

Orca Sounds

Fall 2009



Upcoming Events

October

- + Candy Sale Committee meets
- 31 Deadline to register for Leavenworth Trip

November

- 5-7 National Leadership Conference
- 11 Veterans Day, and Leader Meeting, Puyallup, 6:30pm

December

- 5 Puyallup Santa Parade
- 12 Leavenworth Trip

January

- + Candy Sale Kick-Off



For updates or more information, visit the Calendar page at:
www.campfireusaorca.org

From the Executive Director



Camp Fire Office to Move

You may have heard that the Orca Council administration office was up for sale. The board decided in June to sell the building, but given today's real estate market they were not optimistic that the building would sell, and hesitant to publicize that it was on

the market. We were lucky to get a good offer fairly quickly and we will likely be moving before the end of the year.

Two new locations have been considered. One is the Puyallup building and the other is a small house near Holy Rosary School in Tacoma. Neither location has great visibility, but considering the upgrades that would be necessary to use the Puyallup building for offices and the fact that the building does not belong to Camp Fire, the board's choice is the house in Tacoma. It will be a big change going from 5,000 to about 1,000 square feet, but the reality is we do not need a lot of staff space right now.

I am happy to report that the proceeds from the sale of the McKinley building will be nearly double the amount that were used to purchase it and the proceeds from the sale of the McKinley building will be used to continue Camp Fire programs for today's youth.

A little building history

The McKinley Avenue building was purchased in 1991, just after the Puyallup, Olympus and Tyee Councils merged with the Tacoma Area Council to form what is now known as Camp Fire USA Orca Council.

Before the move, the Tacoma Council owned a smaller building on 4th & St. Helens, just north of downtown Tacoma. That building had some major issues. It was too hot in the summer and too cold in the winter; there were no offices, just cubicles, no parking and limited meeting space. What it did have was a fantastic view of Mt. Rainier, but with the addition of Puyallup, Olympus and Tyee staff, the building was clearly too small.

The McKinley building was purchased with proceeds from the Tacoma council's 1985 sale of Camp Wakoma, the council's resident camp. Camp Wakoma was purchased with funds raised by Camp Fire Girls selling Camp Fire mints. Imagine the commitment of the Camp Fire Girls and their families back then (Camp Wakoma was purchased in 1952) to accomplish the goal of earning enough money through candy sales to buy a summer camp!

*"Life is like riding a bicycle.
To keep your balance you
must keep moving"*

—Albert Einstein

Rummage Sale Success

We held our first rummage sale over Labor Day weekend and were delighted to have donations from club members, their extended families and board members. It was great to see everyone come together and donate items for the sale.

I would like to make this an annual event so start collecting items and plan to help set up/clean up.

A huge thank you to the following people:

Chesney Livingston
Emilee Smalley
Rebecca Engelhardt
Christina Buchanan
Elisabeth Buchanan
Chris Bohnen
Nick Bezanson
Margaret Livingston



Want to Go To Leavenworth? Sign Up by October 31!

A holiday trip to the Tree Lighting Ceremony in Leavenworth, Washington is an annual event for Orca Council. This year's trip is scheduled for Saturday, December 12th.

It is a full day event. We usually leave downtown Puyallup first thing in the morning, and return between 7 and 8 in the evening, after a full day of shopping, entertainment, and food.

The trip is open to youth in the Discovery and Horizon program levels, as well as adults. All youth must be accompanied by an adult chaperone.

The cost of the trip will be determined based on the number of people who participate.

Those interested in going please RSVP to Stephanie Golka-Smith at 253.468.8987 no later than Saturday, October 31st so we can make plans for transportation.

Represent Camp Fire in the Santa Parade

Mark **Saturday, December 5** on your calendar—that's the date for this year's Puyallup Santa Parade.

The parade is traditionally considered the start of the holiday season in Puyallup, and features Santa arriving on a fire engine, as well as a window decorating contest for downtown merchants. Parade-goers get a chance to vote for the best decorated window in downtown Puyallup.

Orca Council will be participating in the parade again this year. Members interested in being in the parade, and/or helping with a float, are asked to please contact Terill Fraser at 253.230.8300.





WHAT, WHEN, WHO...

Plans are underway for a number of council events. Following is a list of some of those events, along with the names of the person or group that will be taking a major role in organizing them.

If you have questions, suggestions, information, or time to share for any of these events, please contact the office or the organizer listed below.

Do You Twitter?

Visit Camp Fire USA's national Web site, www.campfireusa.org, to link to national social networking sites. These include Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, MySpace, YouTube, and Flickr.

The purpose of the national Camp Fire sites is to engage people and encourage them to share Camp Fire experiences. Be sure to check out and friend the national sites to keep updated!

- Are you on Twitter? Join the Camp Fire USA twibe at <http://twibes.com/CampFireUSA/>
- Have a Camp Fire question for which you would like instant feedback? Send messages directly to those affiliated with the twibe and see updates from those members.
- **Idea for Summer:** Resident camps or other summer programs could create their own Twitter accounts. Twitter is great for sending snippets of information. Someone from your camp could Twitter what's happening at camp each day. Parents can sign up for free Twitter accounts and follow the camp happenings while their children are at camp!

