

LASSEN NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE LASSEN PARK FOUNDATION

SUMMER 2007

HIGHLIGHTS THIS ISSUE

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GOAL REACHED!

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SCIENTIFIC
PROJECTS

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MEMBER

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GOAL REACHED! \$500,000 RAISED! THANK YOU TO ALL!



We are celebrating the completion of our campaign goal of \$500,000 for our support to Kohm Yah-mah-nee, the new Visitor Center for Lassen Volcanic National Park. Over 250 individuals, businesses, and foundations supported our campaign, illustrating what an important place Lassen Volcanic is to many people. We are grateful for each gift. Construction began on the Center in April and is on schedule. This attractive Visitor Center will serve visitors to Lassen Volcanic National Park through the year with information, interpretive exhibits and displays, a concession-run gift shop and restaurant, an auditorium to show Park films, and a book, map and educational product sales area. The center is to be completed by Fall 2008 and we hope that you will celebrate with us then!

FOUNDATION SUPPORTS SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS IN LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK

Not every project that the Foundation supports is easy to see but it's nice to know that work like this goes on in order to preserve and protect the natural resources we have—it's all part of stewardship.

The Lassen Park Foundation was able to provide funding for two very important natural resource management projects at Lassen Volcanic National Park this year. The funds will support an invasive plant species historical database project and tree planting at Lost Creek and Crags campgrounds. Both these projects are critical needs that have not been funded through traditional government funding sources.

The Lost Creek and Crags campgrounds tree-planting project is the third phase of a forest health project that was initiated last year, and will include planting approximately 4000 Ponderosa and Jeffrey Pine seedlings in the project area. Lost Creek and Crags are popular campgrounds in Lassen Volcanic National Park that are experiencing very serious forest health problems. Bark beetles and root disease are abundant in the campgrounds and are killing large pine and fir trees. Pine regeneration is insufficient in the campgrounds to maintain its presence into the future. The US Forest Service nursery in Placerville, CA is currently growing the 4000 tree seedlings. These seedlings will be ready for planting this fall. Interpretive signs will be posted describing the Foundation's support for this phase of the project and the overall forest health project goals.



The second natural resource project that the Foundation funded in 2007 is the historical invasive species data organization and verification project which will provide critical support to the nonnative plant management program in the Park. Invasive plant species records in the Park date back to 1968. Historical data assist Park resource managers in early detection of infestations, determining removal method efficacy, and long-term planning for the Weed Management Plan. This vital data needs to be stored in a central software program that will allow the park to query by species and location and create Geographic Information System (GIS) files that can be spatially displayed. The Bureau of Land Management and The Nature Conservancy have created the Weed Information Management System (WIMS) software for this purpose. Funding provided by the Foundation will allow the park to hire two Student Conservation Association college resource assistants to enter all historic data and verify questionable locations. This project is scheduled for this summer season.



HISTORIC VEGETATION MAP PROJECT

Another natural resource project request, the Historic Vegetation Map Project, was submitted to the Lassen Park Foundation's Board of Directors recently, but limits to our funding capability kept us from approving the project. In 2005, two hand-drawn color vegetation maps of the Park from 1936 were located. These maps are a critical resource for the Park as they represent the earliest existing vegetation typing of the Park's landscape. The maps are fragile and the information contained in them cannot be readily used. The project is to have the information entered by agreement with researchers at the University of California, Davis. The maps will be screened, geo-referenced, and digitalized. Park staff does not have the specialized equipment or the expertise necessary to undertake this project. If this project is something that interests you, you may indicate this on the donor envelope. Our goal is to raise \$9,400 for this project.

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE LASSEN PARK FOUNDATION
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.LASSENPAKFOUNDATION.ORG
YOU MAKE IT POSSIBLE - YOUR CONTRIBUTION IS SO APPRECIATED!

FOUNDATION SUPPORT PROVIDES WINTER EDUCATION

During the past winter season, over 1,200 students, including 37 school groups, tramped across the snow at Lassen Volcanic National Park to learn about the winter landscape and survival skills. This very popular program is one of the youth programs supported by the Lassen Park Foundation at Lassen Volcanic.



