

August 2013



Dear Members,

We are very happy to invite you to our next event.

Lassen Camping & Hiking Trip August 30 - September 2 (Labor Day Weekend)

This year we are heading on Labor Day Weekend for Lassen Volcanic Park located in Northern California:

<http://www.nps.gov/lavo/>

To visit Lassen Volcanic National Park is to witness a brief moment in the ancient battle between the earth shaping forces of creation and destruction in Northern California. Nestled within Lassen's peaceful forests and untouched wilderness, hissing fumaroles and boiling mud pots still shape and change the land, evidence of Lassen's long fiery and active past. All ages are welcome! Generally people arrive Friday late afternoon/evening.

Campground: We reserved a group tent site at Lost Creek Group site for Friday 8/30, Saturday 8/31 and Sunday 9/1 night. Space is limited. Only 6 cars can park at the tent site. For more info about the accommodations, please browse to

http://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/camping_in_campgrounds.htm

Hikes: Bring your hiking boots. Based on participants' interest we will decide on-site which trails to hike.

Food: Participants host all meals. Traditionally the quality has beaten all standards of gourmet outdoor cooking! Arrangements about who brings what will be made through e-mail the week before departure. Hikers bring their own trail snacks & drinks.

Cost: \$15/adult for the camp site. (children up to 17 are free) Food expenses will be divided among the participants. The \$10 vehicle fee (to be paid at the entrance and valid for 7 days) is at the driver's expense.

RSVP by August 23 by sending an e-mail to [philippe \(at\) bcnc.com](mailto:philippe@bcnc.com) with the following information:

- Name of people attending (optional: age of children)
- Cell phone number
- Would like to carpool or are looking for a ride

Reservations will be on a first come, first serve basis, with priority given to members. After you receive e-mail confirmation that space is still available, you will need to send a check covering the camp site expenses.

Announcements & Events:

Thank you:

- To all the volunteers who helped during the 21st July celebration. We had a record 65 people present.
- To our new Honorary Consul Nathalie Delrue for joining us at the 21st July celebration.

Upcoming events:

- “Oysters on the Beach” on Sunday, October 6. This very popular event will again be held in Point Reyes. Details to follow. So keep that Sunday open!

Did you know that:

- For Belgian citizens living in San Francisco and the Bay Area who would like to renew their passport, the process of registration to make an appointment with the 'flying consul' in San Francisco on October 1st and 2nd, 2013 will end on September 16. The General Consulate of Belgium in Los Angeles - and not the Honorary Consulate in San Francisco - must have the documents of the applicants by September 16.

Link to the procedure/required documents in Dutch and French:

<http://www.diplomatie.be/losangelesfr/default.asp?id=97&mnu=97>

<http://www.diplomatie.be/losangelesnl/default.asp?id=96&mnu=96>

Appointments are now open via the General Consulate of Belgium's website:

<http://www.appointmentquest.com/scheduler/2120112830>

For any additional questions, please send an e-mail to the Honorary Consul of Belgium in San Francisco, Nathalie Delrue-McGuire at nathalie@belgianconsulsf.com

Looking for an American family to host Belgian students:

- Leslie Beech from the International Cultural Exchange Services (ICES) in Sacramento is looking for help in finding American families that would host Belgian high school students. If you know of any families, please contact her at beeche6@gmail.com or call her at (916) 798 4193.

The board