

### The 2010 National Leadership Summit

The Camp Fire USA National Leadership Summit will be held November 4–5 in Kansas City, Mo. This event has been designed to engage council leadership in a meaningful dialogue about the Camp Fire vision and strategy for the future and how it will both serve the aims of the Movement and inform council priorities.



The welcome and opening dinner will begin with highlights from a successful Camp Fire USA Centennial year. The session will then launch into **“National Board of Trustees Message—We Are a Movement,”** presented by Glenn Cravez, National Board Chair. The session will provide information on the process of looking to the vision and/or strategies for the future. Cathy Tisdale, National President and Chief Executive Officer, will then discuss how Camp Fire will respond to **“America's New Normal: Will Today's Kids Be Ready To Be Tomorrow's Leaders?”**

The Friday morning **“Insights on Camp Fire USA Today”** will provide a system-wide snapshot of the Camp Fire USA Movement. Information on organizational capacity, current challenges, and future opportunities will be shared. The results of our Youth Program Quality Assessment field test and an introduction of strategies for the future will be discussed. Participants will then have the opportunity to work together on accountabilities as a Movement to achieve the vision and strategy for the future.

In the afternoon, participants will contribute to a system-wide consensus on shared accountabilities. Julie Murphy, Senior Director, Strategy & Analysis, Girl Scouts of the USA, will provide an **“Introduction to Strategic Learning: A Process for Strategy Creation.”** This session will include an overview on *strategic learning*, which is a learning-based model for creating and implementing breakthrough strategy. The overview will include real-world application of the model to a federated, youth-serving, national nonprofit and lessons learned in the process.

The National Leadership Summit will also provide time before and after scheduled meetings for informal council networking. For those who are not yet registered, please contact Connie Dresie at 800-669-6884, ext. 2025, or [connie.dresie@campfireusa.org](mailto:connie.dresie@campfireusa.org). Connie Coutellier is managing the logistics of the Leadership Summit. If you have specific questions, contact her at 800-760-5097 or [connie.coutellier@campfireusa.org](mailto:connie.coutellier@campfireusa.org).

Every council is critical to the success of Camp Fire USA. While it is recognized that time and resources are needed locally, *involvement by council leadership is needed nationally as well.*

### Camp Fire USA offers quality programs reflective of best practices in four Core Program Areas because Camp Fire USA...

#### Cares



Orange County Council  
After-School Program

#### Camps



Minnesota Council  
Canoers

#### Contributes

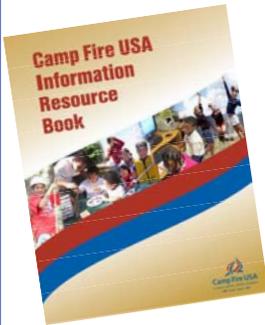


Southwest Louisiana  
Council Service Project

#### Connects



Gulf Wind Council  
Centennial Booth



## Updated *Information Resource Book* to Be Released

The *Information Resource Book (I.R.B)* was created for use by Camp Fire USA councils. Written and designed to be a source of ready-to-use text and information, it can be helpful in writing brochures, fliers, grants, print media articles, and electronic pieces. It can also be used to prepare for a media interview. The *I.R.B.* serves as a great tool to introduce new staff and volunteers to Camp Fire.

The *I.R.B.* has been updated. Each council participating in the National Leadership Summit will receive one copy. The information contained in the book will soon be available as a Microsoft Word document on the Camp Fire USA Compass. Council staff may download it from the Compass to incorporate parts of it into electronic documents. In addition, there will be a PDF version on the Compass in a format that is different from the Word version, and it may be printed for use in training and orientation of board members, staff, and volunteers. The PDF version may also be ordered through the Camp Fire Online Store.

If you have suggestions for additional information to be included in the *I.R.B.*, please contact Camp Fire USA National Headquarters at [info@campfireusa.org](mailto:info@campfireusa.org). National headquarters will be continually updating and adding to this resource book.

## Camp Fire USA GROW Conference

The annual Camp Fire USA GROW Conference will take place February 4–7, 2011, at the Mission San Luis Rey Retreat Center in Oceanside, Calif., just north of San Diego. The GROW Conference is designed for new and experienced council executives, program managers, camp administrators, and program staff. Each year new information is presented to support quality council programs. In addition, the conference is designed to facilitate networking and sharing best practices.



**Registration Information** will be sent to councils in early November.

**December 15, 2010** is the early registration deadline, with a \$75 deposit. The cost of the conference includes conference registration, lodging, and meals. What a bargain! Early registration GROW fees are:

Single Occupancy - \$445      Double Occupancy - \$315

**Keynote Speaker:** Jeremy Bates conducts presentations that are innovative, engaging, and, most important, filled with hope. "Youth At The Core" is the theme of Jeremy Bates' GROW sessions. He will present the GROW keynote on Saturday morning and will follow up his keynote with three breakout sessions. Jeremy's overriding goal is to encourage youth to be who they truly are—reminding us that youth are at the core of our work.

