

A PUBLICATION OF THE LOS OSOS / MORRO BAY CHAPTER OF SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION P.O. BOX 6442, LOS OSOS, CALIFORNIA 93412-6442 💠 (805) 528-0392 💠 FEBRUARY/MARCH 2003

The White-tailed Kite

Text and Illustration By Rosemary Flamion

What came first – the paper kite or the feathered one? The paper kite originated in China in or before 1200 BC as a military signaling device. The color and pattern of the painted kite was a form of communication between camps. Ancient Chinese silk prints also show children flying small kites with streaming tails. By 1200 AD, European children were flying kites which whistled by means of small holes in the kite's body and the use of many vibrating cords.

The feathered Kite is of even more ancient origins. One of the first recorded citations is from the Bible in the Book of Leviticus, written sometime after 1200 BC. Both the Black Kite and the Egyptian Kite were known. Since these kites feed on small rodents or refuse, kites were listed among the unclean birds to eat (Lev. 11:14).

The Hebrew term for kite means "that which flies powerfully though gracefully." The word "kite" originated from Anglo Saxon "cyta" meaning a feathered Kite and not the paper one. Then someone realized that the paper kite was like a graceful bird hovering, soaring, swooping, and powerful. Even Shakespeare wrote about the graceful, feathered Kite.

The White-tailed Kite (Elanus leucurus) feeds mainly on small rodents and insects. This raptor hunts in grasslands, cultivated farmlands, marshy bottomlands, and even freeway median strips.

It likes a high perch such as a tall tree or telephone pole but I have seen it perching on shrubs in Montaña de Oro State Park. When hunting, the White-tailed Kite hovers in one spot with wings moving but head and eyes fixed on the hunting grounds. When the prey is spotted, it makes a powerful dive for a quick grab at a rodent. The Kite nests in oaks and sycamores near open country about 18 to 50 feet above the ground. The platform nest is made of sticks lined with grasses, mosses, and rootlets. The clutch consists

Since urbanization and rodent control have reduced rodent populations, the numbers and range

of four or five chicks.

White Tailed Kite continued on page 2

Updating the Elfin Forest "Pocket Guide"

by Bob Meyer

It has been five plus years since "Plants and Animals of the Elfin Forest Natural Area" was first compiled. It has been one of our best sellers. Where else can you get so much info for only one dollar? However, before we make another press run it is time to do some updating. For instance, birders have managed to spot at least 24 additional species in and around the forest - mainly during the "Big Sits".

Various people have pointed out plants that got left out of the first "Pocket Guide". Speaking of getting left out, one of the Forest's more notable resident families – lichens – are entirely missing.

Pocket Guide

Plants and Animals of the

Elfin Forest Natural Area

A working group composed initially of Pat Brown, Yolanda Waddell, Heather Johnson, and Bob Meyer have started recompiling the lists. It is hoped to add a little more information about each species – such as: are they native and what is the best time of year to observe them.

If you would like to join the group or just have a favorite species that you think received short shrift last time around contact any of the above members. Or you can send e-mail to Bob Meyer at postmeyer@bigfoot.com.



Have you observed any unusual birds in the Elfin Forest? Mammals? Reptiles? Amphibians? Insects? Interesting activities or footprints of wildlife in our Elfin Forest? Unusual plants? Please report any interesting wildlife activity or plants that you see to Jean Wheeler at 528-0568 or jeanwheeler@charter.net for inclusion in future Oakleaves issues under "Elfin Forest Sightings."



by Mike Stiles; photo by Jean Wheeler

The Elfin Forest oak trees can sometimes be riddled with large growths along the stem, and other, smaller growths on the leaves and stems of the tree. Small wasps produce these "oak apples" or galls.

A tiny wasp pierces a twig or leaf with its egg laying device and deposits an egg inside the plant tissue. Fluids produced by the egg and larva cause the multiplication of plant cells. The larva develops and feeds inside the gall. The larva transforms into a pupa, and later becomes an adult that chews its way out of the gall. By causing the tree to form a gall, the gallwasp has provided food and shelter for its offspring.

