



OAK LEAVES

A PUBLICATION OF THE LOS OSOS/MORRO BAY CHAPTER SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION
P.O. BOX 6442 LOS OSOS, CALIFORNIA 93412 (805) 528-2579 SEPTEMBER 1993

We're on a roll!

As we go to press the Elfin Forest Land Fund is closing in on the \$1.6 million we need to meet the appraised value of the Elfin Forest! Our sensational county-wide fund drive raised over \$100,000 to match the CalTrans Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement Grant of \$500,000. During July and August we have received news of additional funding in grants awarded from the Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation of New York (\$2,500), the California State Lands Commission (\$100,000), and from the federal transportation enhancement funds (ISTEA) earmarked for San Luis Obispo County through the California Transportation Commission (\$500,000). That brings us to \$1.2 million and we expect to hear in early fall about our application for funding from the State Coastal Conservancy (\$250,000) and in October from North American Wetlands Conservation Act Funds (\$250,000). It's remarkable what the members of SWAP have accomplished together so far! The SWAP Board appreciates the support you've shown us in innumerable ways, and we hope you will keep this ball rolling with your continuing support in time, energy and money. Preservation of the Elfin Forest Small Wilderness is in sight!

What's happening now?

We're still working hard on our back-up plan to get funding from the 1994 June ballot California Parks and Wildlife Initiative should funding from some of our anticipated grant sources fall through. This could be very important since competition for the Wetlands grant is nationwide. Many thanks to those of you who have volunteered time to

GENERAL MEETING

Doug Buckmaster

"The Capital Gains Bypass Trust"

Monday, September 13th - 7 pm

South Bay Community Center

2180 Palisades Avenue, Los Osos

☆☆☆☆

Avoid capital gains taxes with a living trust! Come find out how to plan a living trust for support during retirement and a tax shelter. Doug Buckmaster presents a no-pressure, educational program illustrated with slides describing investment techniques. He will also discuss how best to remember favorite charities and non-profit organizations in wills and trusts.

help gather signatures to put Calpaw 94 on the ballot. If passed, this initiative will provide \$20 million for environmental projects in San Luis Obispo County at a cost of 50 cents per person per year! If you can spare a couple of hours to help us gather our share of the required signatures, please call 528-2579 or 528-6933. Also, be sure to sign a petition by the mid-September deadline if you haven't already.

Coastal Clean Up

Our annual coastal clean up of South Bay Boulevard along the estuary is scheduled for **9:30 am on Saturday, October 2nd**. This great treasure hunt and trash tally to protect the creatures in our estuary from our garbage is a unique outing which never fails to amaze. If you want to take part in this statewide event, call 528-4540 for details.

Sensational Spooner's Cove!

It was just this side of heaven. The Elfin Forest was blooming, the sun was shining, the ocean breeze was blowing delicately, the audience was enthralled by the charm and talent of the band, and the music wafting over the oaks and manzanita was in perfect harmony with the moment. Even the bunnies were bouncing! Many, many thanks to Spooner's Cove String Band who gave us such a delightful afternoon and helped us raise over \$500. Thanks, too, to those who helped set up and provided the lemonade and strawberries. Fundraising has never been such a pleasure! If you missed it, you can catch this great band at SLO Brew in SLO on the last Wednesday of the month. They're great people and they make great music!

Raffle Winners!

Joe & Rita Burnett of San Luis Obispo were the lucky winners of John Ramos' exquisite signed limited edition Blue Heron print. Many thanks to John for his generous donation to SWAP and congratulations to the Burnetts. John's work can be seen currently at the Just Looking Gallery in San Luis Obispo.

Beyond the Basics

George Lepp, who contributed some outstanding photos for our Wetlands grant application, has a new photography book out, BEYOND THE BASICS. It's not just another pretty book (although we're sure it's beautiful) in that it brings fresh, immediately usable information and a wealth of new techniques for improving your photography in addition to over 200 color photos. Call 528-7385 for information on the special pre-publication price.

