg) Long Slv. T-Shirt (med., Lg, XLg, XXLg) Sweatshirt (med., Lg, Xlg., XXLg)	@ \$15.00 = @ \$17.00 = @ \$25.00 =	SALF ITEMS (while inventory lasts)	
2. BOARDWALK SHIRTS (Only Short Sleeve T-Shirts) Small, Med., Lg, XLg, XXLg, XXXLg @ \$15.00 = 3. MURAL PRINTS		(says: "Elfin Forest Mural, Rexall Drug, Los (Short Sleeve T-Shirt (only Lg & XLg left) Long Sleeve T-Shirt (only small size left) Sweatshirt (only XXLg left)	@ \$10.00 = @ \$10.00 =
signed 5 1/2" X 17" prints by artist, Barbara Black matted Mural White matted Mural	Rosenthal @ \$20.00 = @ \$20.00 =	TOTAL OF ORDER	

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Los Osos / Morro Bay Chapter



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. Beginning with this issue, we¹re printing a little reminder on the address side of this page to check the label for your renewal date.



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 approaches. Joining SWAP for the first time is just as easy.

Our basic membership is \$12, which covers our operating costs and brings you our bimonthly newsletter, Oakleaves. Membership donations above the basic level provide SWAP with the funds for habitat restoration and weed control projects. Questions? Leave a message on our answering machine – 528-0392.

Thank you for your membership and support of SWAP. We look forward to hearing from you!

MEMBERSHIP F	OR	M
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☐ Member \$12	☐ Defender \$100		
☐ Steward \$25	☐ Champion \$250		
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☐ 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, P.O. Box 6442, Los Osos, CA 93412 - 6442

02/02 I