



Camp Fire

Samish

2013 Annual Report to the Community

Light the Fire Within





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Geoff McCann -
Past President

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1st Vice-President

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Debbie Ensey

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Todd Frankenfield

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From the Board President

Woohoo! 2013 was a great year for Camp Fire Samish! I took the reins from Geoff McCann back in May, and we have been busy. The council saw record donations from our members and outside support, as well as successful fundraising programs, and increase in Camp Kirby registrations. We have a strong board of directors with representation from 3 counties and diverse abilities and backgrounds, but with a common goal of building the council's resources and ability to reach more youth. Our camp and club programs continue to thrive in empowering youth to light their own fire and follow their dreams.

As the year came to a close we were able to close all outstanding financial obligations and bring the council to a current state, with no debt, and a balanced 2014 budget. In the year to come we will continue to depend on member and community contributions, as well as new fundraising opportunities to bolster

our ability to develop new programs, improve facilities, and re-build personnel support in the office.

A special thank you to ALL council members and volunteers that have donated and worked tirelessly in many ways to help us continue to follow our mission and bring experiences to youth in our communities. An extra special call out and THANK YOU to Erin Baldwin and Teresa Brescia in the office for working ridiculous hours to keep the wheels on the bus rolling. They have helped me tremendously as advisors and educators as I moved into this position. Erin has built Camp Fire Samish into a respected provider of youth services in our communities and much of our success would not have been possible without her work.

Looking forward to continued success in 2014 and a sunny camp season!

Regan Smith
Board of Directors President

2013 Council Staff

Erin Baldwin -
Executive Director

Christina Nichols -
Bookkeeper

Teresa Brescia -
Office Administrator /Bookkeeper

Jeri Taylor & Sandy Quinores -
Island Club Administrators

2013 Camp Kirby Staff

Keith Ekstran -
Camp Kirby Site Manager

Charles Huddleston -
Resident Camp Director

Kathryn Luera -
Camp Registrar &
Assistant Camp Director

Diana Wisen -
Day Camp Director

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A Word from our Executive Director

In autumn of 2012, an exhausted Board of Directors and overworked staff contemplated life without Kirby. Samish Council had been struggling against debt for some time and while our good works with youth continued, the financial battle was taking its toll. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote, "The lowest ebb is the turn of the tide". We could not let the magic of Camp Kirby ebb away, and thus, we made the tough decision to go to the press.

An outpouring of public support welcomed us in the New Year and with it, a renewed optimism for the future of Camp Fire Samish. In 2013, candy sales were up, auction attendance nearly doubled, donations increased, we enjoyed a stellar Day and Resident Camp season, the No Show Ball exceeded expectations, and we received a \$10,000 environmental education grant from Tesoro. The year end result? Camp Fire Samish is currently debt free!

It's an exciting time to be involved in Camp Fire. Our National organization is partnering with other youth serving agencies, has increased marketing support to Councils, and is financially solvent. We now have the opportunity to work together towards a brighter future. It's time to take some risks, add staff, extol our mission, and make recapitalization as much a priority as advancing our service to youth.

Young people want to shape the world. Camp Fire provides the opportunity for youth to find their spark, lift their voice, and discover who they are. In Camp Fire, it begins now.

Erin Baldwin

Executive Director



Wohelo recipients: Jocelyn Gonzalez, Becca Deshaies, Krista Baldwin and Kayla Solari.



Wohelo Awards

"Wohelo" stands for Work, Health, and Love-values that are central to Camp Fire. The Wohelo Award is the highest achievement for youth in Camp Fire.

This prestigious award, for teens in grades 9 through 12, offers opportunities for personal development, leadership, and advocacy on important issues. The award is earned by completing an intensive and highly individualized set of projects designed to take approximately 4 years to complete. Teens design their own projects based on their interests, values, and goals. Completing the requirements to earn the Wohelo Award takes hard work, dedication, motivation, creativity, determination, and discipline.

