



# ALPS Newsletter

## Atascadero Land Preservation Society

Summer 2017

### THREE BRIDGES OAK PRESERVE OPENS TO THE PUBLIC!!

It finally happened! ALPS opened the Three Bridges Oak Preserve (TBOP) trailhead and trails on the morning of June 30, 2017. The Preserve offers users almost three miles of multiuse trails

on 103 acres of oak-studded natural land. Board Members were on hand the first two days to greet trail users with refreshments and information. It was very fulfilling to hear words of appreciation from the many trail users who came out for the opening. For many of us at ALPS this project has been at the forefront of our activities for many years. Enough can't be said in appreciation of the many hours contributed by board members, numerous volunteers and supporters who have helped in so many ways to bring this wonderful outdoor venue to Atascadero.

Besides the beautiful landscape, great trails and amazing view from the top, ten large interpretive signs were installed at kiosks and free standing pedestals. In addition, more than a dozen small interpretive signs have been installed along the trails. These signs provide trail users with interesting information about the project, local history, watershed, habitat and resident flora and fauna.



Entrance sign at Three Bridges Oak Preserve trailhead.

### ALPS HAS A NEW WEBSITE!!

ALPS retained the creative Paso Robles website design firm Clever Concepts to create our new website. Besides contemporary graphics and easier user operability, ALPS' new website offers more information about our properties, programs, news, and events. Also included are links to additional resources about various topics of interest. The committee of Dan O'Grady, Deb Dight, Meg Perry, Bobby Jo Close, Cory Meyer and Mike Orvis worked hard to create the text and photos necessary for an interesting and attention grabbing website.

Please visit our website at: [www.supportalps.org](http://www.supportalps.org)

Mail to:

Atascadero Land Preservation Society  
P. O. Box 940, Atascadero, CA 93423



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

<b>President</b>	Mike Orvis
<b>Vice-President</b>	John Goers
<b>Secretary</b>	Dan O'Grady
<b>Treasurer</b>	Carol Collins
<b>Members</b>	Ellen Beraud Bruce Bonifas Bobby Jo Close Deb Dight Jonalee Istenes Cory Meyer Kate Montgomery Jim Patterson Meg Perry Deborah Stafford

In Memoriam:	Marj Mackey Geri Brasher Phemister Bill Shepard
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Our next workday will be September 30 when we join the city wide "Creek Cleanup" Day.

Normal workdays will resume in October and thereafter, on the 2nd Saturday of each month.

If you are interested in volunteering with ALPS, please send an email to ALPS at: [info@supportalps.org](mailto:info@supportalps.org)

Visit our website [www.supportalps.org](http://www.supportalps.org) for more information on ALPS and to join our email list.



## 2017 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

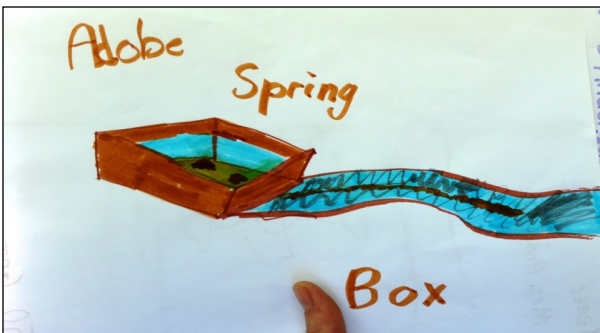
The recipient of the Geraldine Brasher Phemiester Scholarship Award for 2017 is Savannah Lindsey, a graduating senior at Atascadero High School.

Savannah plans to attend Cuesta College this fall where she will focus her studies in the area of environmental science. After Cuesta College, Savannah plans to transfer to a four year college, possibly Humboldt State University, where she will continue her education and major in Environmental Studies.



Scholarship recipient Savannah Lindsey (Center) with Board Members Deb Dight, Deborah Stafford, Mike Orvis and Ellen Beraud

Her current ambition is to use her education to work in the environmental consulting field realizing that in the environmental field there is a wide range of opportunities open to her. We wish her good luck and continued success in the years to come.



Student drawing of the spring box at Adobe Springs.

## ADOBE SPRINGS INTERPRETIVE PROGRAM — WE DID IT AGAIN!

ALPS once again utilized its Adobe Springs property to conduct educational field trips for the local elementary schools. This is the second year ALPS hosted the Adobe Springs Interpretive Program which was created to help the local elementary schools fulfill the third grade local history requirement. ALPS provides the schools with the curriculum, experiments and a field trip to Adobe Springs.



Docent Lauren Birkhahn of the Atascadero Mutual Water Company talking with students about the spring and the water it provides.

The first field trip was held on April 25 when third and fourth graders from San Benito Elementary made the trek from their school to Adobe Springs. The next day, April 26, ALPS hosted San Gabriel Elementary third grade classes. The last field trip was held on May 2 when ALPS hosted the third graders from Santa Margarita Elementary. In the three days more than 175 children visited Adobe Springs. The field trip encompassed three main local history topics including the Native Americans who lived in the area for centuries, the Anza Expedition in March 1776, and the Estrada Adobe built in 1812. All of these points in history are tied back to the main theme of the field trip, water, which has flowed continu-

ously from the spring for centuries providing the life blood for living things.



Docent Kathe Hustace of Amigos de Anza talking about the Anza Expedition that camped nearby on the night of March 4, 1776.

ALPS wants to thank the all the volunteers who made this years program a big success. At the top of the list is Chairperson Jonalee Istenes who led the program and handled the many details involved to make the program a great success. Thanks to the docents: Patti Dunton (Native American), Kathe Hustace (ANZA Party), Lauren Birkhahn (Spring Water), and Mike Orvis (Estrada Adobe). Thanks to Deborah Stafford for helping to keep the field trip move smoothly between the stations.

## ALPS DANCED!

ALPS was selected to participate in the 2017 edition of the Friends of the Atascadero Library's annual event, Dancing With Our Stars. Board Member Bruce Bonifas danced an energetic "Country Two-Step" with his choreographer and dance partner Laura Slania at the three evening events held on March 23, 24 and 25. Bruce's supporters donated more than \$16,000 to ALPS making it our most successful fundraiser ever! A great big thanks to Bruce for his dedicated effort to the event and to all the great people that supported him and ALPS!

## NATIVE TREE COMMITTEE PLANTS MEMORIAL TREES



ALPS Native Tree Committee organized the planting of trees in memory of two Atascadero Native Tree Association (ANTA) members that recently passed.

Dordo (Dorothy) Byles was an active member of ANTA for many years. We planted a valley oak in her memory celebrating California Arbor Day last March 11. The tree was planted close to a tree planted years ago in memory of her husband Doug, at Memorial Grove on Lakeview Drive across from Atascadero Lake Park. Her family was in attendance as well as many ALPS Members.

On April 8th we planted a valley oak in memory of Jack Heninger at Atascadero Lake Park during the Conservation Celebration at the zoo. His wife Anita, friends and ALPS members attended. Jack was a very active member of ANTA and attended many workdays and was never short of opinions! These members will be greatly missed and are fondly remembered for selfless donation of time and energy for our local woodlands.



Bruce Bonifas and his dance instructor and partner Laura Slania