ANNUAL GIVING-FOREVER JOIN THE LASSEN LEGACY CIRCLE

The Lassen Park Foundation is fortunate to have so many people who include the Foundation in their annual giving. Did you know that there is a simple way to continue that annual giving forever? Let's say that you contribute \$100 each year to the Lassen Park Foundation and you want that to continue after you are gone. A single sentence in your will or living trust can make that happen: "The amount of \$2,000 shall be distributed to the Lassen Park Foundation Endowment Fund." By adding that language, you are assured that at least \$100 will be available to the Foundation each year – forever.



How does it work? The Lassen Park Foundation Endowment Fund is a permanent savings account. Your \$2,000 bequest is invested and only 5% of the principal is distributed each year. Earnings on the account typically average 10%, thereby allowing the fund to grow plus continue to provide your annual gift.

If you would like additional information regarding this simple planned gift (or other planned giving ideas), contact Jane Ziad, Executive Director, at 530-898-9309, or call our Chief Financial Officer, Bill Hubbard, at 530-894-0211. No questions? Then now is the time to give your attorney a call and request that endowment fund language be added to your will or trust. It's a great feeling to know that a legacy has been created to provide care for a place you love, in perpetuity.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT WITH OUR NEW CUSTOM COLOR NOTE CARDS.

This summer we will begin offering beautiful color note cards sets that you can purchase for your personal correspondence. The cards will feature photos of Lassen Park on the front and the Lassen Park Foundation logo on the back, the inside will be blank. Check the website for selection and price.

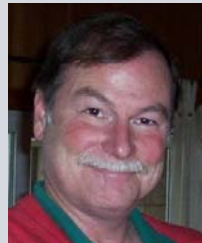
The photos are by George Perkins, author of the "Hiking Trails of Lassen Volcanic National Park"



READY FOR CAMPING!

At the recent Board of Directors meeting, five youth groups were selected to benefit from a grant to facilitate a camping trip in Lassen Volcanic National Park this summer. This special program provides funds to youth groups to take kids camping with resources for transportation, camping equipment and food. Through the support of donors and grant funding, the Youth Camping Program is growing. We hope to be able to fund even more trips this summer if our funds allow. The five groups who received grants so far this year are: Youth for Change from Paradise, Lassen College Americorps Foster Youth Program from Susanville, Remi Vista from Redding, and Shasta Family YMCA PlusONE Mentors Program from Redding and Children's First Foster Family Agency. Connecting young people to our Park is important work that can change the lives of young people who wouldn't ordinarily have a chance to have this experience. Thank you to Lassen Volcanic National Park for helping to support this program and to you for your contributions—it all helps to make this program successful!

NEW BOARD MEMBER FROM SIFFORD FAMILY



The Foundation is pleased to announce the election of Alex Sifford to the Board of Directors. A longtime friend of the Foundation, Alex is a cousin of Roy D. Sifford, early proprietor of the Drakesbad Guest Ranch. Childhood visits to Drakesbad and Lassen Peak allowed Alex to gain an understanding of the outstanding geologic features of the Park. During the 1980s Alex met regularly with both Roy and Emily Sifford to help Roy put his fascinating story down for all to enjoy in a book. (Sixty Years of Siffords at Drakesbad, Roy D. Sifford, 1984)

Alex has over 25 years of energy services experience in the government, public utility and private sectors. His experience spans both energy supply and demand-reduction services. He provides geothermal outreach, coordination and technical assistance services to the Oregon Department of Energy. Alex also acts as Council Coordinator for the Nestucca-Neskowin Watersheds Council.

Alex graduated from the University of California at Santa Barbara with a B.S. in Geography and with an M.S. in Geography from the College of Mines and Earth Resources at the University of Idaho. He and his wife Sara live in Neskowin, Oregon.

Wallace Stegner, 1983: "National parks are the best idea we ever had. Absolutely American, absolutely democratic, they reflect us at our best rather than our worst".