

LIGHT THE FIRE WITHIN



## Camp Kirby Registration Opens Soon!



Registration for Day Camps, Family Camps, and Alumni Camp will open at 9AM on Tuesday, January 3rd

Resident Camp registration will open at 9AM on Tuesday, November 1st

Happy Fall, friends! This coming year is one that we have been looking forward to for a long time, as it is Camp Kirby's Centennial! We can't wait to celebrate our 100th year with all of you, all year long. While our Centennial Celebration event won't take place until September, we will be tying the Centennial into all of our other annual events. For example, we are thrilled to announce that our dates and themes for summer 2023 are now live! You can check out all of the details at the links below.

It's not too early to start your summer planning since you can secure your camper's spot next week! We ended last summer with almost 200 campers on waitlists for various sessions, so I can not stress enough that you should register early. Many of our sessions and age groups fill very quickly. Overnight (Resident) Camp registration will open at 9AM on Tuesday, November 1st. Registration for Day Camps, Family Camps, and Alumni Camp will open at 9AM on Tuesday, January 3rd. Over the next few months, we will be opening our Counselor-in-Training and Staff Applications for the upcoming summer season as well. Thank you all for your continued support of Camp Fire Samish & Camp Kirby, and I hope to see you all soon.

Kathryn "KitKat" Deshaies  
Camp Kirby Camp Director  
[Kathryn@campfiresamish.org](mailto:Kathryn@campfiresamish.org)  
(360) 255-7765

[Resident Camp](#)

[Day Camp](#)



Winter is fast approaching and it will soon be time to put **Camp Kirby** to bed for the season. To date, we've enjoyed an abundant year, thanks in large part

to your support! Camp Fire Samish celebrated a successful auction at Camp, operated Day and Resident Camps at full capacity, led Outdoor Education for many youth nonprofits and school groups, and hosted Camptoberfest with our largest crowd ever.

We also made many repairs and improvements to our beloved Camp. Broken appliances and equipment were replaced, septic systems improved, and we installed a new Kirby store. There is now a floating dock in the bay, the main lodge chimney was fixed, and Bluebird has been upgraded. We purchased life jackets, archery supplies, climbing wall equipment, and the new utility vehicle should arrive any day. As you can imagine, there is still more work to do on a 100-year-old camp.

One hundred years?? YES! We will be celebrating the **Camp Kirby Centennial in 2023!**

We need your help to continue making improvements and building capacity at Camp. In this age of COVID, dependence on technology, and the loss of traditional communities, **kids need camp more than ever**. Many children feel disconnected, isolated, and powerless. Camp programming provides youth positive role models, connections to nature, and to each other. Camp Kirby gives children an active, outdoor experience that builds self-confidence and allows them to be kids.

To increase capacity and to better utilize the buildings we do have at Camp, we have plans to build a covered Day Use area, install a full bathroom in HiTor Lodge, add bunk beds and mattresses, and put a kitchen in Bluebird Lodge. With your help, we can make this a reality and **serve even more youth in 2023**.

Please donate today, and together, we can continue ensuring a better future for our children.

WoHeLo (Work, Health, Love)

Erin "MamaKat" Walker  
Executive Director

[Donate Today](#)

## Winterizing Work Party



November 19th is our final work party of the year! We will be working at Camp to clean up and prepare for the winter months. Work parties are a great way to give back to Camp Kirby. We have jobs for every skill level. Weeding, brush clearing, winterizing cabins, chopping wood, and so much more! We'll be providing lunch too!

## Introducing

### Our Newest Addition

We're thrilled to introduce the newest member of our Camp Kirby Family, Kelly Kristine Deshaies. Kathryn "KitKat" and Aaron "Olaf" welcomed Kelly on October 10th. Wiggles has been a great big brother, and can't wait to hear what Kelly's Camp Name is going to be!



## New Staff Spotlight



### Melissa "Digit" Elliott - Finance Director

Melissa is a Northwest native and recently moved to Bellingham from the Seattle area. She attended Seattle Pacific University where she studied Business Administration. Melissa has worked in Finance for more than 15 years; most recently supporting the financial needs of individuals with disabilities. Melissa looked forward to attending camp every year as a child and believes that the connections made and skills built really helped her find her "spark". In her down time, you will find Melissa outdoors (even on rainy days) canoeing Lake Whatcom, hiking the trails around Mt. Baker, and exploring Bellingham with her husband and son.



Our Amazon Wish List is a great way for volunteers and patrons such as yourself to give outside of traditional cash donations. You can instantly show your support by shopping on our Wish List. The list is on Amazon and can be shipped directly to the Camp Fire Samish office. Maximize your gift using Amazon Smile where .5% of your purchase is donated to the charity of your choice!

[Click here for Amazon Wish List](#)

## Upcoming Events:

### Resident Camp Registration Opens:

November 1st, 2022 | 9AM

### Camp Kirby Winterizing Work Party:

November 19th, 2022 | 10AM - 4PM

### Day, Family, and Alumni Camp Registration Opens:

January 3rd, 2023 | 9AM

[Click here for News and Events](#)

**Camp Fire believes in the dignity and the intrinsic worth of every human being. We strive to create safe and inclusive environments that celebrate diversity and foster positive relationships.**



*Camp Fire Samish  
Camp Kirby  
1321 King St. Suite 3  
Bellingham, WA 98229*



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