



Orca Sounds

September - October 2006

Dates to Remember

September

- 4 Labor Day
- 8 Puyallup Fair starts
- 23 Autumn Equinox
- 24 Puyallup Fair ends
- 28 Membership registrations due

October

- 5 Leader Meeting
6:30 pm at the council office
- 21 Candy Sale Mystery Trip
- 26 National Leadership Conference begins, Phoenix, AZ
- 31 Halloween

November

- 10 Veteran's Day observed
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 23 Thanksgiving

For nearly a century:

**integrity,
responsibility,
tolerance.**

**We build more
than campfires.**



Welcome Back, Members and Leaders!

It seems like just a few weeks ago that we were all looking eagerly ahead to summer—warm weather, sandals, casual meals outdoors, and summer camp or a short camping trip or two. Now here it is September, school has started, and—uncharacteristically—we are still enjoying summer-like weather.

As the new program year and the new season begins, I wish you all a fantastic year with all the best that Camp Fire has to offer for youth, adults and the community.

Kathy Uruuh
Executive Director

*“Autumn is a second spring where every leaf is a flower”
—Albert Camus*

JILL PASEWALK SELECTED NATIONAL PRESIDENT AND CEO OF CAMP FIRE USA

Jill Pasewalk, formerly Senior Vice President of Program and Field Services, took over as the National President and Chief Executive Officer of Camp Fire USA, effective June 1, 2006.

According to National Board Chair Gwen Whitson, "Jill is the right leader at the right time. She is uniquely qualified to be our movement's top national leader."

Ms. Pasewalk brings over 30 years of management experience with national youth development organizations to Camp Fire USA. She has worked at the national headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri for four years—two as the Field Executive overseeing the northwest regional office in Salem, Oregon, and two as Senior Vice President during which time she was responsible for developing Camp Fire's multi-year strategic plan.

Ms. Pasewalk was CEO of the Camp Fire USA Alaska Council,

Executive Director to the Camp Fire USA Bay Area Council in California and consultant to Camp Fire USA national headquarters as editor of the middle

International, and as a Campaign Cabinet member of the United Way.

"Our mission is to build caring, confident youth and future leaders. In support of families we demand the best for our children, which means providing thoughtful, quality programs, experienced, professional staff, and a safe environment, both physically and emotionally."

"Camp Fire USA will be celebrating its 100th birthday in 2010. We will use Camp Fire USA's Centennial as an opportunity to raise awareness of issues affecting young people and their families. I am privileged to be working at Camp Fire USA because I get the chance to provide a way to change people's lives. My new responsibilities allow me to continue my lifelong passion for youth development."

See a picture of Jill and read her First Monday Memo on the Orca website.

Every child deserves a chance to reach for the best in themselves. We want to make that possible for every child—boys and girls of all backgrounds, income, and geography. That is Camp Fire USA's vision.

—Jill Pasewalk

school Discovery curriculum. Prior to her work with Camp Fire USA, Jill served as the Executive Director of the YWCA in Santa Cruz, and for the Girl Scouts USA. Ms. Pasewalk held community volunteer positions with the Camp Fire USA National Board of Trustees, Rotary



Do the Puyallup—and Maybe a Tall Ship!

Camp Fire USA has been fortunate to enjoy its own department at the Puyallup Fair for many, many years. Just a couple of years ago, the department was moved from its old location above the grandstands to a more accessible location in the Exhibit Hall.

If you haven't visited the Camp Fire exhibit lately, be sure to stop by this year and enter to win a free cruise on the tall ship Miss Washington—a trip of a lifetime!

Councils Suffer Long-Term Effects from Hurricanes

Here in the northwest, relatively few of us are aware that this is the height of the Atlantic hurricane season. Officially it is from June to November. Over 97% of tropical storms take place during this time period, with the maximum storm activity in early to mid September.



Photo of Hurricane Wilma

National Camp Fire USA has been working with six councils in Southern Louisiana and Texas that are still reeling from last year's hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and continues to look at opportunities for councils across the country to help these councils to raise the necessary capital to rebuild.

Camp Fire USA Southwest Louisiana Council, Lake Charles served as a refuge for evacuees from Hurricane Katrina, who then had to be evacuated during Hurricane Rita. The council's camp suffered extensive damage from wind and water.

Camp Fire USA Greater New Orleans Council has received help from nearby councils in providing programs but has had to look for new revenue to replace money that would have come from their major funding source, the United Way of Greater New Orleans.

Camp Fire USA Towazi Council, Bogalusa sustained serious damage to its camp, but with the help of many volunteers, the council raised funds to renovate buildings in preparation for summer camp.

Camp Fire USA Big River Council, Baton Rouge continues to collaborate with schools and social service agencies to meet the needs of displaced children and families from New Orleans.

Camp Fire USA Southeast Texas Council, Port Arthur was hit hard financially by the hurricane which delayed their membership drive and cancelled their Candy Sale. This was especially difficult because campaign dollars raised by their local United Way were at an all time low and the United Way office was totally destroyed.

