On July 25th, President Bill Clinton signed the Valles Caldera Preservation Act which created the Valles Caldera National Preserve. To celebrate that occasion and the many accomplishments of past and present staff, volunteers and contributors, we will host the second annual Valles Caldera Preservation Act Celebration from July 25-28. A new addition to this year’s celebration will be the Jemez Valley Storytellers Jamboree July 27-28. Storytellers from across New Mexico will gather to share their tall tales and legends from the Land of Enchantment. Valles Caldera Trust staff will add to the local flavor with accounts of the people and the natural history of the Preserve. We invite you to enjoy this and other free events as we celebrate the creation of this experiment in public lands management.

Whether you are coming up for a special event like the anniversary celebration or just visiting the area, we have something for you. We have one-hour van tours and several short hikes for those just passing through. Those with a little more time can take advantage of programs in the back country. We are open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. starting May 10 through October 13. For more details please visit www.vallescaldera.gov/comevisit.

Special Events
Earth Skills Gathering: May 25-26. This free event will let you see primitive skills being demonstrated by regional experts (fire making, knapping, beadwork, etc.).
Run the Caldera Half Marathon and 10K: June 8. A great warm-up for the next day’s marathon.
Run the Caldera Marathon: June 9. Run through the heart of the Caldera.
Cruise the Caldera: June 22 & August 17. A fun mountain bike ride with 85 miles of roads from which to choose.
Twilight Mountain Bike Ride: June 22 and August 17. This family event allows you to ride when the animals are coming down to the meadows.
Jemez Mountains Elk Festival: October 10-13. Four days of celebrating elk in the Jemez, with special activities for school groups on October 10-11.

(continued on page 2)
The Board of Trustees is composed of seven members appointed by the President of the United States and two who serve ex officio (Superintendent of Bandelier and Supervisor of Santa Fe National Forest). The appointed Trustees generally serve four-year terms and, except for the Chair, receive no compensation for their work.

The Valles Caldera Trust oversees the Valles Caldera National Preserve, formerly the privately owned “Baca Ranch.” The 89,000 acre property is located in the Jemez Mountains in northern New Mexico. It was purchased by the federal government in 2000 under the Valles Caldera Preservation Act. The property is known for its huge meadows, abundant wildlife, meandering streams, and remarkable scenery. The Board of Trustees is composed of seven members appointed by the President of the United States and two who serve ex officio (Superintendent of Bandelier and Supervisor of Santa Fe National Forest). The appointed Trustees generally serve four-year terms and, except for the Chair, receive no compensation for their work.

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Group Reservations

We encourage visitors to participate in our scheduled activities when possible. For groups of 10 or more, we can explore options that allow your group to experience the Preserve together. Please call (505) 428-7737 for more information.

Educational School Programs

We are taking reservations for school groups to visit and explore the Preserve this fall and next spring. We have educational programs for grades K-12. To reserve your date or to get more information, call (505) 629-1418.

Volunteers

Our programs are successful because of the quality and number of people who help out. We are always looking for help with the events described above as well as with answering visitor questions in our stores and pullouts. There are even opportunities to lead events. If you are a dependable person and want to spend some of your valuable time helping the Preserve, please email volunteers@vallescaldera.gov.

One opportunity to highlight is a training session for adults interested in helping with ecological monitoring, on July 25. Contact VCT Lead Educator, Brittney van Der Werff directly at bvanderwerff@vallescaldera.gov for more information.
The snows are long gone, the elk have returned to the Valle Grande and the Valles Caldera National Preserve is waiting for you. More than 110,000 visitors enjoyed the Preserve last year and we invite you to join us in 2013.

Within the pages of this newsletter is a schedule of special events our staff has prepared for you including the second annual Valles Caldera Preservation Act Celebration which will include the Jemez Valley Storytellers Jamboree. You can also take a tour of the Preserve from the comfort of your own car during one of our Ranch Road Rambles, June 29 and August 31. Of course we will host fishing, hiking, van tours and other activities throughout the summer. A complete list of all activities is available on our website www.vallescaldera.gov/comevisit.

Those activities would not be possible without the years of hard work by the Trust staff and employees. That body of work was detailed in the 2012 State of the Preserve Report released in April. The report is compiled every five years and details how the Trust employed science-based adaptive management to restore the landscape and expand public access and use. The report details the progress of the Trust in working toward the goals set by congress. You can find the 2012 State of the Preserve Report on our website at http://goo.gl/mdZra.