George Gibson Donates Painting

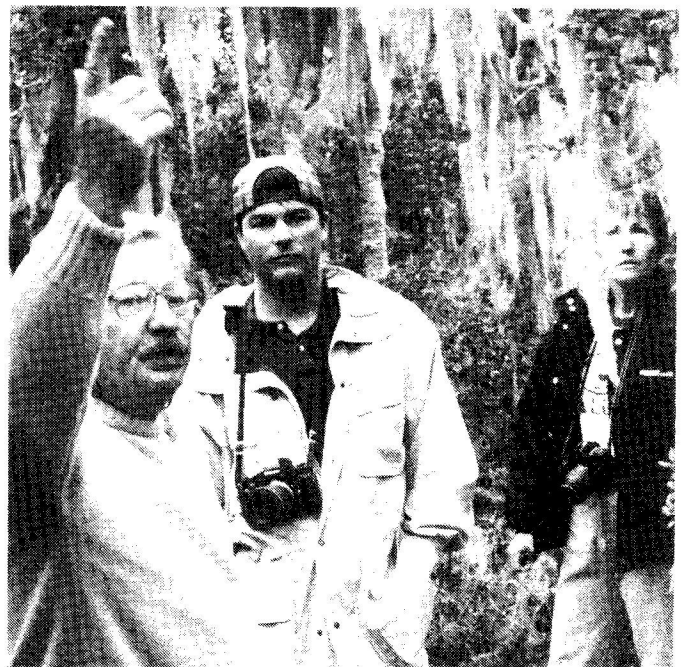
George Gibson, nationally known watercolorist and former Scenic Art Director for MGM Studios, has donated a watercolor painting to SWAP to help raise funds for our project. The scenic watercolor, painted along State Park Road in Morro Bay State Park, depicts a view of the estuary and the Seven Sisters beyond it. SWAP will display the painting and sell raffle tickets at upcoming local festivals and general meetings. Between times the painting can be seen and tickets purchased at Books & Company, 1001 Santa Ynez at 9th St. in Los Osos.

Jobs! Jobs! Jobs!

We have some volunteer jobs available NOW.

Festival season is upon us with the Morro Bay Harbor Festival planned for October 2nd and 3rd and the Baywood Octoberfest on the 31st. We need people to staff our booth at both festivals and to work as crossing guards at the Harbor Festival as well. All shifts are for 2 hours at "happening" locations and require minimal training. Working the booth, it's fun to tell people about the Elfin Forest and you'll work with someone who is familiar with the project. Crossing guard work is for those who have had a secret wish to tell people what to do and when to do it--and you get to wear a special vest while you work! SWAP shares in the overall festival profits for this work. Give a couple of hours to SWAP and enjoy a local event at the same time. Call Flo Ross at 528-1647. She would love to get a call from you!

THANKS TO
FESTIVAL OF THE BEARS VOLUNTEERS!
YOUR WILLINGNESS TO HELP
IN THESE IMPORTANT WAYS
KEEPS SWAP GOING!



Roland Muschenetz discusses the art of capturing light in the Elfin Forest while leading a recent SWAP Saturday Walk.



John & Yvette Nowak show Saturday walkers early uses of native plants.

Third Saturday Walks

☉ SEPT. 18 - Shanda Gibbs will lead our annual kids' walk, featuring animal tracks and animal tracking.

☉ OCT. 16 - An early bird walk at 8:30 am. Learn the shorebirds & landbirds of the Elfin Forest viewing through a spotting scope on Bush Lupine Point.

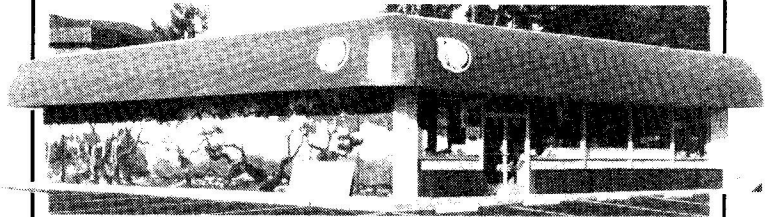
☉ NOV. 20 - The pygmy oaks and how they don't grow will be this month's subject along with a pygmy history of the Elfin Forest.

