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Calendar

September

1	Magazine Fundraiser Begins
6	Labor Day (office closed)
10-26	Puyallup Fair
18-19	Mom/Kid Weekend at Camp
.....	Niwana
26 ...	Camp Fire's Seahawk Blue
.....	Ribbon Partnership
.....	Fundraiser Game
30 ...	Group Early Bird Registration
.....	Deadline

October

2-3 ..	Service Weekend @ Camp
.....	Sealth
8	Woodland Park Zoo Overnight
16 ...	Woodland Park Zoo Overnight
16-17	Work Party @ Camp Niwana
22 ...	19th Annual Benefit Auction
23 ...	Make a Difference Day
31 ...	Magazine Fundraiser Ends

Welcome Back to Camp Fire USA!

We hope your summer was filled with fun! It seemed to go by too quickly. Perhaps we can find "rest" by getting back into the routine of the school year.

THANK YOU to the many volunteers who helped bring the Camp Fire program to the youth in South King County during the 2003/2004 school year! We could not have done it without **YOU**: leaders, co-leaders, parents, QSP and candy fundraiser volunteers, event committee members, weekend workshop leaders, and the volunteers who helped with events, the office, the store, and recruitment. If there was a way to add up all the volunteer time, it would be in the thousands of hours! Thank you for your investment of time and talent! Together we helped build caring, confident youth and future leaders!

We are ready to be your guides for another year of Camp Fire fun and learning. The South Branch Group Program Committee has set dates for many of our major events (see page 3). See YOU there!

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New Soundings Chairperson

Summer's almost gone – schools are ready to begin. Are you ready for new, exciting Camp Fire adventures or restarting favorite activities? I am!



Hi – I'm Laura Hiber, your new (returning after many years) newsletter chairperson. Some of you know me as one of the Saturday store volunteers, an activity I've enjoyed for many years. Others know me as the Tall Timbers Day Camp Registrar, another of my favorite long time activities.

I've been a Camp Fire member, in a variety of positions for 33 years, starting as my oldest daughter's leader in 1971. Currently I am a team member for my daughter, Gwen's, Horizon Club. I retired in June from the Auburn School District after 20 years. I have always enjoyed working with kids and helping them learn.

Upcoming Events

September 10 - 26	Puyallup Fair
September 30	Last day for Early Bird registration
October 8	Zoo Overnight
October 16	Zoo Overnight
October 22	Camp Fire Auction



Membership Growth: How Can I Help?

During this time of year it can be very busy and exciting around the Camp Fire offices. Often, difficult choices have to be made regarding where we can best promote Camp Fire (and darn it, they have yet to perfect cloning!)

As you've heard before, "More hands make lighter work." There are many pieces to the recruitment puzzle. We all can help make them fit together.

Below is a list of frequently needed recruitment tasks:



- Arrange and staff a table at a local school's open house, barbeque or "back-to-school" night. (*evening*)
- Entertain children at an information meeting (*evening*)
- Promote an evening information meeting in the classroom or at recess by handing out reminder bracelets or speaking with a class. (*daytime*)
- Put up Camp Fire posters in your community. (*anytime*)
- Distribute recruitment flyers at school(s) in your area. (*anytime*)
- Help make follow-up phone calls to perspective members. (*anytime*)
- Mentor a new club. (*anytime*)
- Refer interested families to the office for follow-up (*anytime*)
- Help facilitate a new group's parent meeting (*evenings*)
- Add new members to your own group! (*anytime*)

As you review this list, decide where you might fit in. Together we can make the puzzle come together, help Camp Fire grow and assist children and families find wholesome fun activities!

First Aid /CPR Class at the SBO

Almost 30 of you have indicated a desire to take a First Aid / CPR Class if it was offered at the South Branch Office. Well, the waiting is over! We have two possible dates reserved and need to know which would work best for you. These dates are either October 9th or October 16th. Both are Saturdays. The class would take up most of the day, probably 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., and would cost about \$15. Please call the office at 253 854 3676 to indicate which date would be best for you. Payment will be required in advance of the training.

Adult Weekend

The Adult Weekend committee is already meeting to plan for a fun event to be held February 25th – 27th, 2005 at Camp Sealth. They are looking for donations of any of the following items:

Plastic Canvas
 Pink Yarn
 Fabric (Cotton) With Desirable Prints
 Empty Kitty Litter or Large Pet Food Buckets
 1/2 Pint Jelly Jars
 Wide-Mouth Pint Canning Jars With Lids
 Nice Beads (NOT Seed Beads or Pony Beads)
 Old Domino, Rummikub, Tri-Omino Tiles
 Corrugated Cardboard
 Felt: Pink And White
 Soda Pop Cans (Empty)

If you have any of these items and are willing to donate them, please bring them to the South Branch Office. Registration and more information will be in the January issue of the *Wohelo*.