You are probably aware that many federal agencies experienced budget cuts which forced the suspension of some programs and furloughs for personnel. The Trust does not expect to implement workforce reductions or curtail public access activities and programs as a result of personnel cuts. We cannot control the economy or the Washington, D.C. budget process but we can use our revenue account to sustain public access if conditions change. Fortunately, President Obama sent some financial expertise to help navigate the Trust through the economy.

The President has appointed Catherine Allen to fill the board position which requires a Trustee active and experienced in financial management. She succeeds Ed Tinsley who occupied that seat until his term expired in January 2011. Allen is Chairman and CEO of the New Mexico-based Santa Fe Group which provides strategic consulting to executives and boards at financial institutions and other critical infrastructure companies.

Earlier in her career Allen held a number of executive positions with Citicorp and was director of corporate planning for Dun and Bradstreet. In addition to an extensive business and finance background Allen brings non-profit board experience to the Trust by virtue of her service as a member on the LANL Foundation, Museum of New Mexico Foundation and other non-profit organizations. I will rely heavily on Catherine’s financial expertise to help guide us through the ever changing economy. She will help us develop business strategies to grow the resources necessary to support the Trust.

Meanwhile, I invite you to get away from this busy world and join us at the Preserve this summer. The beauty and tranquility of this area is here to be enjoyed by all.

Kent Salazar
Valles Caldera Trust
Chairman of the Board
The Valles Caldera Trust (VCT) Cultural Resources program has begun an exciting collaboration with Earthwatch Institute to conduct excavations in Obsidian Valley. In 2012 we completed the first of three field seasons at a large quarry site in this secluded valley on the north side of Cerro del Medio. This volcanic dome is covered with rich exposures of high-quality volcanic glass that prehistoric peoples collected and used for tool making. These geologic exposures frequently were used as quarries where prehistoric knappers selected from the available raw materials, tested obsidian cobbles, and shaped their tools. These quarries sometimes witnessed centuries or millennia of use, creating vast expanses of knapping debris and broken cobbles that can be more than 25 acres in size!

Our excavations last summer were conducted at prehistoric quarry LA026919: the “obsidian boulder site” that many visitors have seen during van tours. We designed the testing strategy to investigate whether there are intact cultural deposits in the portion of the site bisected by road VC05. This road has had drainage problems for years, and the Trust will soon decide whether to change the engineering of the road or adjust the route to improve the drainage. Either option will affect the cultural site, so excavations were needed to make informed decisions.

The Earthwatch partnership creates an opportunity for the Trust to involve the public in completing this science project. Earthwatch is an international non-profit organization that supports long-term scientific field research by matching volunteers from the general public with environmental research projects. The partnership helps the Trust to more efficiently complete the archaeological investigations needed to improve road VC05 and uncover compelling information about the archaeological record at one of our famed obsidian quarries.

The results of the 2012 field season exceeded our expectations. In all, the volunteers helped VCT CR staff dig seven excavation units and screen the soils to collect over 200 bags of obsidian. There were few surprises in the assemblage of artifacts collected: nearly all are small and large pieces of knapping debris, also called “debitage.” The most gratifying outcome of the season is in the soil matrix. Our “dig” revealed intact cultural deposits across an extended area of the site. Prior excavations in the Preserve have found a high degree of soil mixing, usually from gophers and prairie dogs. In contrast, the quarry in Obsidian Valley has the potential to hold numerous types of archaeological evidence of past human behaviors. LA026919 may be the best-preserved large prehistoric site investigated thus far in the Preserve.

In 2013 we will conduct two 10-day excavation sessions, in June and September. We hope to have as many as 15 Earthwatch participants each session. There will also be a day for the public to visit and see what we are up to. For further information on Earthwatch Institute and the 2013 VCNP expeditions, visit www.earthwatch.org and consider signing up!
Supporting the
Valles Caldera National Preserve
for Present and Future Generations

Fun Summer Events

**Trail Maintenance, May 13-18**
For the fourth year Los Amigos is sponsoring trail maintenance on the Preserve. Volunteers are welcome for any one or all days. On the first day, we will meet at the Bunkhouse in the Historical District at 9 a.m. to meet Preserve Recreation Staff, outline work and discuss project safety. We will be removing fallen trees, brush and rocks from the trail surface and filling erosion ditches by hand work. To volunteer, please email Jim Counce, jcounce@valornet.com.