Our Third Saturday walks through the Elfin Forest begin at 9:30 am unless otherwise noted. Meet at the north end of 15th St. off Santa Ysabel in Los Osos. (Please park carefully, avoiding driveways and mail-boxes.) Wear comfortable shoes as well as long sleeves and pants to avoid poison oak and mosquitoes. The easy paced walks will last 1 1/2 hours. Call 528-4540 for information.

Mural Dedication

Have you seen the beautiful SWAP mural on the wall of the Los Osos Rexall? It's worth a special trip to view the work which artist Barbara Rosenthal is nearly ready to sign. The mural depicts the estuary and rock as seen from within the Elfin Forest. SWAP is compiling the final list of contributor names to be placed beside the mural. If you meant to get your name on the mural, it's still possible if you send your donationb NOW to: SWAP MURAL, P.O. Box 6442, Los Osos, CA 93412.

September 30th will be the closing date for names on the mural project. The signing, dedication and placing of the names will follow soon.



Barbara Rosenthal's Elfin Forest mural on the wall of Los Osos Rexall reminds everyone of the extraordinary community spirit behind our project uniting the arts, business, the environment & the public good.

Another Upcoming Event ...

Find out what's so great about Morro Bay when The Friends of the Estuary welcome biologist John Boland to their October 6th General Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at The Inn at Morro Bay. Boland will present a mixed bag of topics related to the ecology of Morro Bay, including information about hydrology, and shorebird migration and ecology.

The outstanding scientific discovery of the twentieth century is not television, or radio, but rather the complexity of the land organism.

■ Aldo Leopold

• • • THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU • • •

to ... Javier F. Alonzo, Chester L. Amyx, Jeannine Armstrong, Jeffrey & Deborah Barker, Marlene & Jerry Bartsch, Stella C. Borucki, Karen L. Brooks, John & E.P. Bryson, Craig & Janice Campbell, Nancy & George Downing, D. Edminster-Caffe Affaire, Joyce Eicholtz, Jeanette Ellis, Loretta & Robert Ezzell, Ingrid Fagan-Baywood Video, Sharon Friedmann, Dorris Graves, Jeff Grover, Phil & Bar-

bara Harris, Richard & Stephanie Hart, Paul & Mary Hertel, Patricia & Robert Hudson, Linda Ingle, Fe Iron-Eyes, Cindy & Eric Johnson, Wm. Knopf, Beth Langley, Ruth Lapp, Ruth Lichtenbaum, Rogers & Pauli McCauley, Sunshine McFarland, Barbara McGee, Janet E. Montooth, Beverlee S. Nelson, Kelley & Eric Nelson, Julie K. Oxford, Catherine Purcell, Leslie & Marian Rapscher, Lorraine Rapscher,

Stephanie Raser, Kathleen Rawlings, Richard & Cecelia Riggins, Paul Roide, Barbara N. Schaeffer, Gisele Schoniger, Fredrick Seykora, K. Norine Shaffer, Lawrence & Marion Silva, Timothy Stirton, Bunt Taylor, Sean Thompson, Eric Van Coops-Lotspeich, Kurt & Eileen Vavra, Arthur & Carolyn Vienola, Eleanor Williams, George H. Wilson, Keith Wimer, and Scott B. Withers.

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Memberships needed NOW!

We need your membership urgently. With all the excitement of our land fund drive membership renewals have been forgotten. Our work and our expenses from the general fund for day-to-day operations (xeroxing, mailing, etc.) go on. We anticipate additional expenses to complete the purchase and hope to continue with educational and improvement/revegetation programs in the future. Land preservation is a living responsibility. Check your address label on the front of this newsletter. The date reveals the last time you paid your membership dues. Are you current? Your membership brings you the SWAP quarterly newsletter and it supports our general fund. We're an all-volunteer, non-profit organization so your financial support is critical to our success.

P L E A S E R E N E W N O W !



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|---|---|
| ☐ Member \$12 | ☐ Defender \$100 |
| ☐ Steward \$25 | ☐ Champion \$250 |
| ☐ Protector \$50 | ☐ Life Member \$1000 |
| ☐ I want to help | — please call me. |

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

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