

Part 3 of 3 parts

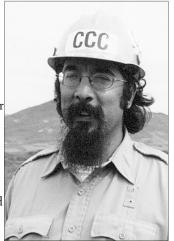
The Elfin Forest CCC Crew: Their Stories

Kiva Vigil, CCC Crew Supervisor

By Yolanda Waddell

Kiva Vigil was born in San Francisco, but grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. At age 20, he was in his third year at Ohio State University, taking a variety of courses. The pressure mounted for him to declare a major, and he decided he didn't want to get a degree just for the sake of the degree. He moved to California, and hearing about the CCC, decided to join. The things he had heard about the Corps "sounded noble." He had a strong desire to serve the environment and to work outdoors.

After being an entry-level Corpsmember (blue hat) for 9 months, Kiva earned his red hat and became a Crew Leader. In 5 more months, he advanced to Senior Crew Leader (orange hat), and continued at that level for 9 months. Then he resigned and



Kiva Vigil, Supervisor of the CCC Crew which worked on the Elfin Forest Restoration Project, enjoys working outdoors and mentoring the Corpsmembers.

Photo by Yolanda Waddell.

went to Portland, Oregon. In a short time, Kiva received a call from the Los Padres Center, saying that a staff position as Conservationist I, Crew Supervisor, was open, and would he take it? He missed the CCC, and accepted the job, which he has been doing for about six years.

Kiva's most memorable project was changing the Chorro Flats area from farmland back to its original state as a floodplain for Chorro Creek. This involved diverting the creek so that heavy equipment could come in and remove the decades-old levees. It was a complex operation and he worked with personnel from the Department of Fish and Game, the Resource Conservation District and the Morro Bay National Estuary Program.

Who 'Owns' the Elfin Forest?

By Ron Rasmussen, SWAP Chair

After the 16th century Spanish explorers Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo and Sebastian Vizcaino had surveyed the coast, Gaspar de Portola more than 200 years later began the actual occupation of California in 1769. The establishment of the chain of California missions followed the explorers northward to San Francisco. After the successful revolt of Mexico against Spanish rule, the control of the land surrounding the missions passed to Mexico. The Mexican governor at the time, Alvarado, made gifts of large tracts of land to Mexican citizens, which were later confirmed when the United States took possession of California after the Mexican war in

1848. Over time, portions of the original grants have been sold and developed into the communities that we see today. The Elfin Forest is part of the land grant called Cañada de Los Osos Y Pecho Y Islay, which was owned by Capt. John Wilson and his wife, Ramona Pacheco. In 1987, title to the northern 50 acres of the 90-acre Elfin Forest was purchased from then-owner Shirley Otto by California State Parks. In 1994, SWAP completed purchase of the southern 40 acres from Shirley Otto, and deeded it over to the San Luis Obispo County Parks Department. Interestingly, a small portion of the Elfin Forest is under the jurisdiction of the State Lands Commission, which leased it to County Parks for 25 years.

Of course before the

SWAP does not own the Elfin Forest nor do the governmental agencies that hold nominal title to the land. They only hold it in trust for the people of California who are the real owners. When next you visit the Forest

Spanish, Mexicans and other immigrants came to the area, the Chumash had been resident for thousands of years. In effect, they had been "homesteaders" and as such also had some ownership claim to the land. Evidence for use of the Elfin Forest by the

CCC Crew Supervisor continued on page 2

Who Owns the Elfin Forest continued on page 2



Kiva Vigil's CCC Crew built a decomposed granite path through Forest. Shown, from left to right, are Scott Hager (see June/July Oakleaves), Kiva Vigil and Larry Vierheilig, President of the

the Nipomo Native Garden after they completed work in the Elfin Nipomo Native Garden. Photo by Laurie Vierheilig.

CCC Finishes **A Weeding Project**

by Pete Sarafian, Conservation Chair

A small crew from the California Conservation Corps assisted SWAP and SLO County Parks with a half day of weed control in the Elfin Forest. The Corps finished pulling veldt and other grasses from the hillside on the west side of South Bay Boulevard. The highway embankment looks better than it has for years. Without such support from the CCC, our weed abatement program would barely hold its own in the interior of the park. Outside help is enabling SWAP to make progress each year in the war on weeds.



is published six times per year beginning in February.

