

LASSEN

NEWS

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WINTER 2016





VOLCANO ADVENTURE CAMP CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



Volcano Adventure Camp (VAC), a new youth group campground, has now achieved its funding goal and will open this summer at Lassen Volcanic National Park.

Most of this project was funded by donations to the Lassen Park Foundation. The camp will feature ten tent cabins, each housing eight youth, two picnic pavilions, showers, vault toilets, and camp fire areas for group activities.

Construction of VAC began last fall with groundwork, removal of asphalt, and water/sewer line installations. Work has been halted due to winter, though it will recommence in May, at which time the shower structure will be installed.

“Many kids don’t have the opportunity to experience the great outdoors. We know that one outing can be life altering. This campground has been built from the ground up with the needs of youth groups in mind. Our dedicated group of volunteers has worked tirelessly to get us to this point, but there’s more work to be done yet. We’re still seeking donations of concrete and roofing materials.”

Committee Chair Bob Warren

occurring that day is a “Day in the Park” fundraiser, including public BBQ, vendors, and family activities.

While the capital funding for this project is complete, fundraising efforts continue with the planned establishment of a VAC Endowment Fund to provide for continuing operation and maintenance of the youth camp. This will pay for erection of tent cabins each spring and their dismantling for winter storage, each fall. The endowment will provide revenues to pay for installation and storage of the tent cabins, repair and maintenance, and funding of a seasonal ranger to conduct programs for children attending the camp.

If you’d like to help support Volcano Adventure Camp or be part of its ongoing operation, email us at Info@LassenParkFoundation.org. Cash donations can also be made online at www.LassenParkFoundation.org.

Gary Mott, Facility Manager at Lassen Volcanic National Park, has been on site at VAC since September. Warren said, “Without Gary’s oversight and his team’s great work, we would not be on track to open the camp in time for the park’s 100th anniversary this summer.” Mott expressed confidence that the camp will open as planned.

Construction will be completed in August, in time for both the park’s 100th anniversary and the centennial of the National Park Service. A ribbon cutting will occur on August 6. Also

McCONNELL GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Anderson, Calif. – Thanks to a generous donation of a \$75,000 gift from The McConnell Foundation, the Lassen Park Foundation (LPF) met its \$400,000 goal to complete Volcano Adventure Camp (VAC) at Lassen Volcanic National Park (LVNP). The National Park Service allocated an additional \$200,000 for the project.

LVNP Superintendent Steve Gibbons said, “None of the park’s existing campgrounds were built to accommodate school or youth groups [who] need outdoor space to gather, tent and cabin areas, picnic shelters and group restrooms and showers.”

John Koeberer, LPF’s chairman said, “Volcano Adventure Camp will be particularly appreciated by the many groups of underserved kids that the Foundation sponsors. The youth campground will be finished this summer and is the best possible way to commemorate the park’s and National Park Service’s 100th anniversaries,” said Koeberer.

“We were delighted to be able to help LPF and the national park complete initial fundraising for Volcano Adventure Camp in time for these important anniversaries,” said The McConnell Foundation’s VP of Operations Shannon Phillips. “We feel honored to be a partner in creating a magical camping experience for kids from all over the North State and beyond.”

LPF Executive Director Jennifer Finnegan is announcing plans to fund an endowment. “Contributions made to the endowment will assure that kids who otherwise wouldn’t have the chance to experience a national park or go camping, get the chance to do so,” she said.

Finnegan said the LPF will open opportunities to apply for youth camping grants at the new Volcano Adventure Camp in springtime. As in past years, the grants include funding up to \$1,000 to cover transportation, food and supplies for weeklong youth camping trips at Lassen Volcanic National Park.

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LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK SNOWSHOE WALKS BEGIN



Mineral, Ca – Ranger-led snowshoe walks at Lassen Volcanic National Park begin on January 2 and are offered each weekend day through April 3. Programs begin at 1:30 p.m. and end by 3:30 p.m. “The ranger-led snowshoe walks are an excellent way to learn or practice snowshoeing techniques and explore Lassen in its winter form. For those visitors that don’t have snowshoes, here’s an opportunity to see how much more fun winter can be,” stated Park Superintendent, Steve Gibbons.

Each program is limited to 40 people and a ticket must be obtained in person the day of the program to participate in the walk. Each person will need to request their own ticket, as multiple tickets will not be issued. Tickets will be available inside the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center beginning at 9:00 a.m. the same day of the program. Visitors with tickets will meet out front of the visitor center at 1:30 p.m. At the beginning of each snowshoe walk, a ranger will demonstrate how to put on and use snowshoes. Once the basic techniques are covered, the group heads out into the snowy landscape and the adventure begins.

The route and distance of the walks will vary depending on group ability, fitness, and snow conditions, but the walks will generally last for two hours. Walks are open to those visitors eight years of age and older; children in carriers and trekking poles are not allowed due to safety concerns.