Camp Fire's 19th Annual Auction

REMEMBER to turn in your donations for the upcoming annual auction to be held on October 22nd at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel and Towers. This year's theme is "The Party for Kids." Please check the list below and contribute what you can to your town's basket! Or, if you have another donation you would like to make, or know of a business willing to donate an item, call or come by the South Branch Office for a donation form or to drop the item off. Items need to be in our hands no later than September 30th.

Town Basket Themes

Auburn: Snow Themed Basket
Enumclaw: Rainy Day Basket
Federal Way: Bath Basket
Kent: Family Fun Basket
Highline: Princess Party Basket
Maple Valley: Italian Basket
Renton: Wine and Cheese Basket

The proceeds made from this auction go to fund valuable Camp Fire programs for more than 18,000 children and their families in King, Kitsap and North Mason Counties.

National Youth Forum

At the end of July, twelve youth from the Central Puget Sound Council made the trek to San Diego for the National Youth Leadership Forum at the University of San Diego. The weather was great, and the workshops were wonderful! Michael Brandwein, a nationally acclaimed speaker, was a hit with both youth and adults. Workshops focused on how to combat hunger and homelessness.

Attendees got a chance to have an up-close look at sugar ants, while giving service by picking oranges to feed the hungry. Saturday evening, forum participants went on a harbor cruise, spending over two hours looking at the view, eating from the dessert bar, and dancing on the dance floor. Participants also got the chance to meet kids from all over the country, forming some lasting bonds as well as renewing old

bonds from previous conferences.



From the South Branch, Hannah Ander, Jennifer Johnson, and Rachel Hickel attended. They will be sharing some of their experiences at Horizon Cabinet in September.

Planning Your Year?

Note these dates!

Auburn Veterans Day Parade

November 6th, 2004

All ages

Adult Weekend

February 25th – 27th, 2005

Adult members and friends

Discovery/Horizon Weekend

March 19th – 20th, 2005

Grades 6 - 12

Adventure Weekend

April 30th - May 1st, 2005

Grades 3 - 5

Starflight Weekend

May 21st – 22nd, 2005

Grades K - 2

Leaders' Meeting Dates for September 2004

Auburn Tuesday, September 7th 7 p.m.
Auburn First United Methodist
100 N Street SE, Auburn

Enumclaw Monday, September 13th 7 p.m.
To be determined - call the office

Federal Way Wednesday, September 8th 7 p.m.
Mirror Lake Elementary Library
625 S 314th Street, Federal Way

Highline Thursday, September 2nd 7 p.m.
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
S 168th & Ambaum Blvd. S., Burien

Kent Wednesday, September 1st 7 p.m.
South Branch Camp Fire Office

NOTE: new meeting date 1st Wednesday of the month

Maple Valley Tuesday, September 7th 7 p.m.
Rock Creek Elementary School
25700 Maple Valley-Black Diamond Rd.

Renton Monday, September 13th 7 p.m.
St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
1700 Edmonds Ave NE, Renton
Change for this month only due to Labor Day

Morning Make-up Meeting

For all areas Tuesday, September 21st 9:30 a.m.
South Branch Camp Fire Office

Other dates to remember:

BGPC Thursday, September 23rd 6:30 p.m.
South Branch Camp Fire Office

Horizon Cabinet Monday, September 27th 7 p.m.
South Branch Camp Fire Office

SEPTEMBER

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Training Dates

Please call the office at 253 854 3676 to register for any of the training dates below. Occasionally we cancel trainings that no one has signed up for, only to find out that someone came without calling. The way to avoid an unnecessary trip to the office is to call and sign up early.

If you know of someone in your area who enjoys children and is willing to make time in their lives for them, now is the time to let them know of our Getting Started training. Here parents learn about Camp Fire USA as an organization and how groups get started and registered. Call Hollianne to set up an appointment!

Getting Started- by appointment

Starflight- K-2nd grade

September 14 th	6:30 p.m.
September 17 th	10 a.m.
September 22 nd	6:30 p.m.
October 12 th	6:30 p.m.
October 19 th	10 a.m.

Adventure- 3rd- 5th grade

Level 3	Sept 16 th	6:30 p.m.
Level 4/5	Sept 15 th	6:30 p.m.

Preview of Discovery-

(adult and youth) 6th- 8th grade

September 17 th	6:30 - 9 p.m.
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(includes potluck dinner!)

Horizon 200 Service Hour Award training-

September 27 th	6:15 p.m.
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(prior to Horizon Cabinet)

Wohelo Award-

September 20 th	6:30 - 9 p.m.
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Tall Timbers I - 2004 Olympics

July 19th dawned bright and sunny on Athens (head camp) and Site Director, Carrie Thornton braced herself for the upcoming competitions. 175 "competitors" sat in the assembly area waiting to hear to what continent they would be assigned. Groups then chose a country on that continent to represent. A daily competition ensued.



The countries earned points by participating in a variety of activities including doing an unexpected kindness for someone, learning words in "their" language, and sharing facts about their country. Campers were visited by two old friends, Sparky the Fire Dog and Smokey the Bear (whom they had their pictures taken with.) Midweek, groups were treated to a session with the storyteller and were also able to sign up for a special nature hike and a time to try some science experiments.