Camp Fire Samish is proud to announce that four young adults were awarded Wohelo medallions during a ceremony held at Camp Kirby on Sunday, October 27, 2013. These outstanding Camp Fire members are the first to earn this coveted award in Samish Council since 2006. Samish Council is comprised of Island, San Juan, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties.

CLASSIC CLUB

Clubs consist of six to ten children, each with at least two adult leaders. Camp Fire serves youth ages 3 through 18. They meet weekly or bi-weekly throughout the year at a time and location convenient to the leaders and youth. Clubs provide a wide variety of exciting and fun activities, projects, experiences and events. In fact, the activities are limited only by the members' imaginations!



Clubs explore the Camp Fire Trails:

- The Environment: To understand, appreciate, and care for the world around us.
- Creativity: To stimulate creativity and the imagination through art, dramatics and music.
- Family and Community: To develop compassion for others, a desire to give service, and strengthen citizenship.
- Knowing Me: To further self-confidence, self-reliance and to enhance each child's place in the family and in his or her community.
- The Future: To stimulate curiosity and new interests through games, science, sports and outdoor adventures.



SELF RELIANCE

Like all Camp Fire programs, self-reliance courses attempt to negate traditional stereotypes, and help boys and girls develop a balance of critical life skills. These classes help to increase self-esteem, enhance problem solving and decision making abilities, teach basic life skills that keep kids healthy and safe, and address the complex issues of human relationships.

CAMP KIRBY

DAY CAMP

Samish Council currently offers a full week, day camp experience at beautiful Camp Kirby on Samish Island. The program is tailored to take advantage of the unique features of Kirby, which is located on 47 acres of lush forests, wetlands, and Puget Sound beaches.



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Environmental Education programs build respect through hands-on experiences in nature's classroom. The place-based learning experience allows youth a chance to apply new knowledge and skills through interactive exercises and games in the lush forests, pristine wetlands, and unique beaches of the Pacific Northwest. Students gain a greater understanding of their world and acquire the necessary tools to make decisions for a sustainable world. In nature's classroom, learning and fun go hand in hand!



Camp Kirby's camper-centered philosophy teaches campers how to interact and become part of a community by planning their own program at their developmental level. Challenge activities, archery range, climbing wall, canoes and outdoor living skills build self-esteem and confidence in campers while they make new friends and have the time of their lives!

CAMP KIRBY RESIDENT CAMP

Half, one and two week programs are offered in July and August for school-aged youth entering first through twelfth grade. Each week is themed, and tailored to take advantage of Camp Kirby's extraordinary natural surroundings. The CIT (Counselor-in-Training) program is a leadership training program for older teens.



DONORS 2013

20th Century Bowl	Bob's Burger & Brew - Jon Rickert	Mary Ellen Copner	Larry & Susan Forsythe	Carolyn Jenkins Jewell	Julia Maywald
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Brian & Caroline Baldie	Camp Fire Samish	Sharon DeWitt	Barbara Haines	Kristine Leander	Mike & Sharon Minor
Erin Baldwin	Board of Directors	Tim Dickerson	In Memory of Ellen Hall	Stephen & Barbara Lee	Darrell & Kitty Mintz
Krista Baldwin	Camp Quest Northwest	Bob & Mary Dickinson	Norma Hall	Larry & Donnette Lennox	Aaron & Beth Moe
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Tasha Bellevita	Katherine Cedarstrom	Edgewater Garden Club	Sylvia Hayden	Jean Linde	My Favorite Things
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Stephen Bennett & Marsha Jordan	Gerald & Susan Christensen	Donald & Joyce Erickson	In Memory of Virginia Hoffelt	Errol & Beverly Loving	Kendra Norton
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Billy McHale's	Larke Clinger	Tobie Fehr	Kelly Huselbus	The Market, LLC - Lakeway	Eric & Nancy Olsen
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Savannah Blue	Ryan & Jennifer Cook	Fisher & Sons Inc.	Anne Jewell	Joanna Mattson	
Blue Heron Coffee Co		William Fitzharris		Max Dale's Steak and Chop House	
		Florentine Design Group			