**Old Timers BBQ**
**August 4**
Catch up with Los Amigos of the Valles Caldera. Ambitious folks can start the day at 9 a.m. with a clean-up and maintenance workday around the Historic District.

For non-workers, we will meet at the Bunkhouse in the Historical District at 2 p.m. (where we have met the past three years) for introductions, a program and dinner. To attend please email Peggy Gautier, peggyg@thuntek.net.

**Geology Tour, June 16**
Follow Dr. Kirt Kempter in a driving geology tour of the Valles Caldera, on Forest Road 144 (high clearance 4wd necessary) with stops along the way. A fajita lunch will be provided at the San Antonio Cabin, followed by more geology lessons. The cost of $50 per person is a tax deductible donation to Los Amigos, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. We will meet at Del Norte Credit Union in Española at 9:00 a.m. To participate, email Jim Counce, jcounce@valornet.com.

**Volunteer Work Weekends**
Join Los Amigos for as many as three weekend projects this year in the Preserve: June 7-9, July 19-21, and August 16-18. You can campout two nights each weekend in a beautiful setting and perform work that will enhance the water quality of San Antonio Creek.

Day volunteers are welcome. We will host Saturday breakfast and dinner. Read on for more project details. To volunteer, email Jack Crane, jdcrane@valornet.com.

(continued on page 6)
This summer, there are several different opportunities for our members and the public to enjoy the Valles Caldera. Come learn about the geology on June 23, or help out during one, two, or all three weekend workshops that will improve water quality (read below for details). As always, I look forward to the annual Old Timers BBQ, which is a great chance for us to present our accomplishments and share stories.

We were close to receiving the Collaborative Forest Restoration Program grant from the US Forest Service this year. Although I am disappointed that we were not selected, I am happy to see that the process brought us in closer contact with the Valles Caldera Trust’s education department. Our Administrative Assistant, Rachel Boothby, is working with Brittney van der Werff (VCT) to combine efforts in ecological monitoring of restoration projects. Volunteers can help our contractors or visiting school groups. Interested adults should join us on July 25 for a training day in ecological monitoring. Contact Brittney at bvanderwerff@vallescaldera.gov.

2013 Restoration Work Weekends
Register with Jack Crane, jdcrane@valornet.com
Details subject to change.

Santa Rosa Creek: June 7-9
Since the Los Conchas fire in 2011, we have held three workshops that gathered stone and built over 100 rock structures in eroding areas of this creek. We have been successful in not only controlling erosion but also directing floods to wetlands that capture the ash and debris before carrying it on to San Antonio Creek.

Jaramillo Creek: July 19-21
Enjoy the beautiful Valle Jaramillo in the center of the Preserve. The creek in this narrow valley has been severely impacted by animal grazing and past logging. Sediment from head-cuts and eroding channels is lowering water quality. We will build Zuni bowls and one rock dams to control erosion in head-cuts.

San Antonio Creek Tributaries: August 16-18
Come work near the northwest boundary of the Preserve where past grazing activities and vehicle travel have caused sloped wetlands to dry out. By moving soil and transplanting sod by hand in several locations, we will plug animal-made ditches that are causing erosion and draining the adjacent wetlands, and redirect this flow to adjacent low-lying areas.
A New Look at Restoration

Steve Vrooman, Los Amigos Contractor

Earth Analytic Inc. (EAI) of Santa Fe leverages a variety of ground-based and airborne data collection technologies for geospatially enabled environmental and archaeological assessment projects, ranging from terrestrial laser scanners to UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles) equipped with image and video sensors. Working with a team of ecologists and hydrologists at the Valles Caldera National Preserve, EAI’s Wetherbee Dorshow recently collected georeferenced HD video of wetland restoration areas using a Phantom Quadrocopter mounted with a Contour 2+ video camera. Using this inexpensive technology, we were able to document dynamic hydrological and geomorphic processes associated with spring runoff within restoration project areas. This project was funded by grants raised by Los Amigos de Valles Caldera.

Order Your Morton Print to Help Restore the Bond Cabin!

