

LASSEN PARK FOUNDATION

NEWS



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Enhancing Native American Education

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Member
Support Lassen Park Foundation

SUMMER **2025**





2024 RECAP AND LOOKING AHEAD

www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/index.htm

The Park Fire last summer shut down Lassen Volcanic National Park (LVNP) for about a month, but with the help of Cal Fire, the National Park Service, and the surrounding community, we were able to end the season strong. Over 800 campers enjoyed the VAC in 2024, and we're looking to host about 900 this summer. LPF proudly contributed over \$24,000 in grants to various youth groups, and assisted with funding two park Education Rangers who were instrumental in leading the interpretive and educational pieces of the camping trips. We are fortunate that we'll be able to continue funding two park Education Rangers this coming summer, and hope to increase the number of youth groups to visit the VAC.

Peak Experience Auction, our annual fundraiser, was back last year and was a fun event. Hosted at The McConnell Foundation's Lema Ranch, we brought



together over 200 guests for dinner, drinks, auction, and Native American stories and songs provided by our partners at Redding Rancheria. Thank you to those who came, bid, and enjoyed themselves! We hope to see you again at this September's auction.



Jennifer Finnegan,
Board Chair

"We are committed to building a brighter future for our park..."

In closing, I'd like to share that our park has been affected by recent changes implemented by the current administration. We've lost park staff, we've lost funding, but we haven't lost heart. Lassen Park Foundation fully supports our park partners, all of those who are employed at Lassen Volcanic National Park, as well as the volunteers who work there. We are committed to building a brighter future for our park, park visitors, and the next generation of park stewards. We hope you will join us in supporting Lassen Volcanic National Park not only as a beautiful place to be preserved for generations, but also the people who have dedicated their lives to that cause.



OFFICIAL WELCOME TO NEW SUPERINTENDENT ROSEANN WORLEY

Roseann Worley began serving as superintendent at Lassen Volcanic National Park in May 2024, succeeding retired Superintendent Jim Richardson. She was previously at Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area in Washington. She has been the NPS Pacific West Region internal controls program lead since 2018.

"Rose is a strong leader and team builder," said Pacific West Regional Director David Szymanski. "She is highly energetic, a natural go-getter and is not afraid to ask hard questions. She is well connected within the region, and quite resourceful. She has worked at many parks, including serving as acting superintendent at two parks in our region."

"Rose is a strong leader and team builder,"

Worley's love of national parks began with a cross-country camping trip. After that, she became hooked on the outdoors.

"Lassen Volcanic National Park is truly an incredible place of refuge, rejuvenation and inspiration," Worley said. "After my first visit in 2018, it quickly became one of my all-time favorite parks. I am in awe of its dynamic history and fascinated with its natural and cultural significance. I look forward to working with the park's dedicated staff, engaging with the local community, partners and tribes, and continuing the recovery efforts from the Dixie Fire."

Worley completed an assignment as acting superintendent at Lava Beds and Tule Lake National Monuments in 2021, re-opening operations and areas of the park that had been closed due to COVID-19 and the 2020 Caldwell Fire.



*Roseann Worley selected as superintendent
of Lassen Volcanic National Park.*

As the budget officer at Point Reyes National Seashore, Worley directed the park's financial management and was the senior lead for the administration division. She also held various administrative and management positions at Kalaupapa National Historical Park in Hawaii and Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park in Alaska.

Worley is originally from Rochester, New York. She attended The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., where she received her Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs with a minor in Economics. Worley later earned a Master of Public Administration degree at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University.

In her free time, she enjoys traveling, camping, hiking, rafting and cooking with her husband Scott, who is currently the exhibits specialist at Point Reyes National Seashore in California. They look forward to moving to the area and becoming immersed in one of their favorite parts of the state.



SMOKEJUMPERS' FINAL CONTRIBUTION TO VAC

The Volcano Adventure Camp (VAC) has been a highlight for the nationwide National Smokejumper Association (NSA) volunteer Program of old smokejumpers, who band together as in days of yore parachuting to wildfires, to re-deploy old camaraderie, get-the-job done no matter the challenge, and problem solving with limited resources.

There could be no better collaboration then the Lassen Park Foundation-Lassen Volcanic National Park-National Smokejumper Association working together to open the VAC in Spring and close in Fall. Erecting the 10 large and heavy 14'WX16'L'X12'H tents (now 14) and 80 cots (now 112) has been a daunting task. Same with Fall take down for winter storage, in which VAC tents and cots have received the same attention to detail as "jumped" parachutes in the Smokejumper Program for reliable equipment performance and longevity.

NSA came on to the scene in 2017 to help with the very busy "Spring Rush" as our Lassen Maintenance friends (we nicknamed "the Engine Room") open roads, campgrounds, water systems, and get the VAC up-and-running. More than a dozen former smokejumper volunteers were "handed the keys" to construct the Osprey campfire area, cut & install pathway sill logs, and lay down 48 cubic yards of delivered aggregate to pathways and campfire areas, assemble the new picnic tables, then the tents and cots.



VAC Tents Go Up NSA & Lassen "Engine Room"

After 5 days with work finished, "The Jumpers" hosted the traditional "End of Project Dinner" including our new LVNP & LPF friends.

From 2017 to 2024 (even through the virus) NSA worked with LVNP/LPF 8 times to set up the VAC and 5 times to close for winter; with many challenges, innovation, hard work, and repairs "to get 'er done." So many wonderful LVNP personnel, dedicated and diligent: "Engine Room" Maintenance, with construction and trail crews - many younger folks; and Education, Rangers, Law Enforcement, even the Park Superintendent all pitching in.