Each gallwasp forms a gall of a particular size, shape and color. The large "oak apples," are induced by the gallwasp *Andricus californicus*. The pinhead-sized "jumping oak gall" falls to the ground and jumps around for several days because of the action of the wasp within. Other galls look like pink stars, reddish cones or tan wheels. One particular twig gall resembles a tiny loaf of bread.

Most gallwasps are not harmful to oak trees, although several may cause scorching or spotting of leaves, and a few may result in the death of the twigs they infest. A healthy tree can support numerous galls without being seriously harmed.

Galls have been used commercially in the preparation of gallic acid and tannic acid, and are extensively employed in tanning and dyeing, and in the manufacture of ink. It is thought that medieval ink was made by boiling galls, and then mixing the solution with oxidized iron. The ink was rumored to actually darken with age. Galls have also been used medicinally, as an astringent to treat a variety of ailments.



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.

Contributors to this issue: Wendy Brown, Rosemary Flamion, Bob McDougle,

Bob Meyer, Ron Rasmussen, Pat Sarafian, Pete Sarafian, Mike Stiles, Yolanda Waddell, Dirk and Bonnie Walters, Jean Wheeler.

> 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

Conservation Work Meets 2002 Goals

By Pete Sarafian, Conservation Chair

SWAP conservation projects in the Elfin Forest for the year 2002 met all goals set out at the start of the year. Weed Warriors beat back veldt grass, annual grasses, and narrow-leaved iceplant again in the central portion of the park and pursued them into corners of the park not weeded in recent history. We rooted out the Malta starthistle infestation in the two meadow areas north of the boardwalk loop in record time. Also, Italian thistle was pursued into the Morro Bay State Park area in the northern portion of the Forest as well as a smaller infestation in the extreme southwest corner.

A half-acre parcel of heavily disturbed dune scrub near Bush Lupine Point was fenced off and revegetated with between 100 and 150 native plant seedlings. Two small areas that had been suffering erosion below Bush Lupine Point and at Siena's View were fenced off and had erosion matting installed. Finally, the California Conservation Corps was employed to install erosion control boxes on the sand trails at Bush Lupine Point (see photo on page 3) and along the top of the embankment above

These last two projects involved an extensive amount of labor and materials, some of which were paid for by a grant from the Morro Bay National Estuary

South Bay Boulevard. These last two projects involved an extensive amount of labor and materials, some of which were paid for by a grant from the Morro Bay National Estuary Program. Thanks go to MBNEP for their financial support. Thanks also go to Josh Carmichael, our hard-working conservation contractor for doing such a fine job in revegetation and erosion control. We are making real headway in environmental restoration in the Elfin Forest.

White Tailed Kite continued from page 1

of the White-tailed Kite have also been reduced significantly. In the USA it now lives in California and coastal Oregon, but is a casual visitor out of this range. It also ranges outside of the USA into Mexico and south to Chile and Argentina.

If you watch the margin where the estuary meets the Elfin Forest, you might glimpse the White-tailed Kite in flight. At a distance it is very light colored but up close, it has dark shoulders, a gray back, and a long, white tail. It is about 15-17 inches long with a 3-1/2 foot wingspan. For a closer look, check out White-tailed Kites along Los Osos Valley Road, especially in the rangeland near Foothill Blvd approaching San Luis Obispo. We are fortunate to have a large population of White-tailed Kites living year around in San Luis Obispo County and especially in and around the Elfin Forest.