**Breakout Sessions:** The following relevant program and management sessions have been planned:

### Camp Fire USA Program Quality (CFPQA) sessions will be:

- Introduction to the CFPQA Standards and Assessment Process.
- CFPQA Administration and development of the Improvement Plan.
- Two Youth Worker Methods Courses to support council improvement plans.

### Camp Fire USA Camps session topics will include:

- Recruitment methods, hiring techniques, training tips, programming resources, and evaluation options.

### Camp Fire USA Cares, Contributes, and Connects sessions will include:

- Cultural competency training tips, Camp Fire USA curriculum resources, service-learning project best practices, social networking communication ideas, and methods for including families in reflection and ceremonies.

### Highlights of Management sessions will include:

- Training in the council, tips for strategic planning follow-up, and how to use assessments and data to the council's advantage.

Watch for GROW Conference registration and more information soon. If you have questions, contact Carol Johnson, GROW Conference chair, at [cjohnson@campfireusasnohomish.org](mailto:cjohnson@campfireusasnohomish.org).

## Special Events and Conferences

### Plan Now for January MLK Day of Service



During the 1950s and 1960s, civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., recognized the power of service to strengthen communities and achieve common goals. Initiated by Congress in 1994, the King Day of Service builds on that legacy by transforming the federal holiday honoring Dr. King into a national day of community service. The aim is to make the holiday a day ON, where people of all ages and backgrounds come together to improve lives and bridge social barriers.

Councils should begin now to make plans for January 17, 2011, to lead community efforts in giving service and making it a day of service by delivering meals, refurbishing schools, reading to children, planting trees, and more. Further information and service tool kits can be found at [www.mlkday.gov](http://www.mlkday.gov).

### National Learn and Serve Challenge Kicks Off

Be a voice for service-learning! The Learn and Serve Challenge is a seven-month campaign to increase awareness and public support for service-learning. It began in mid-October and will culminate in April 2011, with a few key milestones:

- December 6–10: The 20th anniversary of Learn and Serve America.
- January 2011: Service-Learning Solution Media Days.
- April 6–9, 2011: 2011 National Service-Learning Conference.
- April 15–17, 2011: Global Youth Service Days.

The Learn & Serve Challenge will help increase awareness of and build support for service-learning in schools and local communities. Learn more at [www.learnandservechallenge.org](http://www.learnandservechallenge.org)

### National Service-Learning Conference April 6–9

The 22nd Annual National Service-Learning Conference will be held April 6–9, 2011, in Atlanta, Ga. The conference is the largest gathering of youth and adults involved in service-learning, drawing approximately 2,200 attendees from throughout the United States and other countries each year. Through three days of general sessions, nearly 150 hands-on workshops, service-learning projects, and networking, the conference engages participants in local, national, and global issues. For more information, visit the Web site, [www.nylc.org](http://www.nylc.org).

### Camp Fire to Exhibit at After-School Conference

The National AfterSchool Association (NAA) Conference is April 17–20, 2011, at the Gaylord Palms Resort in Orlando, Fla. Camp Fire USA has registered to have a booth in the exhibit hall. The NAA's 23rd annual national convention will provide comprehensive professional development opportunities for after-school professionals. The NAA Annual Convention has become a must-attend event for leaders in the field. Participants can select from over 200 member-led workshops and special training opportunities, view the latest in resources, and meet important vendors at our exhibit hall. Early bird registration is through December 17, 2010. To register, go to [naaconvention.org](http://naaconvention.org).

### Salute to Veterans

Camp Fire USA has supported the Salute to Veterans since 1975, in cooperation with the Veterans Administration. The activity is an opportunity for youth to be part of an interesting, patriotic, and inspiring endeavor. The purpose of the Camp Fire Salute to Veterans project is to help children learn about veterans, develop a sense of caring, and give service to others. This project takes place around Valentine's Day as part of the Department of Veterans Affairs National Salute to Veterans Week. Youth participating in all Camp Fire programs, including club, after-school, and camp, are eligible to complete the project activities. The project sheets and resource information are available on the Camp Fire Compass. A recognition emblem and national project beads are available on the Online Store for those wishing to award youth who complete the project.

### Key Dates, Trainings, and Conferences

#### November 2010

November 4–5

Camp Fire USA National Leadership Summit, Kansas City, Mo.

[www.campfireusa.org](http://www.campfireusa.org)

#### January 2011

January 17

Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service

[www.mlkday.org](http://www.mlkday.org)

#### February 2011

Salute to Veterans

Camp Fire USA participants can complete this national project. See the Camp Fire Compass.

