



OAK LEAVES

A PUBLICATION OF THE LOS OSOS/MORRO BAY CHAPTER SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION
PO. Box 6442 LOS OSOS CALIFORNIA 93412 (805)528-2579 DECEMBER 1991

Open Space and Special Places

General Membership Meeting
7 p.m. Monday December 9, 1991
South Bay Community Center
Los Osos

A special panel discussion makes our general membership meeting this month a "don't miss." County Supervisor and Marine Biologist Bud Laurent will address the importance of the Elfin Forest to Morro Bay. Ray Belknap, director of the San Luis Obispo Land Conservancy, will present the proposed greenbelt from Montana De Oro to the Elfin Forest. Bob Semonsen, local architect and member of the Los Osos Chamber of Commerce Land Use Committee, will discuss the Chamber's proposal to designate the Elfin Forest as "open space" as part of the county-wide Land Use Element update. Sally Knight has a vision for re-establishing oaks in residential areas as well as within the Elfin Forest once it is purchased. June Shepard will address how we can make our community more hospitable to the wild animals who live here with us. Henry Hammer, local architect and member of the CSA 9 Advisory Board, will address the need for more parks and dedicated open space in Los Osos.

Elections of officers for 1992 will take place during a brief business meeting. Coffee and



dessert will be served. Plan to come and add your comments to what promises to be a lively and interesting meeting!

Three Cheers For Our Terrific Volunteers!

We had a great turnout for our clean up of the Elfin Forest and the Morro Bay estuary along Turri Road and South Bay Boulevard during Coastal Cleanup Day on Sept 21st. The Turri Road pickup point yielded a total of 1200 pounds of trash - more than any other site in San Luis Obispo County!

Several hundred people - and many brand new faces - walked through the Elfin Forest on September 22 to visit our Art Show Under the Oaks. Many thanks to Barbara Rosenthal, Nancy Kolliner, and Diane Burke for their willingness to make many trips up-and-down-hill to carry their work to "Woodrat Hall" for the event. Margaret Mehring and Jacqueline Smalley created a delightful picture of their



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Art Under the Oaks September 22, 1991

own at our refreshment table.

You can see the work of these three exceptional artists at the following locations: Barbara Rosenthal's work can be seen at Granada Arts, 2005 Ninth St. in Los Osos (528-1956). Nancy Kolliner's work can be seen at Vision's, 629 Embarcadero in Morro Bay (772-5083). Diane Burke's work can be seen in her studio on 16th. Street in Los Osos (528-6754).

Margaret Mehring turned her precinct organizing skills to good stead organizing our volunteers who manned "Crosswalk No. 1" at the Morro Bay Harbor Festival the first weekend in October. All organizations helping to staff the Harbor Festival will share in the proceeds. Many thanks to all who volunteered their time to help.

The addition of a sunshine yellow canopy makes our booth an eye catcher at public events. Virginia Black has done a great job of making sure our booth is staffed by volunteers.

"Christmas Land Sale"

Barbara Machado, Elsie Deitz and Margaret Mehring have organized a special sale of Elfin Forest certificates of stewardship during the holiday season. There are approximately 1,500,000 square feet of land in the Elfin Forest, which is for sale at approximately

\$3,000,000. SWAP offers certificates of stewardship of the Elfin Forest for \$2 per "square foot." This is a great way to tell someone you care while making a donation to the Elfin Forest Land Acquisition Fund. The "land sale" will run each weekend from Thanksgiving to Christmas. You will also be able to purchase Re-USA bags, T-shirts, and note cards for your holiday giving.

SWAP's FAB (Financial Advisory Board) has met twice this fall. The FAB is providing the long-needed guidance and expertise for the business of serious fund raising. At the recommendation of the FAB that SWAP should work more closely with the business community, SWAP has joined the Los Osos, the Morro Bay, and the San Luis Obispo Chambers of Commerce. Rose Bowker spoke about our Elfin Forest project at the SLO Chamber's "Good Morning San Luis Obispo" breakfast program on October 24.

Special Raffle: "Pygmy Oaks" by Nancy Kolliner. Gail Johnson, the winner of a special pen and ink drawing of a pygmy oak grove in the Elfin Forest by artist Nancy Kolliner, has re-donated the drawing to SWAP.

From now through the end of 1992, all new members, all persons renewing their membership, and all persons contributing their time to SWAP as volunteers will receive a chance at a raffle to be held Dec. 31st. 1992. New and renewing members will receive one chance. Volunteers will receive one chance for each 2-hour shift that they work. And raffle tickets may also be purchased for \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Many thanks to both Gail and Nancy for their generous support of SWAP.