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

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Dirk and Bonnie Walters, and Jean Wheeler

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CCC Crew Supervisor cont. from page 1

Kiva says that the CCC provided him with an opportunity to complete his maturation and find out where he could achieve success. He enjoys mentoring Corpsmembers and teaching such varied subjects as grammar, interpersonal relations, mechanical skills and even sewing. Eventually he may finish college with a degree in environmental science, and get a teaching credential.

Shortly after this interview, Kiva left for the Sierras to be Crew Supervisor for the Back Country Trails Program, a job which he enjoys and for which other Corps staff say he is ideally suited.

Under the caring and skillful supervision of Kiva, his CCC crews have helped SWAP accomplish a great deal in erosion and weed control, fencing and vegetation

We thank Kiva, his crew members, and the Los Padres CCC staff and managers for their dedication

restoration within our Elfin Forest, as well as in other projects on the Central Coast, such as the Nipomo Native Garden. We thank Kiva, his crew members, and the Los Padres CCC staff and managers for their dedication and hard work.

Who Owns the Elfin Forest cont. from page 1

Chumash is found in many areas in the form of shell middens containing a variety of shellfish species. Historical records also report their presence and land use in the area. Other native Americans were probably in the area before the Chumash, possibly as long ago as 35,000 years. In North America most native American tribes viewed themselves as part of the environment, not as apart from it and able to "own" parcels of land. Tribes may have claimed hunting areas and farmlands, but the land itself was usually held in common.

In our time, personal ownership of land has become a firmly established tradition and is not likely to change in the foreseeable future. However, as population has increased and desirable land becomes less available for individual use, the concept of preservation of specific regions or areas to be held in common is now widely supported. In this way all people can have access for recreation or other activities even though surrounded by urban development. This is the rationale for maintaining the Elfin Forest. SWAP does not own the Elfin Forest nor do the governmental agencies that hold nominal title to the land. They only hold it in trust for the people of California who are the real owners. When next you visit the Forest treat it as you would your own precious possession, because in fact it is.

> We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect. **Aldo Leopold** 1886--1948

Botta's Pocket Gopher (Thomomys bottae)

By Jean Wheeler

Sometimes called the Valley Pocket Gopher, the species living in the Elfin Forest is more widely and correctly called Botta's Pocket Gopher. It was named after a 19th century Italian naturalist, Paolo Emilio Botta, who visited California in 1827 on a collecting expedition for the Museum of Natural History of Paris. Botta's pocket gophers occur from southwestern Oregon to southern Colorado, and southward through California to western Texas and into Mexico, including Baja California. Within our state, they are widespread except at the highest elevations.

These stocky rodents vary from about six inches to slightly over ten inches long, including a tail about three inches long. Their weight ranges from about three to over eight ounces. Color is also highly variable, responding strongly to soil color. An Imperial Valley population is virtually white, while nearly black fur color dominates on dark colored soils. More typically, colors are various shades of yellowish to grayish brown. Tails are nearly hairless and very sensitive, apparently helping them to feel their way backwards in the tight confines of their tunnels.

Other adaptations to burrowing include large and powerful front legs and long claws, with small, rounded ears and small eves minimally exposed to dirt-moving activities. A furry membrane closes behind the large front teeth, which allows them to use those big teeth to pry out rocks and loosen packed dirt without swallowing the dirt. Their four incisors grow constantly, an average per tooth of as much as 11 inches a year.

On each side of the mouth is an external, fur-lined storage pouch for food. They can turn these food pockets inside out to clean the fur lining and then suck them back into pocket shape with their cheek muscles. Their hindquarters are much more slender, allowing for fast turns in their tunnels to escape predators.

Botta's pocket gophers live solitary lives of two or three years. They come together only briefly for mating. There are far fewer males than females, the males apparently breeding with several nearby females. Females produce from one to four litters a year in the most productive habitats. Gestation is about 19 days, with litter sizes averaging about six, though up to twelve in a litter have been known.

