



Atascadero Land Preservation Society

P. O. Box 940, Atascadero, CA 93423

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ALPS Newsletter

Atascadero Land Preservation Society

Summer 2025

WORKDAY SNAPSHOTS

How do we take care of our properties? With a lot of help from dedicated volunteers! ALPS owns 125 acres of land located on four parcels within the city limits. It takes a continuous effort to properly maintain the native garden, tree planting sites, trails, trailheads and open spaces. This last year ALPS volunteers donated 115 hours watering trees, 150 hours towards events and education, 233 hours at volunteer workdays, 310 hours by the Trail Crew and 190 hours to create and implement the Forest Management Plan at Three Bridges Oak Preserve. It was a busy year! If you see someone wearing an ALPS shirt or hat, tell them Thanks!



Bill Shepard Native Garden - Saturday Workday



Adobe Springs - watering a Valley Oak tree



Three Bridges Oak Preserve - Trail Crew workday



Three Bridges Oak Preserve - Forest Management hike



Atascadero Creek - Trail Crew workday

Keep up-to-date on ALPS News, Visit our website at: www.supportalps.org

Next volunteer workday will be:
Sept. 27 - Creek Cleanup Day
AMWC Yard, 6675 Sycamore Rd.
Signup at 8:30 am
Workday from 9:00 am to Noon

For more information email ALPS at:
info@supportalps.org

Visit our website:
www.supportalps.org
to learn more about ALPS and to
sign up on our email list to be noti-
fied of Workdays and Events.

Colony Days - October 18

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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

In Memoriam:	Marj Mackey
	Rob Phemister
	Geri Brasher Phemister
	Bill Shepard
	Joan O'Keefe
	Ursala Luna
	Donald Jernigan

website: www.supportalps.org

Contact us at: info@supportalps.org

2025 GERI BRASHER
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



Mike Orvis presenting the scholarship to Colin O'Hern

The 2025 recipient of the Geraldine Brasher Phemister Scholarship is **Colin O'Hern**, a graduating senior at Atascadero High School. Colin will be attending Montana State University this fall. He plans to major in biological sciences with a focus on fish and wildlife biology and management.



Board Members presenting the scholarship check to Colin O'Hern

Colin finds all wildlife and nature fascinating especially how even the smallest component plays a vital role in maintaining its balance. Colin will be the first in his family to attend college. Congratulations Colin!

ADOBE SPRINGS
INTERPRETIVE PROGRAM

In April for the 8th year, ALPS provided docent led field trips for 127 local 3rd grade students from San Gabriel and San Benito Road Elementary schools. The field trips are a complement to the classroom instruction relating to their local history education.



Students learning about the geology that makes a spring flow

The four stations are: **Salinan Tribe** which teaches about their culture and how they lived for many centuries on this land. **Estrada Adobe** created as an outpost of Mission San Miguel Mission in 1812. **SLO Beaver Brigade** teaching about beavers, their habitat and the benefits they provide in our rivers and streams. **The Spring** explaining how a groundwater spring is created and how animals and humans need water to live.



Students learning about the Estrada Adobe built in 1812

ARBOR DAY TREE PLANTING

ALPS Native Tree Committee celebrated Arbor Day last March by planting a Valley Oak tree at San Benito Road Elementary school. This was a great chance to interact with the kids and explain the importance of taking care of our beautiful urban forest in Atascadero. The kids were instructed on steps for planting and ongoing care of watering and protecting the tree as it grows into a big beautiful oak!



ALPS instructing students on how to plant an Oak Tree

FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Upper Salinas - Las Tables Resource Conservation District partnered with ALPS to create a Forest Management Plan for Three Bridges Oak Preserve. The project goals included enhancement of the forest health and mitigation of wildfire risks. Treatment focused on lifting up the tree canopy and reducing dead vegetation that could serve as wildfire fuel. The treatment areas were strategically located along the eastern border and Highway 41. On site implementation took place in late April. The plan was supported by Atascadero Fire, SLO County Fire Safe Council and CalFire. Funding provided by Ca. Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection's Wildfire Resiliency Program.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

SUDDEN OAK DEATH SURVEY

ALPS volunteers supported the county wide Sudden Oak Death (SOD) Blitz. They surveyed Bay Laurel trees located within Three Bridges Oak Preserve. The California Bay Laurel tree is a vector for the pathogen which can be transmitted to nearby Live Oak trees. SOD is a fungus-like tree disease that has killed millions of oak trees to the north of San Luis Obispo County.

PARTY FOR THE PLANET

ALPS participated in the annual “Party for the Planet” Earth Day event hosted by the City at the Charles Paddock Zoo!



ALPS Party for the Planet learning station and volunteers

The event attracts local and out of county families providing us a great opportunity to showcase our work and share our passion at this educational event. We also gave away oak seedlings to take home and plant!

WAYS TO SUPPORT ALPS!

- Donate and become a sustaining member
 - Attend a volunteer workday (bring a friend)
 - Attend a board meeting
 - Attend a Native Tree Committee meeting
 - Donate to the Scholarship Fund
- For more information on how you can support ALPS, email: info@supportalps.org