Saturday Walks

We will continue to offer our monthly walks through the Elfin Forest on the 3rd. Saturday of each month. Please join us on December 21st. when soil scientist Dr. Tom Rice will teach us about the soils of the Elfin Forest. All walks meet at the north end of 15th. Street off

Santa Ysabel in Los Osos at 9:30 a.m. We will continue to announce the topics for future walks in the local newspapers.

The Teacher's Packet is Done!

Hats off to Shanda Gibbs for the hours it took to organize it in time for the successful State of the Bay teacher's workshop on October 19th. Any teacher who is a member of SWAP may obtain a copy of the teacher's packet for free. Teacher's who are not members of SWAP may purchase the teacher's guide at cost (\$5 per copy). Contact Shanda Gibbs at 528-3936 for ordering information. And thank you to Dennis Sheridan and Virginia Black for their special walk for teachers on October 19th.

Elfin Forest Sock Hop

Robert Judd has taken on the task of organizing a fund-raising dance for SWAP on March 14th at the Los Osos Community Center. Ben Squires has volunteered to set up the sound system and act as "d.j." for the event. If you bring your favorite 45, tape or compact disc, you and your sweetie will be able to dance to "your song."

Volunteers are needed to sell tickets, help decorate, prepare refreshments, and clean up. Call Robert at 528-1014 if you can help.

Are YOU a member of SWAP?

We are pleased to report a paid membership of over 675 individuals. This is wonderful since every member is a vote of support for our project.

However, we now have a mailing list of over 1100 and need your help. The date on your mailing label shows the date that you last paid dues. If there is no date, our records do not show you as a member of SWAP. If we have made a mistake, please let us know!

If there is no date on your label, and we don't hear from you by the mailing of our next newsletter in March, we will be dropping you from our mailing list to try to reduce mailing



SWAP's youngest volunteer picks a winner at the Baywood Octoberfest

expenses. (This does not apply to persons who have served as volunteers nor to those agencies and individuals working to help save the Elfin Forest).

A remit envelope has been enclosed with this newsletter. If you are a member of SWAP, please ask a friend to use the envelope to join SWAP.

Other Upcoming Events:

SWAP is hoping to join Cal Poly's WriterSpeak in sponsoring a talk by Washington naturalist and author Robert Michael Pyle this winter. Please watch your newspaper for news of this event.

Emily Polk's "Fire Sale and Retrospective Art Show" has been scheduled for the weekend of May 15th & 16th in the Los Osos Community Park and Schoolhouse. Mrs. Polk is the delightful founder of SWAP.

Election of Officers

The election of officers for 1992 will take place during our general meeting on December 9th. Nominations are being sought for the offices of President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and Recording Secretary. Pat Grimes, 528-3035, is chair of our nominating committee.

Thank You Thank You Thank You Michael Nowak, Dianna A. Minnix, Beverlee S. Nelson, Russ Rayburn, Barbara Machado, Rose & Les Bowker, Evelyn Dabritz, Doris Townley, Leo Wulff, Diana L. Keeling, Linda Holman, Nancy Bast, Helen Graves, Pat Wieman, Betty Jo Hamilton, Marsha Parker, Al Pardo, Jean Hoffman, Marcelle Martin, Joanna Frawley, Marie Campagna, Yolanda Waddell, Helen Shuman, Karen & Roland Muschenetz, Frances Reynolds, Betty Priest, Ruth Ralston, Anthony Collins, Elene Ramos, Janice Hand, Mary Cowitz, Pat & Larry Grimes, Kathleen Friend, Donna Ramos, Renee Catania, Mary Mackenzie, Katharine Smith, Arlene Chandler, John Cutmore, Lurlie Edgecomb, Bob & Tish Tefft, Leslie Cohn, Jonathan Priest, Robert Weiser, Marlo Johansen, Ed McCracken, Meg Nicholson, Dianne Gutierrez, Atlee Clapp, Virginia Newman, Kathryn Williams, John G. Pierce, Shar Anderson, Clement H. Jeffrey, Linda Baxter, Jonas Richardson, Annette Owens, Charles Hicks, Wendy Brown and John Mottmann, Christine Greek, Sue Armstrong, Jim & Jill Bennett, and Margaret Crane. Memorial gifts to the Land Fund were received in memory of Mike Bowker and John De Pue.

*A gift of nature is an imperishable gift, never
broken, torn, lost, worn; the gift that given once is
given forever; that exuberantly gives itself in return
not alone to the giver or receiver but to all creatures
for all time.*

Emily Polk

SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION

Los Osos / Morro Bay Chapter
P.O. Box 6442 Los Osos CA 93412

Officers 1991

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