

LASSEN

NEWS

Day in the Park &
Hike-A-Thon

2017 Director's
Partnership Award

NASA Astrobiology &
Red Bluff High School

Peak Experience
Auction 2018

SPRING 2018

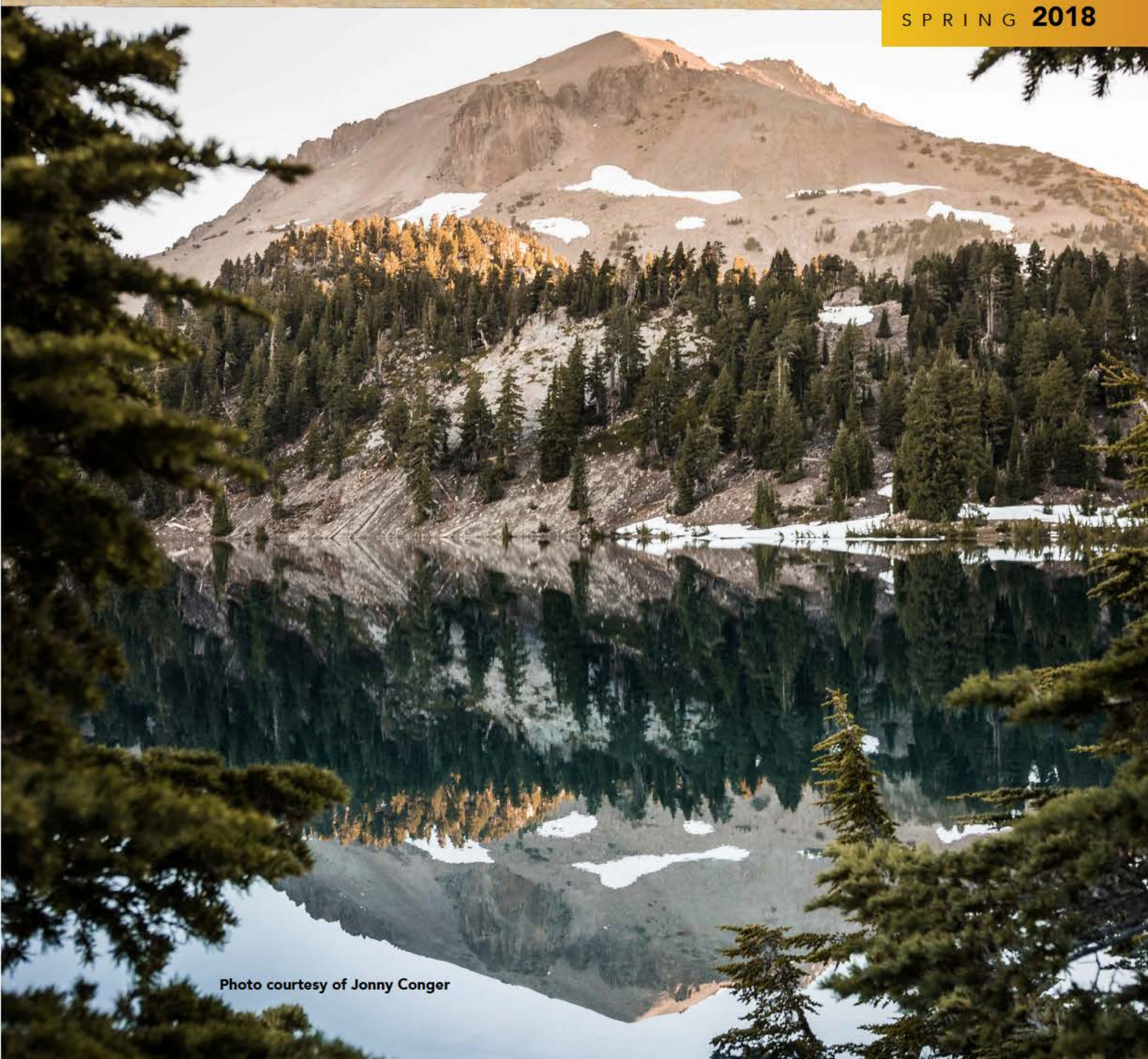


Photo courtesy of Jonny Conger



Photo Courtesy of the National Park Service

NASA ASTROBIOLOGY AT LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK

Lassen Volcanic National Park, the NASA Astrobiology Institute Ames Research Center Team and Red Bluff High School have formed a mutually beneficial partnership to engage high school students in the collection of scientific data for NASA astrobiologists, the National Park Service and university researchers. Lassen is a valuable resource to NASA because it shares many similarities to a young Mars – when the planet was once volcanically active, warm, had liquid water flowing on the surface and was considered “habitable,” at least in terms of microbial life.