Each adult digs and defends a complex tunnel system. Forked branches end in rooms for specific purposes such as nesting, food storage, and latrines. One gopher can move a ton of earth in a year, and its tunnel system can total as much as 150 yards, usually

two to five feet below the ground surface. Gophers plug tunnels with dirt to reduce predation. They feed almost entirely underground on a diversity of grass and herbs, bulbs, and roots of shrubs. They often pull entire plants down into their tunnels without coming out on the surface themselves. They typically emerge for surface feeding only at night.

The Botta's pocket gopher has

large and powerful front legs and

long claws for digging, as well as

small rounded ears and small

eyes for minimal exposure to

dirt-moving activities.

Photo from The Pocket Guide to

Mammals of North America by

John a. Burton and Jim Channel

(Parkgate Books: 1991)

Owls are major predators, some species surviving almost exclusively on gophers. Snakes and weasels may pursue gophers underground while badgers and coyotes dig them out of their burrows. Skunks, bobcats, and hawks also prey on gophers when they catch them above ground, especially when the young are dispersing from their mothers' burrows. All of these predators are known to hunt in the Elfin Forest, and Botta's pocket gophers contribute to their survival, as well as providing substantial soil working and fertilizing benefits.

The four Eagle Scouts in the photo on the right accomplished their Eagle projects in the Elfin Forest. The projects included constructing frames for and installing the Elfin Forest interpretive and entrance signs, and building peeler core fencing at the 13th and 14th Street entrances to the Elfin Forest. They received their Eagle Scout badges at a Court of Honor on March 6, 2004. LR are: Robert Crosby, Frankie Daniel, Cary Reents and Russell Hunter. Photo by Mary Reents.

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.





Members of the May Weed Warrior crew, pleased with a good Saturday morning haul of weeds, were (L-R) Amanda Parks, Karen Bagne, Donna Banks, Warren Truong, Rochelle Sneh, Chief Warrior Pete Sarafian (with straw hat) and Steve Cake. Photo by Yolanda Waddell.



Adding bags of weeds to the growing Elfin Forest compost pile at the end of 15th Street were Warren Truong, Steve Cake, Karen Bagne and Pete Sarafian. Photo by Yolanda Waddell.

SWAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of the Los Osos/Morro Bay Chapter of Small Wilderness Area Preservation (SWAP) consists of the following members:

> Ron Rasmussen, Chair Pete Sarafian, Vice Chair Bob McDougle, Treasurer Yolanda Waddell, Secretary Bob Meyer, Member at Large Pat Sarafian, Member at Large

Docent Training for School Walks Begins in September

Our SWAP chapter is looking for people who enjoy children, like to talk to people, love the Elfin Forest, and are available during weekdays. We will begin docent training for our School Walk Program in September — tentatively, the second Saturday, September 11th. If you are interested, call our message phone, 528-0392. Someone from the Education Committee will contact you. This is an excellent way to take action on behalf of our environment — by informing and educating the next generation.

School Appreciates Elfin Forest Walk

Earlier this year, Pete and Pat Sarafian (SWAP Conservation Chair and Property and Records Chair respectively) visited the North County Christian School in Atascadero, and gave a slide talk about the Elfin Forest to one of the classes. Then followed an actual walk in the Elfin Forest. They received a thank you note from the teacher, Steve Robertson, which was signed by his students. It read: "Dr. and Mrs. Sarafian – Thank you very much for spending time with us yesterday! We learned a lot – most importantly, that we need to preserve wild and natural areas and fight hard for that preservation. You both communicate well and obviously have a love for others! Thank you!!"

Summer Brings Savage Harvest

by Pete Sarafian, Conservation Chair

For reasons only Mother Nature can fathom entirely, the invasive grasses in the Elfin Forest matured this year at a more rapid pace than usual. Had the intrepid volunteer Weekend Weed Warriors not come out in force, we never could have kept up. Fortunately, we were equal to the task. In June we mopped up areas around the original restoration fenced triangle east of Bush Lupine Point. The haul was mostly veldt grass and annual bromes. In July the task was to clean up the area between 15th and 16th Streets, especially around the mulch heap at the 15th Street entrance. Take a look at the mulch pile now. With the new haul, it stands at over six feet tall. It is a monument to our perseverance. Those volunteers who helped in June and July included Jay Bonestell, Ann Calhoun, Bob and Sharon Meyer, Ron Rasmussen, Pete Sarafian, Yolanda Waddell, Rosemary Wolter and Linda Young.