Snowshoes are provided, though a \$1.00 donation is suggested to cover maintenance and replacement costs of the snowshoes. Snowshoes are only provided for the ranger-led activity; the park does not rent snowshoes or other winter equipment. Equipment rentals are available in the nearby towns of Chester, Chico, Mineral, and Redding for those that wish to explore the park on their own.

Organized groups (schools, scouts, etc.) planning to attend, must schedule a ranger-led walk outside of the regularly scheduled public walks. Please contact the park at (530) 595-4480 or lavo_information@nps.gov for a reservation, program information, current conditions, or general information.

Visitors to the park should be prepared for a range of weather conditions. Check the most recent weather forecast, dress in layers, carry food and water. Stow a shovel, extra blankets and tire chains in your vehicle in case unexpected winter road conditions delay your travel.

Visit us at www.nps.gov/lavo



www.facebook.com/LassenNPS



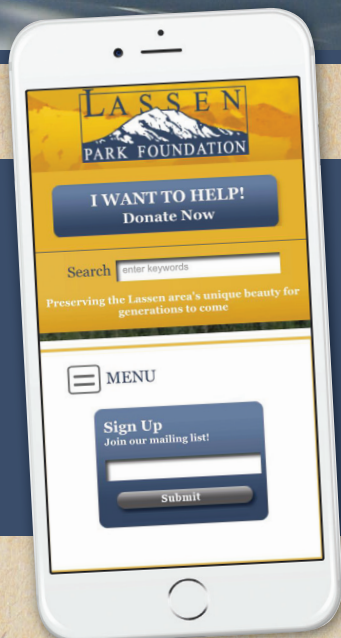
www.twitter.com/LassenNPS



www.youtube.com/LassenNPS

Welcome to Our Updated Website!

We recently updated our website! Now mobile friendly, and with an updated donation payment structure, **LassenParkFoundation.org** is better than ever. Our goal with this update was to become your first-stop for updates on capital projects, and park fundraising efforts at Lassen Volcanic National Park. Please bookmark **LassenParkFoundation.org** and check back regularly for updates on Centennial events and projects, as we work with LVNP staff to keep you informed of the goings on throughout this momentous year.





2016

National Park Service™

CENTENNIAL

www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/special-events.htm



LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK'S CENTENNIAL YEAR 2016

Both Lassen Volcanic National Park and the National Park Service turn 100 in 2016. Throughout the upcoming year, Lassen invites visitors to **Find Your Park** through special park and community events:

FEBRUARY 27

Centennial Ski Celebration Commemorates Lassen's long ski history with skiing, ski films, coffee & chili

APRIL 20

Lassen Gateway Coalition Meeting & Centennial Reception Local community tourism and business leaders invited to celebrate the centennial

JULY 16-17

Summer Film Festival

JULY 22

Alumni Gathering for park staff, partners, and volunteers

JULY 30

Reach the Peak Official Trail Dedication a celebration of the completion of the five-year rehabilitation and restoration project of the iconic Lassen Peak trail

Encouraging

Americans to discover what their national parks mean to them. In addition to the numerous special events and activities, special items will be available

FIND YOUR PARK

to commemorate the year including a centennial passport stamp, special editions of the park newspaper Peak Experiences, a Lassen Annual Pass featuring a historic park image, and commemorative items from both the Lassen Association and the park concessioner, California Guest Services.

AUGUST 6

Volcano Adventure Camp Ribbon Cutting will showcase the park's new facility developed to introduce young people to camping and adventures in the park.

AUGUST 12-14

Dark Sky Festival will feature Starry Night ranger-led programs

Summer Trail Challenge with commemorative bandana

SEPTEMBER 17

Art & Wine Event celebrates local art, wine, and music at Lassen

SEPTEMBER 24

Peak Experience Auction to support Lassen Park Foundation's projects and programs

Day in the Park Festival fun activities, displays, music, barbecue, ranger-led programs, and a raffle

Bike and Hike the Highway (formerly vehicle-free day) travel the park highway before it opens to vehicles for the summer season

COMMEMORATIVE CENTENNIAL PENDLETON BLANKET

In commemoration of Lassen Volcanic National Park's 100th year, the Lassen Park Foundation and Pendleton Woolen Mills of Oregon have created a limited edition commemorative woolen blanket for the national park.

The heavy woolen blanket depicts Lassen Peak and includes a authentic Maidu basket design native to the Lassen Volcanic area. The blanket's colors are red, forest green, buff, white and midnight blue.

Based in Oregon, Pendleton has been one of America's premiere producers of fine woolen products for over 100 years. In recent years, Pendleton has created many commemorative national park blankets, but this is the first to include an illustration of a park landmark, in addition to graphical elements.

"When the topic of Lassen's 100th birthday was brought up a few years ago at a Foundation meeting, several of us suggested offering something very special to commemorate the park's anniversary," said Pam Pitts, LPF Board Member.