Project/Event	When	Organizer
Outdoor Progression	May	Terill Fraser
National Art Competition	April, plus earlier workshops	Rebecca Engelhardt
Puyallup Santa Parade	December 5	Terill Fraser
Discovery/Horizon Leavenworth Trip	December 12	Stephanie Golka-Smith
Candy Sale Committee	October	Kathy Unruh
Candy Sale Kick-Off	January	Tbd
Centennial Celebrations	2010	Tbd
Absolutely Incredible Kid Day	January	Tbd
Kids Health and Safety Fair	May 1	JoAnn Northcott
Orca Council Council Fire	May 21	Kim Knight**
Centennial Celebration Council Fire	July 31 @ 7:30	Tbd

**update from Pamela Hoirup on October 16, 2009 – Kim Knight (SCC Club) would be willing to organize the 2010 Orca Council – Council Fire, but May 21st does not work for them. They would like to have the council Fire on Friday, June 4, 2010.



Reminder:

Check out the new Centennial Merchandise online at www.campfireusa.org, then submit your order to Stephanie at the next Volunteer/Leaders Meeting.



Centennial Celebrations

Senator Claire McCaskill Named Honorary Chairperson

U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill from Missouri will serve as Honorary Chair for next year's Camp Fire USA Centennial celebrations

"I am pleased that the national headquarters of Camp Fire USA, along with one of the more than 80 local chartered affiliates, the Camp Fire USA Heartland Council, are located in the great state of Missouri," said Senator McCaskill. "And I am thrilled to have accepted the invitation to serve as the Honorary Chair of the Camp Fire USA Centennial Celebrations. This national nonprofit organization, which will be celebrating its centennial next year, has a legacy of building caring, confident youth and future leaders in Missouri and across the nation."



"We are thrilled to have Senator Claire McCaskill as the Honorary Chair of our centennial celebrations," said Camp Fire USA National Board Chair, Gwen Whitson. "Senator McCaskill is well-known as a champion of youth and families through her initiatives in the areas of education and health reform," she added, "and we are extremely honored that she is onboard."

Camp Fire USA will celebrate its Centennial through several events in Kansas City and nationwide. The first will be its annual National Leadership Conference, Nov. 5-7, 2009, in Kansas City, Missouri. This annual event, attended by outstanding Camp Fire youth from across the country, helps build and train strong youth leadership in Camp Fire councils. In addition to the youth representatives, the conference also features leading experts in youth development, advanced training, and seminars for Camp Fire council presidents, board members, executives, program staff and volunteers representing councils coast to coast.

Camp Fire's original goal of building caring, confident youth and future leaders has never changed. Camp Fire welcomes youth and adults regardless of race, religion, socioeconomic status, disability, or sexual orientation.



We Light the Fire...

The keystone event of Camp Fire USA's 2010 Centennial calendar will take place on Saturday, July 31, 2010, when Camp Fire USA will mark its 100th anniversary at Centennial Campfires held across the country.

This is meant to not only be a Camp Fire USA event, but a community-wide event open to everyone currently involved in Camp Fire, our esteemed alumni across the nation and the interested public. It's our opportunity to celebrate the promise of continuing a legacy that has left an indelible mark on millions of alumni and hundreds of communities.

This official national event will feature a special lighting of commemorative campfires at precisely 7:30 p.m. in each time zone at a place to be announced by each local Camp Fire USA council. Watch the national website (www.campfireusa.org) for a complete schedule of events and detailed information.

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As Camp Fire's 100th birthday approaches, celebrations plans are developing across the country. You can check the national website for regular updates, as well as Orca Council's new Centennial page on its website at www.campfireusaorca.org.

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Art Goes Green National Art Competition, 2009–10

It's that time of year again—time to start planning for upcoming Camp Fire USA National Art Competitions.

The competition has a six-year theme cycle: painting, fibers, printmaking, photography, clay, and open medium. In celebration of the Camp Fire Centennial, the open medium will be used again for the 2009–2010 competition. (Be sure to read the rules for this competition, because they were altered for last year and this current year.)

The theme for the 2009–10 competition will be “Art Goes Green.” Environmental and nature projects are encouraged. A goal is to capture and communicate what it means to “be green” today—its significance to the artist and their futures, to their communities, and to the world—and how individuals are engaging in these “green” practices.

Art projects can consist of, but are not limited to, drawings, crafts, songs, poems, skits, photographs, and videos. Youth should consider using recycled materials to construct their projects.

Painting will be the medium for the 2010–2011 Camp Fire USA National Art Competition. Plans are still in development for this competition; more information will be available in spring 2010.

Orca Council leader Rebecca Engelhardt has offered to organize a workshop during the winter 2009-2010 with an artist (also former Camp Fire kid) who works with recycled materials. This will enable youth interested in participating in the National Art Competition to begin working on their projects prior to the early April deadline. Rebecca will be in touch with leaders via email to see which clubs are interested in participating and when they are available.

WOHELO



Carolyn Louise (Bain) Graf

Members were saddened to learn this month of the untimely death of lifetime Camp Fire member

Carolyn Louise Graf (Bain) on September 17, 2009, following knee replacement surgery.

Carolyn was a Camp Fire Girl growing up and as an adult she was a group leader in Lakewood. In addition to being active in her Leader's Association she always found the time to be the “music lady” at every large Camp Fire gathering. No piano? No problem, Carolyn, a professional musician, brought her own.

Carolyn was also a member of the Camp Fire Sister Daisy Hillbilly Band, which was comprised of some truly untalented musical wannabes, and Carolyn. Some how “the Band,” which had only intended on doing one performance, developed a life of its own and ended up performing for several years raising money for camp scholarships.

Carolyn was a busy lady who squeezed Camp Fire into her life because she cared about kids and she loved Camp Fire. Carolyn; always willing to help, quick to laugh and so very, very special.

Wohelo, Carolyn.