The NASA Ames Team studies Lassen because it is considered a “Mars analog.” The team is characterizing how the hydrothermal activity caused by the volcanism alters the rocks and water chemistry of the system, which in turn impacts the microbes living in hot springs, boiling mud pots and steam vents. This amazing opportunity for high school students to be part of the exploration and examination is a unique experience in northern California, and one to be proud of.

The program began in 2007 when then Education Specialist Ranger, Steve Zachary, from Lassen Volcanic National Park contacted Red Bluff High School to offer an opportunity to five students to shadow a team of scientists from NASA’s Ames Research Center. The scientists were studying snow algae found within Lassen Volcanic National Park. This first year went so well, that they planned a second year and shifted the focus to a hydrothermal feature in the Sulfur Works region of the park in 2008.

Red Bluff High School’s Nasa Astrobiology program became so popular that in 2009 it became an after school “club” that met once a week. The program also added a year-round cycle of data collection. The students were guided through sampling techniques and then tasked with collecting data and taking samples from the hydrothermal features once monthly over the course of the year.

Focus of the project shifted again in 2011 with a move to the Warner Valley region of the park. Samples continued to be taken from the Sulfur Works area, but much of the research and teaching was centered around Warner Valley. It wasn’t long after the shift to Warner Valley that the partnership added an overnight camping trip to Warner Valley Campground as the program size and participant count continued to grow.

The club continued to be successful and was finally worked into the school curriculum as an elective class in 2015 due to its increased size, now allowing for twenty students including sixteen first year interns and four second-year interns. The class gave the students a dedicated time to meet daily and further the study of Lassen Volcanic National Park and the science behind their unique hydrothermal features.

This NASA Astrobiology program has grown and changed significantly over the years from its first group of five students over the summer, to its current two-year opportunity for twenty students to explore, collect, and analyze information from Lassen Volcanic National Park. The partnership and memories that are created here will last a lifetime.

60'S GLAM COMES TO PEAK EXPERIENCE

Every year the LPF’s Auction Committee strives to identify an auction theme that will be fun, memorable, and identifiable with the park. The last three years that has been a simple task with the momentous occasions like the 100th anniversaries of the Peak eruption and the park itself, followed by a nationwide campaign to get Every Kid in a Park.

This year it’s not so straight forward. Our committee really wanted a fun theme that was flexible, colorful, and exciting. After deliberating for a couple of months we decided to focus in on the 1960s, that era of upheaval and change that left its mark on so many people.

“60’s Glam” means the glamorous side of the 60’s, the shiny, the sleek, the elegant side of Hollywood, homes, and people. Think “Retro Fashion” and imagine that famous picture of JFK feeding a deer from Lassen Volcanic.

Sponsorships are now available for tables, the dance floor, and photo booth. If you are interested in supporting Lassen Park Foundation through auction sponsorship please visit our website at www.lassenparkfoundation.org and follow the “Events” menu to “Peak Experience Auction”. Early Bird sponsorships are available now through June 8th.

Remember to mark your calendars for September 15th at the McConnell Foundation for this year’s Peak Experience Auction!



A DAY IN THE PARK WITH THE "REACH THE PEAK" HIKE-A-THON



A Hike-A-Thon to the summit of Lassen Peak has been added to Lassen Volcanic National Park's annual Day in the Park, on August 11.

This charitable event, organized by the Lassen Park Foundation (LPF) with the assistance of Under The Sun Events, benefits the philanthropic work of the LPF. The event features a family-friendly, street-faire-styled festival and barbecue.

Day in the Park BBQ Celebration
Loomis Plaza, Lassen Volcanic National Park
August 11, 2018 from 11am - 2pm
www.lassenparkfoundation.org

"However, this is the first time we've included an accomplishment-oriented event like the Reach The Peak Hike-A-Thon," explained LPF Executive Director Jennifer Finnegan. "We chose to add the hike because hiking to the top of Lassen Peak is the most popular activity in the national park."