Thanks so much for keeping us on track to be weed free.

ugust

SWAP BOARD MEETINGS 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.

The next meetings are

Monday, August 9, and Monday, September 13.

All Board meetings are open to the public.

To confirm the date,
 time and location

(which are subject to change),
 phone 528-0392.

WALKS in the ELFIN FOREST

Third (and Second) Saturday Walks

August 21 - 9:30 a.m.

"Ancient peoples of the Central Coast" is the topic of archaeologist Dr. John Parker, who will tell us about the long-ago inhabitants of the Elfin Forest and the Central Coast. As he leads us along the boardwalk, he'll give us a word image of everyday life in the Elfin Forest during the time of the Chumash, including stories about Chumash money, economy and trade. He'll also show us the development of technology through the ages, using artifacts to demonstrate the culture and processes of the Chumash and earlier peoples.

Note: A few strong-armed volunteers who can arrive at 9:15 to help carry the artifacts would be appreciated.

September 18 - 9:30 a.m.

Who lives in the Elfin Forest? What are the mammals, reptiles and birds that leave footprints in the sand? How can we tell what they are? Tracker John Milton will answer these questions for us during SWAP's Third Saturday walk. As a volunteer with the Sheriff's Search and Rescue Unit, John reads tracks the way other people read words. Walk participants will learn from John how to identify an animal by the shape and size of its track, and to know where the animal was heading and how fast it was going. Except for the occasional brush rabbit and lizard, we seldom see Elfin Forest animals because they hunt or graze at night. This walk will open up a complex world of the Elfin Forest's inhabitants for us, one that we would never suspect while walking along the boardwalk during the day.

October 9, 8:30 a.m. (Pre-Big Sit! Walk) (Second Saturday - Note earlier time)

This Second Saturday walk, beginning at 8:30 a.m., will be a preview of an international birding event, the Big Sit!. The following day, Sunday, October 10, is the day for the Big Sit! at Bush Lupine Point in the Elfin Forest. Coordinator Jim Royer, an experienced and avid birder, will lead the walk on Saturday. Join Jim on his tour of the Elfin Forest to find and identify many of the bird species which are active during the day; usually Jim and walk participants find 40 to 60 species. This walk is for those who just enjoy looking at birds as well as for more experienced birders. You'll come away from this experience knowing more about birds, their calls, their habits and habitats.

October 16 - 9:30 a.m.

(Third Saturday Walk - TBA)

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



During his May wildflower walk, botanist Dirk Walters displays a species of Goosefoot — so called because of the shape of its leaves. This species, Chenopodium californicum, isn't as invasive as most others in the genus Chenopodium, and isn't considered to be a problem in the Elfin Forest. The plant originated in Europe, and is edible. Photo by Bob Meyer.



Barbara Renshaw created a watercolor of Danny's Skullcap, which appears in the Celestial Meadow for a brief period during early Spring. Barbara leads sketch walks both for the Morro Bay Museum Docents and for SWAP.

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 any problems in the Elfin Forest, call or write:

Chuck Lowe, SLO County Parks Supervising Ranger, 1087 Santa Rosa Street, SLO, CA 93408, (805) 781-4417.

If you witness vandalism or other crimes, call the County Sheriff at 781-4550.



Thirty-Eighth in a Series

Toyon

By Dirk Walters, Ph.D.; Drawing by Bonnie Walters

For the Elfin Forest plant profiled in this issue of *Oak Leaves*, Bonnie has drawn a fruiting branch from a shrub or small tree along with a single flower. The species drawn is one of the plants most characteristic of California: its natural range is almost totally within the state's political boundaries. Ranging from Shasta and Butte counties south into the very northern regions of Baja California, Mexico, it ranges in elevation from sea level to a few thousand feet. This plant is particularly common in moister parts of chaparral and evergreen oak communities throughout the Coast Ranges and on the west side of the Sierra Nevada. Three individuals of the species are visible from the boardwalk in the Elfin Forest, and they are found as individuals among the loosely spaced pigmy oaks, primarily in the N.E. corner of the loop.

