



*Atascadero Land Preservation Society*

*P. O. Box 940, Atascadero, CA 93423*

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*Keep up-to-date on ALPS News, Visit our website at: [www.supportalps.org](http://www.supportalps.org)*

The next monthly workday will be:

**Sept. 19 - Creek Cleanup Day**

**AMWC Yard, 6675 Sycamore Rd.**

**Workday is from 9:00 am to Noon**

TRAIL CREW workdays are on various Thursday mornings a couple of times each month. We work on specific projects and trails.

For more information please email ALPS at: [info@supportalps.org](mailto:info@supportalps.org)

Visit our website:

**[www.supportalps.org](http://www.supportalps.org)**

to learn more about ALPS and to sign up on our email list to be notified of Workdays and Events.

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#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

**President**  
**Vice-President**  
**Secretary**  
**Treasurer**  
**Members**

Mike Orvis  
John Goers  
Meg Perry  
Carol Collins  
Ellen Beraud  
Bruce Bonifas  
Bobby Jo Close  
Deb Dight  
Jonalee Istenes  
Cory Meyer  
Jim Patterson  
Deborah Stafford

In Memoriam:

Marj Mackey  
Geri Brasher Phemister  
Bill Shepard  
Joan O'Keefe

Contact us at: [info@supportalps.org](mailto:info@supportalps.org)



# ALPS Newsletter

*Atascadero Land Preservation Society*

Summer 2020

## ALPS RECEIVES COMMUNITY AWARD FROM CNPS-SLO!

At the annual banquet of the San Luis Obispo chapter of the California Native Plant Society held on January 11, 2020, ALPS was presented with their Community Award.



Vice President John Goers and President Mike Orvis holding the Community Award.

This award highlights the significant contribution that has been made by an entity, outside of CNPS, to promote native plants or the natural environment in our local community.

In her award introduction, Susie Bernstein made the following comments about ALPS. "We'd like to recognize all the important work that the Atascadero Land Preservation Society has accomplished over the years. Here is a great example of what a committed group of volunteers can do together. These volunteers are determined to preserve the very part of Atascadero that makes their city such an appealing place to visit and live: the beautiful native trees and undeveloped open space. Since 1989, ALPS has been successful in purchasing and preserving important parcels of land in the City, planting natives to enhance disturbed portions of

the properties, and sharing the land with the public. In addition, ALPS makes a concerted effort to incorporate an educational component for the public on the properties they acquire."

She highlighted some of ALPS' achievements associated with the construction of trails and interpretive signage at Three Bridges Oak Preserve, the Bill Shepard Native Garden at Stadium Lane, the Interpretive Program and field rips for elementary school children at Adobe Springs, and our scholarship program.

She concluded her introduction stating "There's so much more to say about ALPS...I haven't even gotten to the additional parcels ALPS owns on the East side of the City protecting riparian vegetation along Atascadero Creek. Or the planting efforts that ALPS conducts on properties outside of its own preserves. Or the Atascadero Native Tree Committee, which is also part of ALPS and has a long history of providing outreach and education about Atascadero's native trees. It's a lot to be proud of, and we're happy to recognize ALPS for all the hard work that's been done to protect native plants and habitat in Atascadero."



## 2020 GERI BRASHER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

The 2020 Geraldine Brasher Phemister Scholarship recipient is **Joseph Hider**, a graduating senior at Atascadero High School. Joseph will be attending Montana State University this fall majoring in Environmental Science - Environmental Biology Option. This option is intended to train students in understanding the ecology of organisms in natural environments and also how organisms may be used to clean up environments disturbed by human activity.



Joseph Hider - 2020 ALPS Scholarship Recipient

Joseph's ambition is to pursue a career in park service where he can apply his knowledge to preserve our natural resources and make them accessible to all citizens. Joseph's career path was influenced by his experiences in Boy Scouts where he learned leadership skills and practical survival skills, but most importantly was able to spend time in nature and gain an appreciation for our natural resources. Congratulations Joseph!

## SOD SURVEY AT TBOP

ALPS once again supported the Sudden Oak Death BLITZ. Volunteers observed and collected leaves from various California Bay Laurel trees located within the Three Bridges Oak Preserve. The California Bay Laurel tree is a vector for the pathogen which can then be transmitted to nearby oak trees.



SOD Survey Team—Meg Perry, Deb Dight and Mike Orvis. Team member John Goers is taking the picture.

San Luis Obispo County residents participate as citizen scientists by collecting leaf samples to determine if SOD is present in our county. SOD is a fungus-like disease that has killed millions of oak and tanoak trees in coastal counties north of San Luis Obispo. For information, go to the ALPS website.

## NEW ALPS T-SHIRTS

Through the generosity of one of our members, ALPS is pleased to announce the release of our new T-shirts. The new shirts have an updated logo and are now available in both men's and women's sizes, long and short sleeve and in several colors. The shirts will be used as a reward for our hard working volunteers and used as a new membership incentive.

## WORKDAYS & TRAIL CREW

ALPS greatly appreciates the support of our volunteers that come out to help us maintain our properties. We could not do it without them! Being a volunteer is rewarding and fun! Below are some of the projects that have been accomplished throughout the year.



New fence at Adobe Springs by Orillas Court.



New retaining wall in the Bill Shepard Native Plant garden.



Cleanup, weeding and mulching the Bill Shepard Native Garden.

## NATIVE TREE COMMITTEE



ALPS and members of the Atascadero High School Earth Club planted two Valley Oak trees and two Toyon shrubs to fill in the bare spots along the median strip by the high school. The Earth Club members learned how to properly plant the trees and shrubs. They dug the holes, prepped the soil with amendment, scored the root balls, inserted the plants to the proper height, watered, staked and mulched around the plants. The Earth Club members will be responsible for proper care of the plants over the next few years until they are well established. The existing trees on the median were planted in 1995!



## ALPS IS LOOKING FOR BOARD MEMBERS

ALPS is looking for candidates for our Board of Directors who will help with our mission to preserve environmentally significant open space and native trees in Atascadero. If you are interested please email Mike Orvis at "info@supportalps.org" for more information. A great way to see if ALPS is right for you is to attend a workday and/or attend a board meeting to learn about the organization. Our Native Tree Committee is also a great way to learn more about our native trees and ALPS.