Weed Warriors Control Erosion

by Pete Sarafian, Conservation Chair

At the last two Saturday work parties SWAP's Wonderful Weekend Weed Warriors became the Wonderful Weekend Water Warriors. Two separate and distinct projects helped to stem the tide of water-borne erosion in the Elfin Forest. In December 2002, the warriors worked street ends at the 17th, 15th, 14th and 13th Street park entrances. About two cubic yards of Los Osos CSD-provided wood chips were spread out over each sandy street end. The wood chips will help to soak up water and moving sand and slow the rate of sand migration down into each street. Some more such work may occur in the future wherever soft, sandy street ends are found. Among the volunteers were Linda Ashworth, Bob and Sharon Meyer, Barbara Murray, Ron Rasmussen, and Casey Weiss. Thanks especially to Bob Meyer for leading the crew while Pete was away. Thanks also go to our 13th Street entrance neighbors for spreading the wood chips around that area.

In January 2003, the warriors mobilized to stabilize a portion of the South Bay Boulevard highway embankment. A portion of

the embankment had eroded away, leaving a three- to four-foot deep gully. The heavy winter rains had pushed about two cubic vards of soft sand down to the bottom of the slope and into the highway. Volunteers installed 50 feet of straw wattles (long, 9" diameter straw "noodles") that act as water dams. The wattles were placed on the downhill side of the trail that runs along the length of the embankment in order to channel water to less erosion-prone areas. Then sand and logs were used to fill the deep gully and grade the slope. Next, straw was placed on the

surface to help soak in the rain and

stop water travel. Finally, woven jute matting was staked down on the slope to help stabilize the sand. More work remains to be done later, but this effort should go a long way toward stabilizing the worst eroded area. The volunteer crew included Linda Ashworth, Jay Bonestell, Bob and Sharon Meyer, Ron Rasmussen, Pete Sarafian, Sherri and Casey Weiss, and Jean Wheeler. Their efforts resulted in an impressive accomplishment. Thanks to all

for a superb effort.

From top to bottom (all photos by Jean Wheeler):

Weed warriors Bob Meyer and Ron Rasmussen lay jute matting on a steep sandy slope next to South Bay Boulevard to prevent further erosion.

Last summer, a crew from the California Conservation Corps installed erosion control boxes on the sand trail below Bush Lupine Point.

Volunteers installed 50 feet of straw wattles (long, 9" diameter straw "noodles") that act as water dams along the trail above South Bay Boulevard, to prevent further erosion on the sandy slope.





Financial Report For 2002

By Bob McDougle, SWAP Treasurer

The year 2002 has been a very good year!

No! SWAP is not wealthier nor has a corporation seen fit to donate part of its profits to SWAP. In the past four years, we have built up a comfortable fund for maintenance

and special projects. The Boardwalk was completed and it was time to concentrate on other tasks. The Boardwalk monuments and interpretive signs were completed and put in place. A fine donation



by Johnson Starlings & Associates Real Estate and Sea Pines Golf Resort helped us print several thousand copies of the Boardwalk Trail Guide.

With generous support by the MBNEP (Morro Bay National Estuary Program) and hard work by our wonderful volunteers, Mutt Mitt dispensers and trash cans were installed at 7 street ends. Volunteers keep the dispensers filled and the trash cans are maintained by County Parks.

A new aerial map was financed through another MBNEP grant. This map is in digital form, making possible all sorts of computer magic to see details that enable us to mark our progress and plan our next tasks. One of the most satisfying accomplishments was the realization that the battles against weeds and erosion are being won. Much of the cost was borne by another NEP grant. However, this was the largest single cost item in our budget with payments for supplies and labor by an independent contractor.

A reorganization of SWAP, Inc. has resulted in several financial benefits to each of the three chapters. Corporate insurance is financed by SWAP, Inc. and membership in the Land Trust Alliance reduces the cost of liability insurance for the chapters. The cost in support of SWAP, Inc. has increased with these added benefits.

We have continued our support of the three local Chambers of Commerce, maintained a storage unit in Los Osos, purchased insurance for our work in the Elfin Forest, made appearances at many local events, printed and mailed the Oakleaves and paid our bills for reproduction, tools, supplies and telephone service.

We started the year with \$35,631 in checking and savings accounts and spent \$24,068. Thanks to grants, donations, interest on savings, sales of shirts and other merchandise and the loyal support of our members, we ended the year with \$32,257; not bad at all for such an ambitious year.