Finnegan said the hikers will be able to translate their accomplishment into a personal contribution or fund raise by signing up sponsors of their climb. Cost to participate is \$50/adult, \$20/youth and free under 12.

"Because participants will be hiking five miles to the 10,462' summit of Lassen Peak, then back down along the Lassen Peak Trail, we're not calling it a race. The trail is rated from moderate to strenuous, so we're encouraging participants to hike at a comfortable pace, carry lots of water and take the time to enjoy the spectacular views of the national park, Sacramento River Valley, and Mt. Shasta," she continued.

Reach the Peak Hike-A-Thon
Lassen Peak Trail, Lassen Volcanic National Park
August 11, 2018 from 8am - 5pm
www.lassenparkfoundation.org



Day in the Park, has – for many years – annually celebrated the national park's anniversary (Aug. 9). It will be held at the Loomis Plaza (near Manzanita Lake at the north entrance), from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The hike begins from the Lassen Peak trailhead at 8 a.m., continuing to 5 p.m.

Proceeds from the Hike-A-Thon and Day in the Park benefit the philanthropic work of the LPF inside Lassen Volcanic National Park, including improving trails and visitor experiences, providing camping in the park for underprivileged youth and conducting supplementary scientific research and wildlife protection.



"BUMPASS HELL" PENDLETON BLANKETS FOR SALE

If you would like to order your "Bumpass Hell" Limited Edition Pendleton blanket please visit our website at www.lassenparkfoundation.org and go to the "SHOP" page. The blankets retail for \$250 and can be shipped for \$17.95 or picked up for no additional cost at our office located in Anderson, Ca.





Photo Courtesy of the National Park Service

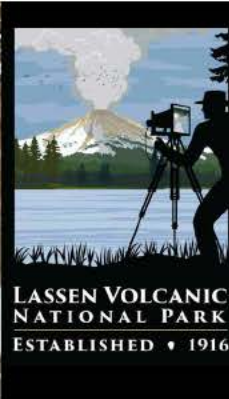


Photo Courtesy of the National Park Service

LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK 2018

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

PARK OPERATING HOURS

Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center:
Winter Hrs: Wed-Sun, 9am - 5pm
After May 1st: Open Daily, 9am - 5pm

Lassen Cafe & Gift:
Winter Hrs: Weekends 11am-2pm
After April 28th: Daily, 9am - 4pm
After May 26th: Daily, 9am - 5pm

Loomis Museum:
Winter Hrs: Closed
After May 24th: Fri - Sun, 9am - 4pm
After June 17: Daily, 9am - 5pm

Manzanita Camper Store
Winter Hrs: Closed
After May 17: Daily, 9am - 5pm
After June 14: Daily, 8am - 9pm

APRIL

21 - 29 National Park Week
No events; free entrance 4/21

JUNE

Date TBA - Hike & Bike the Highway
Enjoy a vehicle-free Highway 89 for bikers and hikers! Date depending on weather conditions.

18th - Volcano Adventure Camp Opens
Weather permitting; youth group camping only

Summer Ranger Led Programs Begin
See Park's Summer Newsletter for info

JULY

14th - Lassen Association Guided Hike
Join author Tracy Salcedo on a hike to Mill Creek Falls (\$10)

15th - Bird Banding Demonstration
See birds up close

21st - Lassen Association Watercolor Workshop
Yvonne Jordan-Sherwood teaches beginning watercolor course at Kings Creek Picnic Area (\$30)

AUGUST

2nd - Volunteer In Park "VIP" Event
Details TBA later this summer

3rd - 4th - Dark Sky Festival
will feature Starry Night ranger-led programs, presentations, hikes, and Junior Ranger Night Explorer activities.

11th - Day in the Park & "Reach the Peak" Hike-A-Thon
Enjoy a Day in the Park and meet the staff/volunteers at LAVO near Loomis Museum. Brave the signature Lassen Peak Trail while supporting LPF.

25th - NPS Founders Day
Fee-free park admission

27th - Lassen Association Guided Hike
Join author Tracy Salcedo on a hike to Devils Kitchen. (\$10)

2017 DIRECTOR'S PARTNERSHIP AWARD GOES TO LASSEN PARK FOUNDATION

Lassen Park Foundation, based in Anderson, CA is one of five organizations that have been chosen to receive the National Park Service's (NPS) prestigious 2017 Director's Partnership Award.