I am assuming that most will have recognized toyon, Christmas berry, or California holly [Heteromeles (Photinia) arbutifolia] right off from the drawing. The name, Photinia, is the genus in older books while Heteromeles is found in the newer floras such as The Jepson Manual. As now accepted, the genus Photinia, is restricted to East Asia, although at least one species (P. serrulata) is often seen in California landscapes. Heteromeles has only a single species and it is essentially restricted to California.

Toyon is a member of the Rose Family and is in the same family group as apples, pears, quinces, and hawthorns. The little red fruits are actually tiny apple-like fruits. Heteromeles translates as different (hetero) apple (meles). Since the flesh comes from the floral cup surrounding the ovary, the fruit is a special kind of berry called a pome. Pomes are restricted to one subfamily of the Rosaceae. The pomes turn red in the fall and remain on the plant until removed by flocks of waxwings or other wildlife. However, most of the animals that eat the pomes wait until they have fermented. I suspect this decreases the bitter taste. Like many members of the apple group in the Rose Family, the seeds within the pome are poisonous if chewed, but pass through the bird's digestive tracts intact.

Native Californians and early Spanish settlers collected the fruits, but they did not eat them raw since they considered them much too bitter. They would either parch them with heated rocks in baskets or boil them, making sure to discard the water used in the boiling. Apparently the heating nullified the bitter principle. Leaves and bark were also boiled into a tea used for various medical conditions. The common name, toyon, is actually a derivative of an earlier local California name, Tollon. Toyon blooms in June and July and produces its bright red pomes from October into January. The name "Christmas berry" refers to the bright red December berries that contrast with its dark, leathery evergreen leaves, while the common name, "California holly", refers to its range, California, and its thick, finely toothed leaves. Of course, red and green are the colors of Christmas and, like holly, toyon is frequently used in Christmas decorations.

Vandals Continue 'Unrestoration'

by Pete Sarafian, Conservation Chair

Senseless vandalism continued in the Elfin Forest this spring. No sooner had SLO County Parks Dept. put in a major (\$100,000.) restoration effort, than vandals began undoing it. The latest discovery was some three dozen new native plant seedlings being tampered with. Fences were undone, cages and flags were damaged or removed from the seedlings, mulch was scattered from around the plants, and some plants were destroyed entirely. Much of the damage occurred in an area west of Bush Lupine Point where secret beer parties have occurred in the past. County Parks and the Sheriff's Departments were notified.

Under the name
California holly, this species
gave its name to a state landmark.
California holly is particularly
common in the foothills of the
mountains of Southern California.

So, when the developers of a subdivision in the foothills near Los Angeles wanted to name their new town, they named it after the conspicuous, small tree growing in and around the site. This landmark town is, of course, Hollywood.

All of my references on cultivating native California plants mention toyon as one of the most widely planted native California species. They report its use in formal borders, erosion control and for attracting wildlife. Some say its only garden disadvantage is its tendency to be a bit messy, but it can take pruning. Toyon is tolerant of essentially all exposures and soils. It is able to tolerate garden watering as long as the soils are not too heavy, but even then it can tolerate limited water. In fact, Toyon is most happy without any summer water. In other words, it seems to be a perfect landscape plant. With the species getting such rave reviews, I am surprised that I can't recall it used in recent landscaping projects I have seen. Did I miss it, or was it so overly planted in the past that it has become too common? A third possibility is that as a member of the Rose Family and closely related to some very economically important crops (apples & pears), people may be afraid of it being a host for various plant diseases. Finally, toyon commonly grows wild around our area, so maybe there is really no need to have it in our home landscaping.

Elfin Forest Sightings

Usually, we expect to see plants and wildlife in the Elfin Forest. But on the Fourth of July, at about 9:00 p.m., one can also have a good view of the Morro Bay fireworks display from Bush Lupine Point and Siena's View. SWAP members Bob and Sharon Meyer were in the Elfin Forest on the evening of the Fourth, and Bob gave the following account:

"The Forest being so dry, Sharon and I thought maybe it would be best to do a tour Sunday night, just to make sure all the fireworks were confined to areas closer to the ocean. We got to Bush Lupine Point just before 9 p.m., and it was standing-room-only. About four adult couples had set up a picnic complete with lounge chairs on the deck. Another group of four adults with two young children arrived just after us. The grandma had a great time teaching her grandson to Oooh and Ahhh at the appropriate time when the Morro Bay fireworks started. Another party of four adults stopped at the Bush lupine midway to the Monument Y to watch.