Proposed SWAP Library

by Ron Rasmussen

At a recent meeting of the SWAP Board of Directors, a suggestion was made that a small library be developed as a resource for SWAP members and other interested persons in the community. The library would focus on the natural history of areas maintained by SWAP, as well as adjacent areas that could be preserved or might be threatened by inappropriate development. Also the library would contain the history of SWAP itself.

Whether an independent SWAP library is developed or collaboration with another local library is established, will depend in part

A potential collaboration with the library at the Museum of Natural History in Morro Bay State Park has been discussed with the Executive Director of the Central Coast Natural History Association (CCNHA) and with the Museum Librarian. At present, use of the Library is restricted to docents at the Museum and to members of the CCNHA who can demonstrate a need for use of this resource. Therefore, SWAP members who might wish to use the Museum library would have to contact the Museum staff directly.

Whether an independent SWAP library is developed or collaboration with another local library is established will depend in part on the volume of material to be maintained. SWAP members are encouraged to forward their comments to the Board, especially in regard to the content of the proposed library. Also, if SWAP members would like to contribute material (e.g., books, photos, maps, video tapes, DVDs, etc.) relevant to the goals of SWAP, they should contact the Board.

SWAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors 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

SWAP BOARD MEETINGS

february 10

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 10, and Monday, March 10.

All Board meetings are open to the public.

To confirm the date,
time and location
(which are subject to change),
phone 528-0392.

march 10

WALKS in the ELFIN FOREST

Third Saturday Walks

February 15 - 9:30 a.m.

If predictions hold true, February will be a rainy month, which means that SWAP's annual Fungus Foray will yield many beautiful (and some ugly) species of fungus to discover and look at. Fungophile Dennis Sheridan will lead us to 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. Note — this is not a mushroom collecting walk as all plant material in the Elfin Forest is protected by law.

If you want to read about mushrooms ahead of the walk, here are some books to check out: Mushrooms demystified by David Arora; All that the rain promises and more by David Arora; Audubon Society field guide to North American mushrooms ed. by G.H. Lincoff; Mushrooms of North America by O.K. Miller.

March 15 - 9:30 a.m.

Join Dr. Les Bowker, ecology professor at Cal Poly, for a very special kind of Elfin Forest ecology walk. Les has been deeply involved in studies and commissions relating to the Morro Bay watershed. He's familiar with the differences in philosophy and approach among the various government agencies which regulate Morro Bay, the Elfin Forest and the Morro Bay watershed. As you walk along the boardwalk with Les, and look out over Morro Bay at Bush Lupine Point and Siena's View, he will fascinate you with land and water management issues, talking about them from the point of view of a snail, a clam and a coyote. Don't miss this one! Heavy rain will cancel the walk, but if it's just sprinkling, put on your poncho and let the fresh air and Les's valuable information clear your mind.

April 19 - 9:30 a.m.

Pat Brown will take you on a butterfly walk. One of Pat's hobbies is taking photos of butterflies and collecting information about them, especially in relation to the Elfin Forest. Before the walk, she will display some of her books and all kinds of butterfly-related materials. Pat will show walk participants some of the plants that are host to butterflies and describe the life cycles of various Elfin Forest butterflies. During the walk you'll see Variable Checkerspot caterpillars munching on Monkeyflowers and endangered Morro Blue butterflies flitting around Silver Bush Lupines hoping to find a mate. Pat recommends that you bring a hand lens and a pair of close focusing (5-10 ft.) binoculars.

If you want to read about butterflies ahead of the walk, one of Pat's favorite books is *Common Butterflies of California* by Bob Stewart. It has excellent photos.

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



Artist Barbara Renshaw led a Sketch Walk in the Elfin Forest in December. The few walk participants who came in spite of it being a rainy day enjoyed it so much that Barbara agreed to give it again on June 21st. Mark your calendars! Photo by Pat Sarafian.