Our deepest apologies if anyone was missed. Thank you to

Trillis Parker
Don & Neva Jones Pavia
Joyce Pearson
In Memory of Donald & Marilyn Pederson
Peggy Perry
Barbara Petersen
Roger Peterson
Natasha Petroff
Tony Pickering
Lyle (Bud) Pierson
Eleanor Pilon
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Don Shuyr of Burlington Auto Parts
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Skagit County Historical Museum
Skagit Dart League
Skagit Land Trust
Skagit Radio Sports
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Tulip Valley Wine
Karen Turner
Two Thimbles Quilt Shop
United Way of Skagit County
United Way of Whatcom Co.

University of Washington
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Vacationland RV
Chris Vacca
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Ronald & Carolyn VanderVegt
Vanessa Veit's Club
Helen VanLohuizen
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Nancy van Zandt
Vanessa Veit
George & Eiko Vojkovich
Robert Wagner
Wendy Wagner
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Jack Walker
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Shawn & Danielle Welcome
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Ron & Jan Wesen
Western Washington University
Russ & Rebecca Weston
Whatcom Museum
April White
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Wini White
Julie Whited
Christa & John Williams
Gladys Williams
Katherine Williams
Williams & Nulle
April Williamson
Peggy Willingham
Cheryl Willis
Wind and Tide
Diana Wisen
Chuck Wolber
Denise Wolff
Woodland Park Zoo
The Woods Coffee
Catherine Worley
Rodger & Colleen Wright
Bonnie Yeager
Yeager's Sporting Good
Judith Yeakel
Reidar & Mildred Ytgard

In Memoriam

- ♦ Irene Kasson
- ♦ Ellen Hall
- ♦ Virginia Hoffelt
- ♦ Donald & Marilyn Pederson

Camp Fire Samish honors the memory of these loyal members and supporters



Service Groups and Businesses who have volunteered their time and services.

Boy Scouts
Keller Williams/Cherie Scott
PNW Tek
Skagit County Community Action Agency
Skagit State Bank
Tesoro
Williams Pipeline
Whidbey Island Marines

Thank you to all of our supporters:

Your contributions of money, time and energy are all vital to the preservation of Camp Kirby and Camp Fire Samish.

Your gift ensures Camp Fire Samish can: provide children hands-on learning and physical activities; give kids the chance to be part of programs that create the next generation of leaders; allow more boys and girls the magical experience of Camp Kirby; and connect kids to their community, their family, and the natural world.

Camp Fire's Promise: Young people want to shape the world. Camp Fire provides young people with the opportunity to find their spark, lift their voice, and discover who they are. In Camp Fire, it begins now. Light the fire within.

At Camp Fire we: *Light the fire within*

Camp Fire was created to guide young people on their journey to self-discovery. Camp Fire helps youth dig deep inside and discover their "sparks," their personally defined nuggets of potential. The founders of Camp Fire felt strongly that young people need experiences that teach them to care for themselves, their environment, and the people around them.

The Camp Fire Experience

Discover your spark.

Do you want to discover yourself?
Do you want to make an impact?
With Camp Fire, you can.

At Camp Fire, staff, volunteers, and people like you are exceptional role models. Our programs encourage you to discover your passion—your spark.

Our Promise

Young people want to shape the world.
Camp Fire provides the opportunity
to find their spark,
lift their voice, and
discover who they are.
In Camp Fire, it begins *now*.
Light the fire within

Inclusive

Camp Fire is open to everyone.

The uniqueness of every individual and family is embraced and celebrated every day.

At Camp Fire, you will build lasting relationships with people of all ages and backgrounds.

Participant Driven

Camp Fire is led by youth.

Camp Fire is about creating new opportunities for you. As you work with others you gain self-confidence, lift your voice, and become a better citizen.

Contemporary

Camp Fire helps you develop skills, now.

Together we build a strong foundation which empowers you to take initiative today.



Camp Fire

Samish