Superintendent Jim Richardson (right) hands LPF Chairman John Koeberer (left) the certificate for the 2017 Director's Partnership Award

The annual award "recognizes the outstanding achievements" of NPS partners, at over 400 national parks nationwide and reflects their "years of planning and work, communication and collaboration" to "deepen our experiences and bring home the meanings, relevance and importance of our nation's special places, people and stories," reported the NPS.

In recognizing the Lassen Park

Foundation, the NPS noted the foundation's more than 30 years of service to Lassen Volcanic National Park, including support to the Lassen Crossroads information pavilion, the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center, improvements to the Lassen Peak Trail and underwriting of youth camping programs and facilities at Volcano Adventure Camp, as well as funding for park research, internship and habitat restoration projects.

"We have a passion for Lassen," said John Koeberer, Chair of the Lassen Park Foundation. "Every contributor to and officer of the Lassen Park Foundation shares in this recognition of that passion and, I am certain, is truly touched and grateful for the honor."

"A national park couldn't ask for better partners than the Lassen Park Foundation. Its philanthropy has helped enhance the visitor experience, protect the park, conduct invaluable research, and improve park facilities beyond what we could accomplish with what we are allocated," said Lassen Volcanic Superintendent James Richardson.

Jennifer Finnegan, executive director of the Lassen Park Foundation, said, "We've been so busy getting out the word and answering questions of groups applying for one of this summer's youth camping grants, that we haven't had time to celebrate the award. Though, it truly made our day."

More about the Lassen Park Foundation is found at lassenparkfoundation.org.

A complete list of Director's Partnership Awardees is found at nps.gov/subjects/partnership/2017-directors-partnershipaward.htm.



MEET OUR BOARD

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Interim Chief of Interpretation & Education
Lassen Volcanic National Park..... Kevin Sweeney

STAFF

Executive Director Jennifer R. Finnegan
Assistant Director Marissa Young



Michael Han

Michael Han is the newest Board Member of Lassen Park Foundation, having joined this February. He works for the California Parks Company as their VP of Operations – Northern Region. He has over two decades of experience managing the operations of multiple marinas and resorts on California's lakes. He has a background in the design and development of marinas and innovative luxury rental houseboat operations. Over the years has acquired specialized training in marina engineering, environmental protection, hazardous waste management, water quality control, customer service and human resources.



Nancy Piret, Board Member

Nancy Piret has served on Lassen Park Foundation's Board of Directors since 1997. Nancy currently serves on the Youth and Projects Committee of the Lassen Park Foundation and on the Board of Directors of "The Family Business Association of California". She retired from Gorrill Ranch after serving as Managing Partner for 25 years and continues on as a consultant. She graduated from the University of Oregon, served as President and Treasurer of Omega Nu (a local philanthropic organization), and was a member of the Chico Habitat Resource Conservation Plan steering committee. Her interests include hiking, paddling, golf and time at Lake Almanor. She learned to ski at Lassen Park.



Robert Warren

Bob Warren has served on Lassen Park Foundation's Board of Directors since 1997. He retired five years ago after receiving a lifetime achievement award from the California travel industry. He is extremely proud of what he was able to do to help promote Northern California in his career in recreation and tourism marketing. He lives at Shasta Lake with his wife, Karen, where he spends much of his time building furniture for his family and traveling around the west coast with Karen in their Airstream. According to Bob, one of his most significant lifetime achievements is having been part of the development of the Volcano Adventure Camp at Lassen Volcanic National Park.



Pamela Koeberer Pitts

Pam Pitts has served on Lassen Park Foundation's Board of Directors since 1997. She is the co-owner with John Koeberer of The California Parks Company operating several recreational facilities in California, Arizona, and Oregon including the concessions in Lassen Volcanic National Park. She has been active in several local community projects, served on the Shasta College Foundation Board and helped create the Tehama County Education Foundation and served as a board member for twenty-four years. Mrs. Pitts is currently the Secretary of the Board of Directors of the National Parks Hospitality Association, a national industry group working to improve the visitor experience in our National Parks. She resides in Lafayette, CA with her husband Tom.





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

PO Box 33
Anderson, CA 96007

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SUPPORT INSPIRE
INFLUENCE BELIEVE
REVITALIZE **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: _____

CC#: _____

Exp Date: _____

Signature: _____