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, 1087 Santa Rosa Street, SLO, CA 93408, (805) 781-5930.

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.

Twenty-Ninth in a Series

California Wax-Myrtle

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

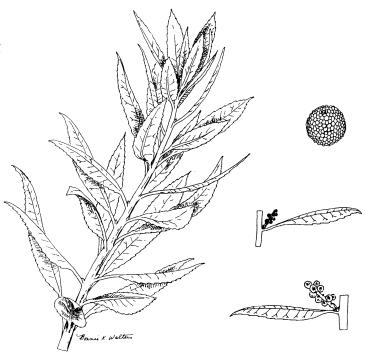
Bonnie's drawing for this issue is a composite of something new and something old. The leafy branch is newly drawn from life and the three small drawings of the staminate and pistillate catkins and fruit are from Dr. David Keil's and my plant taxonomy textbook. The plant is *Myrica californica*, which is usually commonly listed as either Pacific or California wax myrtle, although some call it California sweet bay. It is found from Los Angeles County north along the coast all the way to Puget Sound in Washington. Although the species is not common in the Elfin Forest, it is very common in moist depressions throughout the Los Osos & Baywood Park area. I don't remember seeing it from the boardwalk, but I would expect to find it down near the shore of the bay just above the willow band.

Wax myrtle generally grows in sight of the ocean in canyon bottoms and in low wet places in coastal sand dunes. This is the same habitat where one would expect to find willows, the only group of plants with which wax myrtle might be confused. However, California wax myrtle produces much greener leaves on, usually stouter, less flexible branches than willows. Its growth habit is usually shrubby, but it can be extremely variable in height and spread depending on local conditions. It will be short and spreading on exposed sites, but can be tall and tree-like (up to 90 feet) where sheltered.

The flowers and fruits of wax myrtle are nothing like willow. The staminate and pistillate catkins are in linear groups of several globose heads. The relatively thick waxy coating of the fruit is what gives the plant its common name. In sweet gale or bayberry (*Myrica gale*), a species native to eastern North America and Eurasia, the fruit is boiled to extract this sweet smelling wax for making "bayberry" candles.

The genus, Myrica, has approximately 30 species of wide distribution and is one of three genera in the small family, Myricaceae. The name, Myrica, is derived from the Greek and signifies a fragrant shrub. The foliage of the California wax myrtle is said to be slightly sweet smelling, although I find I can't detect it. Several species of Myrica are listed as having an odor that may cause hay fever. However, I did not find our species listed in this way. Again, several of the other species, especially those of the Eastern North America, Eurasia, and Africa have been used as a spice in cooking (leaves and fruit), candle making (waxy covering of fruit) and as a hops substitute in beer making (leaves), but I was not able to find any such uses for either of our two California Myrica species.

The best and highest use of this plant is as a garden shrub grown for its dark green foliage. Its flowers are tiny and easy to miss, so one would never grow it for them. However, birds readily eat the fruit. Wax myrtle is one the easiest of native plants to grow in the home landscape because it can go with or without summer water. This versatile plant can tolerate a wide diversity of soil types and looks attractive either if allowed to spread naturally or pruned into a formal hedge.



Elfin Forest Sightings

Spring has arrived in the Elfin Forest! The Morro manzanita and Fuchsia-flowered gooseberry are in full bloom. Time for a visit — bring a friend.



The Morro manzanita (Arctostaphylos morroensis) is in full bloom in the Elfin Forest during January and February.

Photo by Jean Wheeler.