The very hot week ended with the traditional afternoon program with skits and a special presentation of a stepping-stone to the Gardeners for their generosity in letting Camp Fire use their property for 35 years!

Camp Royal Arch

Royal Arch began August 9th with campers and staff ready to enjoy a week of western activities. Site Director, Katie Snodgrass planned a variety of activities around the "Western Days" theme.

Groups had many special programs in which to participate, including crafts, songs, games, and nature hikes. They enjoyed learning about archery from Dragon and many scored bull's eyes. They were also able to learn outdoor skills and outdoor cooking. On Wednesday, the camp joined together for Western Day and enjoyed an all-camp picnic. Thursday was "Round Up Day" with water games and more! Everyone participated in choosing a new camp mascot.

The end of camp was celebrated with a program of skits and entertainment and the overnight for the older campers and the Jr. Staff.

Tall Timbers II

This year's Native American theme found the 201 campers and staff divided into animal clans featuring the Wandering Orcas, Soaring Eagles, Frolicking Otters, and Midnight Wolves. Groups could earn points in a variety of activities to help their clan win the honor of wearing victory ties.

By the second day the campers enjoyed cooking so much that head camp was inundated with roasted hot dogs, pie iron pizzas, banana boats, and nachos. Yum! On Wednesday, the campers were able to "step into the past," joining Soaring Eagle, a Native American storyteller, in his tepee in the meadow. They also learned about some of the Lakota traditions. The groups participated in many crafts, songs, games, and nature hikes. The Bug Lady was kept busy identifying a variety of interesting specimens brought in by the campers. Older campers got to try their skill with the bow and arrow with Dragon, our archery instructor. Groups hiked to the flamingoes, made camp totem poles, and learned lummi sticks.

Friday came too soon for some. Lots of parents joined the campers for the afternoon program of skits, songs, slug races, and the annual counselor scavenger hunt. Fifty-seven campers and staff received their 3, 5, 7, or 10 year tenure awards, totaling 281 years attendance at Tall Timbers!



Lost and Found

Every year we end up with a box full of items left at program weekend events at Camp Sealth, at local day camps, and at a variety of other Camp Fire activities. Now is the time to claim what is yours. Among the pile of items are a beige and tan parka, a Mariner's hat, a new jump rope, an aqua colored towel, several storage containers and a variety of jackets.

We can only store these for so long and then we need to make room for things left at this year's events. Please stop by and see if any of these items belong to you or a family member. Anything not claimed by October 31st will be donated to a local charity.

Program Resource Center

Are you interested in something you have seen in the National Camp Fire USA catalog? In November, we will be placing an order to Nationa, and if you would like to be included in that order, you may do so and pay no shipping charges. Catalogs are available in the store and will be brought to your fall leader meetings. Orders must be paid for in advance. Deadline to give your order to the South Branch Office will be Monday, November 15th - no exceptions.

Usually we have the orders back in 2 - 3 weeks unless the item is backordered. It's never too early to start thinking about the end of year holidays! Act now!



Older Youth News

Horizon Cabinet:

Come to Horizon Cabinet on September 27th, 2004 at 7 p.m. We will be kicking the year off with food, fun and information about activities to come! If you want to have a say on activities for the following meetings, this is an important meeting to be at! Bring a friend and don't miss it!!

Wohelo Award reminders:

- Don't forget to find out about the history and structure of the Central Puget Sound Council! You can visit the museum at the Council Office in Seattle, talk with an experienced alumni or volunteer, or explore the Council in your own creative way!
- Read *Wohelo: The Camp Fire History* early, so that you don't have to pull all-nighters in the spring.
- Come to Horizon Cabinet, since we complete many parts of the reflections as part of the meeting.
- Meet with Hollianne as soon as possible to discuss ideas for advocacies. She can help you think up new ideas or plan out the details for existing ideas.

Call Hollianne at 253 854 3676.

Looking for an Advocacy?

Think about some of the following issues for one of your advocacies:

- Hunger and homelessness
- Encouraging young people to vote
- Education (tutor, assist a teacher, etc.)
- Art (paint a mural, teach kids art skills)
- Bring joy or companionship to the elderly
- Cheering/helping sick children
- Promoting Day Camp
- Promoting Camp Fire USA in your community
- Promoting older youth participation in Camp Fire USA
- Promoting Camp Sealth
- Promote youth leadership in Camp Fire USA

These are only a few issues you can choose for an advocacy. Talk to your older youth advisor, Hollianne, to discuss how these issues can be addressed, and what other issues are out there.

Old Vests - New Life

Did your group fly up to a new level in the spring? Are you wondering what to do with that red or blue vest that is no longer needed?

It can be given a new life by donating it to the South Branch Office to be put to use by those who may not be able to afford a new one. The vests may be dropped off during business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. or the second Saturday of each month, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Your thoughtfulness will be appreciated by those who receive these vests.




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