Los Amigos de Valles Caldera is selling signed and numbered 18” by 22” lithographs of Peace in the Valle by Gary Morton (see page 8), for $125, which includes shipping and handling. The proceeds from the sale of the prints will be used for restoration work on the Bond Cabin.

To order, please see the Los Amigos website, www.losamigosdevallescaldera.org, or mail a check with your order to Print, Los Amigos, 3250 La Paz Lane, Santa Fe, NM 87507. Prints will be given free to each new Los Amigos Lifetime or Obsidian Guild member.

Obsidian Guild

The Valles Caldera Obsidian Guild recognizes individuals who provide support for the Valles Caldera National Preserve through planned gifts. Membership belongs to those who have made deferred gifts to Los Amigos de Valles Caldera through one or more of the following methods:

» Provision in a will or revocable trust;
» Retirement plan beneficiary designation; or
» Life insurance policy beneficiary designation.

Members of the Obsidian Guild share a common bond of generosity and visionary leadership, nourishing the Preserve’s unique assets. For further information, please contact Larry Icerman, licerman@aol.com.

Los Amigos Membership

Membership gives you a subscription to our newsletter and invitations to our member events. In addition, your membership supports our restoration projects and offers you the opportunity to work with fellow members on these projects. Los Amigos is having a measurable effect on the health of the Preserve and we need your support to continue our work.

If you are interested in joining, you may pay online at www.losamigosdevallescaldera.org, or make your check payable to Los Amigos de Valles Caldera and send to:

Los Amigos de Valles Caldera
3250 La Paz Lane
Santa Fe, NM 87507

Name______________________________
Address____________________________
City_______________________________
State________Zip____________________
Phone_____________________________
Email______________________________

☐ Basic $35
☐ Family $50
☐ Student $25
☐ Senior (62+) $25
☐ Senior Family $35
☐ Lifetime $1,000
☐ Other _____

Help us support the Valles Caldera National Preserve for present and future generations. Remember, all contributions are tax deductible. For more information, call (505) 988-7307.

La Ventana en los Valles

7
Los Amigos de Valles Caldera has received a number of grants from the State of New Mexico and the US EPA to restore wetlands, streams, and bogs on the Preserve. Los Amigos contracts with consultants such as Bill Zeedyk, Keystone Restoration Ecology, and Stream Dynamics Inc. to assess, design, build, and monitor these projects.

The Tres Arroyos wetlands is a slope wetland flowing into San Antonio Creek on the northwestern corner of the VCNP. This wetland was gullied severely by historic land uses, probably from a road for logging. This created a six-foot headcut through the wetland, lowering the water table and drying out much of the wetland area. An innovative technique being used in New Mexico, called “Plug and Pond,” was used at this site to raise the water table, restore the wetland, and re-charge the groundwater table. The ponding will also saturate the headcut, growing wetland vegetation and preventing the headcut from continuing upstream.

Five small ponds, 50-100 feet across, were created by the use of a small tracked excavator and loader in summer of 2012. The use of tracked equipment reduced the ground pressure of the vehicles, spreading the weight over a large area and reducing the impact. Also, each vehicle was operated carefully, and the tracked equipment was not turned on wetland areas that were not re-planted with sod or in the pond (and therefore under water for some part of the year).

The ponds are designed to capture, hold for several months, and then infiltrate snowmelt into the water table. The pond dam captures the water, and the over-flow from the dam flows back on the historic wetland surface at a much higher elevation. The pond dam is impermeable, but the sides of the pond are left untouched, allowing the captured water to infiltrate into the soil. By draining slowly during the spring, the pond area will stay saturated throughout the summer, and wetland plants will colonize the pond area on this wet soil.

The design of the ponds is to hold the “least” amount of water for the maximum wetland restoration benefit. Larger ponds would risk drying out the downstream wetland if there was not enough flow to leave the spillway and continue downstream. Larger ponds also risk losing water to evaporation, rather than storing it safely underground in the water table.

All the wetland sod from the dam area and the pond was saved as “sod tiles.” These pieces of sod were 6 feet by 3 feet by 8 inches, and picked up by the tracked loader. After the construction of the dam, the loader replaced these tiles back onto the dam surface, and covered much of the area that had been disturbed with the native vegetation. This technique rids the need for re-vegetating with expensive wetland seeds, as the native vegetation is replaced after the pond is built.
The 2011 Las Conchas Fire burned over 30,000 acres of grassland and forests on the Valles Caldera National Preserve (VCNP). Over 160 archaeological sites were impacted by the fire.