As often happens with volunteer outfits, our NSA "Roster" has diminished with the years. Regrettably it's time to gently bow out; with our "Last Hurrah" early June 2024.

We will miss the VAC and our LVNP and LPF friends.



"Jumpers Away" California Smokejumpers 1969





ENHANCING NATIVE AMERICAN EDUCATION AT VAC

This past summer LPF received a grant from the National Park Foundation to bring additional Native American education to the youth groups who came to camp at our Volcano Adventure Camp (VAC).

The spring before groups arrived at the VAC, National Park Service (NPS) staff updated educational programs to better include what is known of Atsugewi, Yana, Yahi, Maidu, and many other local tribal histories, as these were the first people to live in what is now Lassen Volcanic National Park. Staff sought knowledge through books and internet sites on ethnobotanical (historical Native American uses of plants) knowledge and use of park resources.

Looks of awe and respect abound when participants learned how valuable manzanita shrubs were and are for making tools and medicine for our local native groups. Rangers described the intricacy of Atsugewi basket design (like the one auctioned off at the 2024 Peak Experience Auction!) and how efficiently they served as tools for the people. Participants were encouraged to stop by the Loomis Museum to view baskets designed by Selena LaMarr, Lillian Snooks, and numerous related family members who identified as members of the Atsugewi Tribe - and were some of the first female naturalists hired by the National Park Service.

The generous grant from the National Park Foundation helped to support the education program, seasonal rangers to lead youth groups during their time at the VAC, and grant funding to groups to help subsidize their travel and adventures at Lassen Volcanic National Park.





MEET OUR LONGEST-SERVING BOARD MEMBER

I was born and raised in Red Bluff, and I grew up hiking, camping, and skiing in Lassen Volcanic National Park many times a year. My father, Donald Webster, was one of the founding members of the Lassen Park Foundation, and I remember going to an early board meeting with him and my mom, Ida, on a hillock just north of Manzanita Lake when there were discussions about building the new visitors' center there rather than by the old ski area. I was inspired to join the Foundation when my dad was stepping down, and have enjoyed being a part of the good deeds and camaraderie since then (including serving

"I have loved the Park all my life..."

with my sister Debby, and brother in law Dave Trotter). Lassen Park Foundation's work on the Volcano Adventure Camp has been particularly meaningful. I also look forward to our board meetings in the

Park or nearby, as the in-person discussions are valuable, and I have an excuse to slot in a short one-night backpacking trip the day before. Some of my favorites hikes in the Park include Soda Lake, Brokeoff, Ridge Lakes and above, Paradise Meadows, and headwaters of Kings Creek. I have loved the Park all my life, and have enjoyed getting to know it again with my wife, Joy, and our three sons (Ethan, 29; Grant, 29; and Keith, 26). My day job is as an employment lawyer, heading up the Sacramento Office of Littler Mendelson, the largest labor/employment lawyer firm in the world. From time to time I can tap into my legal expertise to make suggestions to the board on various issues. I obviously believe in the rule of law, and as I see what's going on in Washington, DC, I think our partnership with and support of the National Park Service is even more important going forward.



Ben Webster

JOIN OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD MEMBERS WANTED

Lassen Park Foundation (LPF) is looking for individuals to serve on the Board of Directors. The LPF Board oversees all activities of the Foundation including our youth camping program, assistance with fundraising and oversight of capital projects at the park (like the Volcano Adventure Camp), works with Lassen Volcanic National Park to develop new educational opportunities and partnerships with local universities that result in expanded opportunities within the park for learning and research, and helps fill the funding gap for trail maintenance, scientific research and staff training.

The LPF Board meets twice annually via Zoom, and once in person at Lassen Volcanic National Park Headquarters in Mineral, and depending on which committees a board member volunteers to serve, via occasional conference calls. They also play important roles in overseeing the Foundation's major annual fundraising event and auction.



**LASSEN PARK
FOUNDATION**

Board Members also commit annually to either contribute or solicit \$2,000 in donations (cash or in-kind) to LPF. Many board members go far beyond that figure. We recognize that not all Board Members have the means to contribute \$2,000 annually and they make up for it in other ways. Those can include: soliciting donations, seeking sponsors, unearthing grant opportunities, creating business partnerships, or contributing in-kind skills or merchandise that would otherwise need to be purchased. There are many ways anyone with a passion for Lassen can be a Board Member while satisfying their personal commitment to contribute \$2,000 annually.

If you believe you can satisfy that commitment, joining the Board is easy. Begin by contacting the Lassen Park Foundation office at (530) 378-5199. Our friendly staff will answer your questions and provide you with a two-page Board Candidate Inquiry required of all prospective Board Members. Candidates are interviewed by the

Nominations Committee where they are encouraged to share their thoughts about Board participation and ask questions in order to better understand the roll of a Board Member. Once a candidate has completed these steps, consideration by the full board occurs and accepted candidates are elected to a three-year term.




If you are interested in being more closely involved in helping Lassen Volcanic National Park or know someone with a passion for Lassen, please e-mail LPF Executive Director, Ken Freigher at Ken@LassenParkFoundation.org or call (530) 378-5199 to request a Board Candidate Inquiry.






LASSEN PARK FOUNDATION
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ANDERSON, CA 96007

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SUPPORT RENEW APPRECIATE INSTILL WONDER 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) 378-5199** 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.

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