"After the fireworks (about 9:30), Sharon and I did the boardwalk tour. Earlier, we had heard voices coming from the Siena's View area. A man and his dog (on leash) were the only ones we saw there. We did meet two other couples leaving between 16th and 15th with a camera and tribod.

"A good time seemed to be had by all, and the traffic going home was much better than in Morro Bay."



Thank You to our New and Renewing Members

Compiled by Wendy Brown, SWAP Database Coordinator

New Members:

William Bouton* Kathleen W. Toscano*
Josh Carmichael* Jacquoline Williams

Renewing Members:

Karen Beatty & Frank Ausilio*
Sandra Beebe
Andrew Chermak*
Jan & George Clucas*
Katie & Gerald Davis*
Kathleen M. Delzell*
Ginny Dobias
Francesca Fairbrother
Phyllis M. Foulstone
Eric Fritsch*
Myron & Priscilla Graham*
Helen Graves*

Burton & Dorothy Harris*

Mary Harrison*

Jim & Karen Havlena*

Joanna Iwanicha*

Dr. Steve Jio & Family*

Jim & Kathy Marrocco*

Beth & Sheldon Miller*

Nancy G. Page*

Mildred Schwab*

Martha & Don Vincent*

Ruth Zank

*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.

New or renewing members who donate \$100 or more will receive a Boardwalk T-shirt as SWAP's thank you gift.

Family Fest Booth Report

Our SWAP booth was a popular stopping place for visitors to the Los Osos Family Fest on Sunday, June 6.

It was a pleasant, sunny day and the wind was blowing, giving Pat Sarafian the opportunity to test her new wind-proof photo racks which she hung from the edge of our yellow canopy. Happily, they worked well and nothing blew over, as had happened on previous occasions.

Our enthusiastic booth workers included Norma and Bill Vaughan, Madeline and James (JT) Taylor (actually JT, a CCC Crew Supervisor, was called away to fight the Gaviota fire), Patti Patch, and Bob and Sharon Meyer, as well as Booth Coordinator Pat Sarafian and husband Pete. Bob McDougle assisted with booth setup and the Meyers helped to take it down.

Thanks to all who helped.



SWAP Shoppers' Order Form

Shop with SWAP!!



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

Name	Phone (with Area code)
1. MURAL SHIRTS (indicate sizes) Words on shirt: "El Moro Elfin Forest Natural Area, Small Wilderness Area Preservation, Los Osos, California" Short Slv. T-Shirt (med., Lg, XLg, XXLg, XXXLg) @ \$15.00 = Long Slv. T-Shirt (med., Lg, XLg, XXLg, XXXLg) @ \$17.00 = Sweatshirt (med., Lg, Xlg, XXLg, XXXLg) @ \$25.00 =	 3. POCKET GUIDES A very useful 24-page guide listing plants and animals of the Elfin Forest Temporarily out-of-stock. Watch for our new, 58-page, revised Pocket Guide! 4. MURAL PRINTS signed 5 1/2" X 17" prints by artist, Barbara Rosenthal
2. BOARDWALK SHIRTS (Only Short Sleeve T-Shirts) Med., Lg, XLg, XXLg, XXXLg @ \$15.00 =	Black matted Mural @ \$20.00 = Shipping cost if outside of Los Osos/Morro Bay \$2.50 =

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Are You Current?

Please look at your mailing label and see if your membership is current. The date on the label shows when your membership expires. After that date, we will not be able to send you our newsletter.

Timely renewal of your membership helps us to save on postage and the time needed to send a reminder. Every membership helps us to be more convincing to foundations and government agencies when we ask them for funds. They all want to know "How many members do you have?" Thank you for supporting SWAP and the Elfin Forest!

Check our websites at... http://losososbaywoodpark.org, http://www.morrobay.com/index/elfin/home.htm and the Estero Conservation Alliance website at http://esteroconservationalliance.com.

> RENEW YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE ELFIN FOREST NOW!

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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

☐ 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!!

☐ Life Member \$1000

Make checks payable to SWAP, Mail to Small Wilderness Area Preservation, P.O. Box 6442, Los Osos, CA 93412 - 6442