Wildfires can threaten archaeological sites through direct effects that are obvious and immediate, such as loss of wooden structures, or through thermal alteration of artifacts lying on the ground. Indirect effects include erosion of the soil deposits which contain archaeological material. Because archaeological resources are non-renewable, fire damage to artifacts and sites constitutes a permanent loss of knowledge.

To better understand fire effects to archaeological resources, Valles Caldera Trust (VCT) archaeologists have teamed up with fire ecologists, fire managers, soil scientists, social scientists, and other archaeologists from the western United States through a project called “ArcBurn.”

The three year project is funded by a grant from the Joint Fire Sciences Program, which is an interdisciplinary and interagency program dedicated to learning more about wildland fire. The information gathered is disseminated to land managers who work in our fire-prone environments.

ArcBurn project leaders will describe direct and indirect fire effects observed after the Las Conchas Fire and conduct controlled laboratory experiments on archaeological material in the burn chamber at the Missoula Fire Lab. We will also participate in monitoring effects from prescribed burns in the Jemez Mountains. This information will be used to create wildland fire spatial models and protocols for cultural resources that can be shared between federal agencies and will help managers determine the best kind and amount of treatment necessary to protect important elements of sites.

The goal of the project is to fill information gaps on forest fire effects, and to provide management tools that will integrate cultural resources into fire management decision processes. We will integrate what we learn from ArcBurn into our planning and implementation of forest thinning and prescribed burning over the next six years, helping to fulfill VCT science-based adaptive management goals for the Experiment in Public Land Management.

The Valles Caldera Trust has been awarded a $545,000 federal grant that will allow visitors to tour the Preserve in the quiet comfort of solar powered all-electric shuttle buses. The grant is one of 29 awarded nationally by the Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in the Parks Program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Authority.

The grant will fund the purchase of all-electric shuttle buses to replace some of the gasoline-powered 12-passenger vans currently in use. Construction of a solar photovoltaic panel array to power the vehicles, establishment of charging stations and a garage to house the buses are also included in the funding.

The experiment will determine whether the all-electric vehicles have the durability to navigate the roads and terrain of the Preserve. If successful, the plan is to convert to an entire all-electric fleet which will reduce the environmental impact to the landscape and enhance the visitor experience.

The Trust estimates $60,000 annual savings in fleet operation costs during the first five years of the program in addition to a decrease of road maintenance expenses. Once suitable sites are selected, the Trust will develop a general plan for the construction of the solar array and garage.

After the Valles Caldera shuttle bus system is established it could eventually be linked to a regional public transportation network that could include Bandelier National Monument, Santa Fe National Forest, and the communities of Los Alamos and White Rock. The goal is to have the first bus operational for the spring season of 2014.
The Valles Caldera Trust 2012 State of the Preserve Report details the journey of an overused, exhausted landscape to its improved condition and provides a peek at the road ahead. The report, released this spring, is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) procedures unique to the Trust, and provides baseline data which aids the strategic management of the Preserve. However, the report also points out that some of the resources Congress believed would contribute to financial self-sufficiency were either overestimated or emerged as liabilities for the “Experiment in Public Land Management.”

“The land was over grazed, heavily logged and the streams were severely compromised when we took over in 2002,” notes Trust Executive Director, Dennis Trujillo. “The Preserve was incapable of supporting the livestock numbers and timber production it did under private ownership. We had to adapt, and adapt quickly.”

The 2012 report recounts how the Trust employed science-based adaptive management from 2002-2012 to restore the landscape, establish land use policies and expand opportunities for public access and revenue generation. Adaptive management allows the Trust to institute a new program, monitor the implemented changes, and adjust the program, based on the assessment data. This scientific process was applied to livestock grazing, which historically hosted tens of thousands of sheep and up to 9,000 head of cattle. The livestock grazed on an open range and impacted stream riparian areas. The Trust remedied the situation by reducing stocking levels by 95 percent and moving livestock into fenced, upland pastures away from streams. These actions restored stressed riparian areas which invigorated fisheries and strengthened the watershed.

The livestock program is now host to several New Mexico State University extension studies, from which local cattle growers benefit and students from across the nation participate. Information is continually collected on forage, soil moisture, climate and other factors to support a sustainable program that is adjusted annually. In addition, the livestock program recovers all operational costs, and actually returns a modest profit to the Trust.