Camp Fire USA Orange Council, Orange, Texas suffered significant loss of trees both at camp and around their office. As in most hurricane-damaged cities, contractors were hard to find. Their local United Way surpassed the agency's goal, however the United Way office was destroyed, so the council expects a decrease in their allocation.

How Do Hurricanes Get Their Names?

Since 1953, Atlantic tropical storms have been named from pre-set lists created by the National Hurricane Center. Before that time, a storm was identified by a combination of its latitude and longitude. It soon became clear, however, that using short, distinctive given names was quicker and less open to error, especially when exchanging detailed storm information between hundreds of widely scattered stations, coastal bases, and ships at sea.

The list originally featured only women's names. Men's names were introduced in 1979 and alternated with the women's names. Six lists are used in rotation, which means the 2005 list will be used again in 2011.

If a storm is particularly deadly or costly, the offending name may be removed from the list and another name selected to replace it. Andrew was retired in 1992, Frances in 2004, and Dennis, Katrina, Rita, Stan and Wilma were removed in 2005.



In October, Invite a Dinosaur to Lunch!

Are you or your club looking for projects to do in October? The following list of monthly observances in October should give you plenty of ideas!

- Adopt-a-Shelter-Dog Month
- AIDS Awareness Month
- Apple Month
- Blindness Awareness Month
- Book Month
- Brain Injury Awareness Month
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- Car Care Month
- Caramel Month
- Clergy/Pastor Appreciation Month
- Computer Learning Month
- Cosmetology Month
- Crime Prevention Month
- Dental Hygiene Month
- Dessert Month
- Dinosaur Month
- Disability Awareness Month
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- Energy Awareness Month
- Family History Month
- Family Sexuality Education Month
- Fire Prevention Month
- Flu & Pneumonia Month
- German American Heritage Month
- Healthier Babies Month
- Hispanic Heritage Month
- Learning Disability Awareness Month
- Mental Illness Awareness Week
- Pasta Month
- Pickled Pepper Month
- Pizza Month
- Polish-American Heritage Month
- Popcorn Poppin' Month
- Pregnancy & Infant Awareness
- Pretzel Month
- Rollerskating Month
- SIDS Awareness Month
- Spina Bifida Awareness Month
- Stamp Collecting Month
- UNICEF Month
- Vegetarian Month
- Youth Against Tobacco Month

Merchandise Ordering

The national Camp Fire USA office offers a wide range of Camp Fire items that Orca Council cannot carry in stock. To save on shipping costs, notify Johna if you need anything, she will place an order at the end of each week. You will not be charged shipping.

If possible, please let Johna know the item number since this helps prevent most errors in ordering. Johna also wants to let everyone know that she was again shorted brown outdoor beads in her order and expresses her apologies to those who are still waiting.

Reminder:

Program Director Johna Noble will be on vacation from September 15th to October 2nd, taking a well-deserved break from the long summer camp season.



**Need to reach Johna?
Call (800) 498-6234, ext.
17
or e-mail:
jnoble@campfireusaorca.org**

Camp Smokey

By Matt Mistretta



Camp is great!!!!!!!

Now that I have your attention, I will tell you my impressions of the Camp Fire program known as Camp Smokey. I began going to camp the summer of 2000. I was 11 at the time and this was my first resident camp. Prior to the camp I was very nervous for a few reasons. First of all it was my first resident camp; second, I knew only three people that were going to the camp; and third, I did not know what to expect.

When I first arrived at camp I was timid, and nervous. Then I was ushered up to a play field and saw lots and lots of kids. Along with those kids I saw counselors, playing games, singing and supervising the children. I was a little stunned at first to see the counselors interacting with the children, because not only were the kids (which I should mention were all ages) having fun, but the counselors were too. Previously I had heard that other resident camps were miserable and the counselors were mean, but what I was seeing was just the opposite. Even though I was new to the camp I was not treated like an outcast, but more like an annual camper. I was included in all the activities, songs, and even met a whole bunch of new people.

The week at camp was great. My cabin was really cool, and I participated in many activities, games, songs, and a special activity called Trooper's Challenge. Camp Smokey offered great activities like archery, canoeing, swimming, field games, a dance and movie, and a water balloon toss. Trooper's Challenge is an all-camp event where the camp is broken up into teams and competes against one another to earn the most team points. This particular week for one of the Troopers challenge we had an all camp relay race that used various skills like swimming, canoeing, drinking a can of cola, running, and many more skills.

At the end of the week I did not want to leave. I was having such a great time that I never wanted camp to end, but sadly it ended. Because I had such a great time I have gone back to camp every year since then, and I am now a counselor for Camp Smokey. I have even volunteered at the Camp Fire day camps such as Wildwood, Hidden Beach, Great Escape, Kopachuck, and Sportsman's. But for me, Camp Smokey is still the best.



In my opinion I believe that every child should experience at least one of the Camp Fire camps. That being said, I most highly recommend Camp Smokey. It's a great place for kids and a wonderful place to make friends. The friends that I made at this camp I am still friends with and talk to on a regular basis. Camp Smokey is a great way to learn and grow socially and mentally with kids of the same age.

—*Matt*

Matt is a student at Curtis High School and a youth member of Orca Council's Board of Directors