After Pendleton blankets were mentioned as having been very successful for other parks, board members Pam Pitts, Judd Hanna, and Kenny Wilsey contacted Pendleton for their requirements and began narrowing down a particular design. "We wanted to create something as distinctive as Lassen Volcanic, and the iconic view of Lassen Peak was an obvious choice" said Wilsey.

The first 125 blankets were pre-sold to longtime supporters of the Lassen Park Foundation; they were delivered in January. Response has been enthusiastic, typified by Barbara Andrews who said, "The

Lassen Volcanic National Park centennial Pendleton blanket is stunning and has beautifully captured the grandeur of Lassen Peak. It will be a wonderful and warm addition to my family's cabin in Lassen National Forest." Peter Perkins, owner of Casa del Campo Guest House added, "Brilliantly designed and crafted--not just a blanket, but a work of art!"

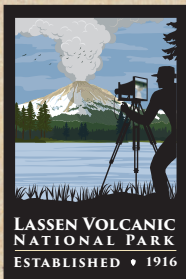
Unlike other Pendleton blankets that can be purchased directly from Pendleton, the Lassen Volcanic national park centennial blanket is a single-run, limited edition item that may only be purchased online through the Lassen Park Foundation and inside the National Park at Drakesbad Ranch Resort and the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center.

The Foundation was able to purchase just 250 blankets. Half of them have already sold. Each queen-sized blanket includes a leather patch with the blanket's serialized number in the limited run of 250 blankets. No other sizes are available.

"We expect all of the remaining blankets to sell quickly, so we urge anyone who wants one to order as soon as possible, as their supply is limited," said Pitts.



Blankets available for **\$250 each**, plus tax and shipping at www.LassenParkFoundation.org



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- Chief of Interpretation & Education Lassen Volcanic National Park*..... Karen Haner

STAFF

- Executive Director*..... Jennifer R. Finnegan

NEW BOARD MEMBERS



STEVEN JAHR

After working as an attorney in private law practice in both southern and northern California, Steven was appointed to the bench in 1986, thereafter serving as a judge for 22 years, the final 17 of which were on the Superior Court of Shasta County in Redding. Following service on the superior court’s civil calendars, he was assigned to operate a felony direct calendar for several years, which included sole responsibility for the drug court in Shasta County. Steve initiated the Prop. 36 (Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act) court calendar and successfully operated it for its first four years of existence. During his tenure, Judge Jahr also administered the family law calendar for a total of three years.



STEVE WILLIAMS

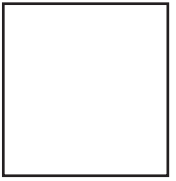
After graduating from California State University, Chico in Business Administration, Steve Williams started in a firm that his grandfather had founded in 1931 and that his father helped grow. Steve continued the family heritage of growing the business when he helped merge the firm with others to form InterWest Insurance Services in 1992. A strong believer in community involvement and philanthropy, Steve has served on a number of boards, including the Turtle Bay Board of Regents, Shasta County Economic Development Corporation, Greater Redding Chamber of Commerce, and the Shasta Builders Exchange. He is also an active member of Redding Rotary. Married for over thirty years, Steve and his wife Nancy have two adult children.



LAURA DAY

Humanitarian and entrepreneur best describe Laura Day. In her more than 20 years of service to Rotary International, a leadership organization of business men and women who come together to serve their community and the world, she has lived Rotary’s motto of “Service Above Self” as a volunteer leader in many capacities, including District Governor for north central California in 2012-13. Most notably, Laura is co-founder of Kenya Smiles, a children’s health initiative based in Kenya. Professionally, Laura had a 30-year career in the insurance business. For most of that career she built and managed agencies for a nationally known insurance company. She and her company recruited, trained, developed and mentored people entering the insurance business and helped them realize their dream of business ownership. “Helping people has always been my strength. Choosing a life of helping others will take you down roads you never dreamed of travelling. I highly recommend it.”





Preserving the Lassen area's unique beauty for generations to come

PO Box 33, Anderson, CA 96007

SUPPORT ENHANCE RESTORE PRESERVE BUILD **DONATE.**

A contribution to the Lassen Park Foundation will be used towards supporting youth programs, enhanced interpretive and educational activities, trail restoration, wildlife research, park improvements and cultural resource development. Those who contribute to the Foundation support the Lassen Volcanic National Park and surrounding region, helping to preserve its unique beauty for generations to come, as well as enriching the experience of today's Lassen visitors.

Go to www.lassenparkfoundation.org or call us at **(530) 378-2600** to make a donation today. Or you can fill out the form below and mail to: PO Box 33, Anderson, CA 96007. **You make our Foundation possible!**

YES! I would like to help support the Lassen Park Foundation by making a donation.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Method of Payment:

Cash Check Visa Mastercard

Name: _____

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