“Perhaps the most impressive detail in this report is the progress we’ve made toward reaching the goals set out in the Valles Caldera Preservation Act,” said Trujillo. “We have either met, exceeded or are making great strides toward meeting all goals stipulated in the enabling legislation, including financial self-sufficiency.”

The report provides detailed analysis of cost recovery which now is almost 29 percent of annual appropriations, but covers almost 100 percent of public programs including general recreation, fishing and hunting, and livestock grazing.


[Left] Sheep in Jaramillo Creek, Valle Grande, circa 1935. [Right] Same riparian area today. (Left photo by T Harmon Parkhurst, Museum of New Mexico image # 51457) (Right photo by Steve Tharnstrom and John Hogan, USGS Jemez Mountains Field Station, image # JMFS 306 BAC retake color MNMS1457)
Livestock Program Serves the Community and the Future
*Terry McDermott, VCT Public Affairs*

In 2012, the Trust hosted a multi-faceted grazing program. Two separate grazing permits were issued to two groups: one permit was issued to Jemez Pueblo while the other went to New Mexico State University. This allowed the greatest amount of flexibility in the program while maximizing the benefits to the Trust, the community and the permittees.

The same two permittee groups will return in 2013 to continue the successful multi-faceted program. This year’s program will include over 70 cattle growers (including many local producers), continue a conservation program on both tribal and forest service land, and provide the benefits of research related to issues unique to cattle grazing at high altitude. Also this year, under a separate agreement, a contingent of permittees displaced by planned improvements on their Forest Service allotments will be allowed to graze on the Preserve.

“The program has advanced to the point where we can accommodate multiple growers and strengthen their herds while they make environmental improvements on their other pastures,” said Dr. Tim Haarmann, Ranch Manager. “The program also provides experience and opportunities for future ranchers to take back to their communities and ranches.”

Dr. Manny Encinias has been instrumental in developing two separate youth programs at the Preserve. These programs provide the perfect classroom for hands-on learning to the next generation of cattle growers. This year will be the third for the New Mexico Youth Ranch Management Camp (Ranch Camp) on the Preserve. The camp is now open to youth from across the United States and covers multiple aspects of ranch management, including beef production, range management, wildlife management, marketing and economics.

The Ranch Camp was soon followed by the New Mexico Beef Academy in 2012. The Beef Academy builds on the learning foundations set by the Ranch Camp. The academy is tailored as an advanced, applied educational experience for youth between the ages of 16 and 19 with a sincere desire to be the next generation of beef-industry producers and leaders.

“It’s exposure to the entire business model that will hopefully attract more young people to an industry that is growing older and smaller because young people leave the ranch for other careers,” says Encinias. “We want to give them a business reason to stay at home.”

The Ranch Camp runs from June 9-14 and is followed by the Beef Academy July 13-18.
The Picture Perfect Adventure

It’s been said that the only way a person can take a bad photo at the Valles Caldera National Preserve is to forget to take the lens cap off the camera. Professional photographers will tell you the craft is more complicated than just “pointing and shooting” but whether you are a seasoned professional or the official family photo taker of graduations, birthdays and senior proms the Third Annual Valles Caldera Photo Adventure is perfect for your talents.

For three days and two nights Photo Adventurers will be able to roam the high mountain meadows, large valleys and deep forests that are the Preserve. Along the way historic buildings, wildlife and a cowboy or two will highlight the camera-ready catalog of subjects during your visit. You can drive your own car to the outer reaches of the Preserve to look for the perfect shot or find it close to the primitive campsite where you will sleep under the stars.

The adventure will be September 20-22. Entry to the event will be determined through a lottery conducted by the Trust. The lottery for adventure will close August 21 and winners will be notified by email August 23.

You can enter by calling our toll free number, 1-866-382-5537, or by applying online, www.vallescaldera.gov/comevisit/photo. All lottery proceeds are used to manage the Preserve. Winners will be permitted to bring one guest to share the experience.

The Preserve will be yours to explore and photograph for three days and two nights. Just don’t forget to remove the lens cap.

“...a landscape that looks more or less the way it did 10,000 years ago, the Valles Caldera is for you.” –Mike McNulty, Photographer, Tucson, Arizona.
(Visit http://photos.mcnuilty.net to see more)