Thank You to our New and Renewing Members

Compiled by Wendy Brown, SWAP Database Coordinator

New Members:

Bob Blakeley* (Donation in memory of Frank and Bee Blakeley) Charles & Louise Fleenor Irene & Ed Rush David Schurr Robert Smith

Renewing Members:

Michael Barrows
Helen & Bruce Bennett*
Nancy Bernard*
Andrea Bersie*
Susan Bertrand*
Charles E. Blair
Jay Bonestell*
Elanor Brown
Pat Brown*
Steve & Sue Burns*
Frank Bush*
Mark Cohen*
Betty Daugherty
Leland & Valerie Endres*
Allen Forsythe

Robbie Freiler
Caroline Gmelin*
Alta Hall*
Charles W. Hallstrom*
Leslie Hanna & Dan Miller
Linda Hansen*
Joyce Heller*
Herbert & Debra Holt*
Heather & Jim Johnson*
Heidi Kausch*
Howard & Donna Krueger*
Annette Lindeman*
Lois & Frank Martinez*
Peggy & Earle Mayfield*
Susan McGinty

Bob & Sharon Meyer*
Beverly & Bill Moylan*
Jim Murray*
Ray O'Dell*
Lori Olson*
Al & Carrie Pardo*
Nicholas & Dorothy Pier*
John & Elizabeth Pierce*
Joan V. Powell*
Barbara & Robert Rosenthal*
Ruth Sansaricq
Lora K. Stelle
Joseph Stits
Harold & Pat Wieman
Linda Young

*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.

Environmental Award Nomination Forms Available

The San Luis Obispo County Community Foundation invites you to participate in the 2003 San Luis Obispo County Environmental Award. Nomination forms for this year's award are now available.

Anyone who has made a noteworthy contribution to the betterment of the environment in San Luis Obispo County in 2002 is eligible for the award, which consists of a certificate of appreciation and a check for \$5,000. The deadline for receiving a completed nomination form is February 28, 2003.

The award will be presented in April. Nomination forms are available by calling (805) 543-2323 or (805) 784-0201. The application is also available on-line through the SLO County Community Foundation web page at: www.sloccf.org/slo_county_envir.html

To access the application enter that site and scroll to the bottom of the page, click on "Click Here for Nomination Form". The form can be photocopied for additional copies. Completed copies of the form must be mailed to: the SLOC Community Foundation: P.O. Box 1580, SLO 93406, or e-mailed to cloverridge@thegrid.net



SWAP Shoppers' Order form

Shop with SWAP!!



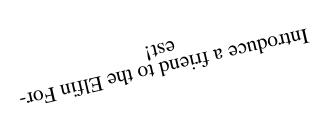
(Please *print* when filling order – and indicate **HOW MANY**)

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"		3. 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 =	4. MURAL PRINTS signed 5 1/2" X 17" prints by artist, Barbara Black matted Mural White matted Mural	Rosenthal @ \$20.00 = @ \$20.00 =	
2. BOARDWALK SHIRTS (Only Sho Small, Med., Lg, XLg, XXLg, XXXLg	rt Sleeve T-Shirts) @ \$15.00 =	Shipping cost if outside of Los Osos/Morro Bay	\$2.50 =	

Address Service Requested Per Name or Current Resident

San Luis Obispo, CA 93402 Permit No. 112

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage T.A. T.D.



A Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation P.O. Box 6442, Los Osos, CA 93412 - 6442 (805) 528-0392

SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION Los Osos / Moito Bay Chapter



Introduce a Friend to the Elfin Forest

With the recent rains, this is a great time of the year for wildflowers and birds in the Elfin Forest. Among others, the red fuschia-flowering gooseberry is in bloom and attracting many hummingbirds. So it's a fine time to bring a friend to the boardwalk for an introduction to our beautiful preserve.



Pick up a trail guide at the dispenser where the 16th Street Entrance meets the boardwalk. Encourage your friend to enjoy the information both in the trail guide and illustrated by lovely pictures on our new Interpretive Signs. Relax and admire the views of great numbers of wintering waterbirds in the estuary below from Bush Lupine Point and Siena's View. Watch for lizards, butterflies, unusual birds and look for animal tracks in the sand.

Report especially wonderful or unusual sightings for our Elfin Forest Sightings column in a future issue of Oakleaves.

MEM	BERS	SHIP	FU	RM

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

0203