



## Celebrating 100 Years of Camp Kirby



## Exciting Leadership Changes at Camp Fire Samish

To further the incredible growth we've experienced at Camp Fire Samish & Camp Kirby over the past decade, the Corporate Board of Directors voted to split the Executive role into two separate positions. Kathryn Deshaies has been promoted to Executive Camp Director, and Marcus Roskamp has been hired as Executive Director to work side by side in continuing the success of Camp Fire Samish and Camp Kirby. This move will better leverage the leadership, skills, and talents at Camp Kirby, at the business office, and in the community. Congratulations to Kathryn and welcome to Marcus!



I am incredibly excited to be joining the Camp Fire Samish team! I grew up on a farm in Minnesota, so I've always felt connected to the outdoors. I spent lots of hours of my childhood exploring our farmland and feel very fortunate to have spent so much time outside during those formative years. I earned my bachelor's degree from Dordt University and my master's degree from Western Theological Seminary. Before starting in this role, I worked for thirteen years as the Lead Pastor of two different churches.

My goal for Camp Fire Samish and Camp Kirby is that we can continue to inspire and empower



I have had the pleasure of meeting and interacting with many of you over the past 15 years, but am excited to reintroduce myself as I move into this new role at Camp Fire Samish.

My Camp Kirby experience began as a Day Camper in the mid 90s, and continued until I joined the Camp Fire Samish Staff in 2008. I have held a variety of positions over the years, both at Camp and in the office, but most recently have served as the Camp Director for the past 10 years.

I believe deeply in Camp Fire's mission, and am lucky enough to get to see the impact that we

youth by connecting them to the outdoors, to others, and to themselves. For me - it's all about the kids! Camp Kirby is an incredible place, and I will work hard to make sure we can continue to impact as many youth as possible.

Outside of work, I spend most of my time with my family. My wife Amy and I have been married for 15 years, and we have three fantastic kids, ages 12, 8, and 6. I love playing golf, baking, listening to good music, and rooting for Minnesota sports teams!

Welcome  
Marcus!

are able to make firsthand. I am passionate about providing an equitable, inclusive, welcoming place where kids can thrive and feel like they belong. I am looking forward to working with Marcus to continue the fabulous growth that we have seen in recent years.

I live on-site at Camp Kirby year-round with my husband, Aaron (Olaf), and our two children, Keith (Wiggles) and Kelly (Belle). When we're not busy at Camp, we love to travel and go on adventures as a family. We look forward to seeing many of you for our Centennial Celebration on September 30th!

Congratulate  
Kathryn!



## KitKat's Korner

As I sit here and reflect on our 100th season, I find myself with both a giant smile, and a tear in my eye. We truly could not have asked for a better summer here at Camp Kirby, and it honestly makes me quite emotional to think back on all of the memories made over the last two months.

To our campers - Thank you for bringing so much wonderful energy, for trying new things, and for sharing so much of who you are with us. You are the reason that we are here, and I hope that you enjoyed your time at Camp this summer. We loved spending time with you, and hope to see you again soon.

To our staff - Thank you for your hard work, your passion, and your never-ending Kirby spirit. You changed lives this summer. You gave our campers a safe and welcoming experience that allowed them to shine, and for that I am so grateful. You are what keeps the Kirby magic alive.

To our alumni - Thank you for your continued love and support of *the camp of our dreams*. Alumni Camp was a great success this year, thanks to the wonderful planning committee and awesome attendees. I hope to continue the fun with all of you next summer: July 18-21st, 2024- save the dates!

To our campers' families - Thank you for entrusting us with your most important people. It is not lost on me what an honor it is to be able to spend a week with your children. Our campers are incredible young people, and I appreciate that you share them with us.

To everyone else - Thank you for supporting our mission, and helping us connect kids to the outdoors, to others, and to themselves. Growing up is hard, but with your help we are able to help young people thrive.

Please join us on September 30th for our Centennial Celebration at Camp Kirby! We'd love to see you there. Also, registration for Summer 2024 will be opening before we know it! Overnight Camp registration opens November 1st, and Day/Alumni/Family Camp registration opens January 2nd, so mark your calendars now. I hope that you all have a fantastic rest of your summer, and I hope to see you soon.

WoHeLo,  
**Kathryn "KitKat" Deshaies**  
*Executive Camp Director*

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## Upcoming Events:



Come join us at beautiful Camp Kirby for Camptoberfest 2023. This year we will have more than enough food, beer, and fun for all! All proceeds go to improving our 100 year old Camp Kirby. (event is 21+)



Join us on Saturday, September 30th beginning at 1pm for a full day of celebrating 100 years of Camp Kirby. Celebrate our history, our tradition and future with us. All are welcome!

Learn More about  
Camptoberfest

Learn More about our  
Centennial Celebration

## Mission

We inspire and empower all youth to discover their spark, connect with others, develop leadership skills, build character, and thrive in the natural world.

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



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