February 4–7

GROW Conference, Mission San Luis Rey Retreat Center, Oceanside, Calif.

February 8–11, 2011

ACA National Conference San Diego, Calif.

[www.acacamps.org](http://www.acacamps.org)

#### March 2011

March 17

Camp Fire USA 101st Birthday!

AND

Absolutely Incredible Kid Day®

[www.campfireusa.org](http://www.campfireusa.org)

#### April 2011

April 6–9

National Service-Learning Conference

Atlanta, Ga.

[www.nylc.org](http://www.nylc.org)

April 16–18

National AfterSchool Association Conference Orlando, Fla.

[www.naaconvention.org](http://www.naaconvention.org)



## Spotlight on ELSA By Gayle Orange, ELSA Co-Chair

The purpose of Camp Fire's Executive Leadership Strategic Alliance (ELSA) is "to advocate and act for the strength, effectiveness, and integrity of the Camp Fire movement."

We hope that many council executives will be joining us at the National Leadership Summit and the ELSA meetings that will follow.



### Information About the ELSA Meeting Following the National Leadership Summit:

ELSA will meet for dinner on Friday, November 5, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. off-site from the hotel. Dinner will be with your ELSA Region and paid for by ELSA. Everyone will meet back at the hotel for dessert and a summary report of ELSA's accomplishments.

On Saturday, November 6, ELSA will meet for a morning of **work** and **fun!** The agenda is as follows:

- 8:00–8:30 a.m. Welcome and Introductions
- 8:30–8:45 a.m. Brief business meeting
- 8:45–9:45 a.m. ELSA's priorities for the next two years
- 9:45–11:45 a.m. Develop work plans with action items based on identified priorities
- 11:45–12 noon Wrap-up

ELSA is offering a \$100 scholarship to each council executive attending the ELSA meetings at the National Leadership Summit. Please email Bobbie Henderson at [bhenderson@tulsacampfire.org](mailto:bhenderson@tulsacampfire.org). Include the name of your council and to whom the check should be made out. She will distribute at the National Leadership Summit.



The ELSA meeting schedule through January 11, 2011, is as follows:

- National Leadership Summit: Thursday and Friday, November 4 and 5
- ELSA Informal Gatherings: Friday, November 5
- ELSA Meeting: Saturday, November 6
- ELSA Steering Committee Meeting: Tuesday, December 14
- ELSA Meeting: Tuesday, January 11, 2011

ELSA Conference Call Information:

- Second Tuesday of each month, 3 p.m. (CDT)
- Call-in 866-502-8312, Participant Code 256401

Officially, the ELSA steering committee is made up of the committee co-chairs, the national president and chief executive officer, the committee recorder/treasurer, and leaders from the six regions. However, any other executive directors/CEOs may participate in the meeting calls. Discussion in steering committee calls will intentionally be focused on developing region activities and priorities and planning general ELSA meetings.

## Changes in Council Executive and Board Leadership

### Resignation of Executive Directors/CEO:

Joey Hughes, Central Coast Council, Arroyo Grande, Calif.  
Karen Gorton, Mt. Hood Council, Gladstone, Ore.

### Retirement of Executive Directors/CEOs:

Marlys Russell, North Shore Council, Salem, Mass.  
Jane White Vulliet, Central Puget Sound Council, Seattle, Wash.

### Appointment of Executive Directors/CEOs:

Debra Fletcher, North Shore Council, Salem, Mass.  
Pam Ballard, Heart of Oklahoma Council, Oklahoma City, Okla.  
Ted Lord (Interim), Central Puget Sound Council, Seattle, Wash.

### Incoming Board Presidents/Chairs:

Stanley Hawthorne, Sunshine Council, Lakeland, Fla.  
Neil Berl, Portland Metro Council, Portland, Ore.  
Kate Reynolds, Orca Council, Tacoma, Wash.



## Connie's Risk Management Corner—Security By Connie Coutellier

Feeling personally secure is a state of mind based on knowing that reasonable precautions have been taken. Without a sense of both physical and emotional safety, children and staff are easily distracted, uncomfortable, and cannot enjoy their experiences or do their best work. The objective of security planning is to provide a relatively secure working and service environment that allows program and business operations to continue in an uninterrupted and orderly fashion. The plan is described as *relatively* secure, because even with a diligent plan, one cannot guarantee absolute safety.

This article focuses on the reasonable precautions staff need to consider in developing a plan. Helping children be responsible and aware of safety concerns is addressed at the end of the article. The plan should be written, and provided, along with training, to staff and appropriate volunteers. This helps everyone understand their responsibilities in implementing the security measures and appropriately interpret them to participants, parents, board members, the public at large, insurance companies, and various authorities.

Although it is helpful to know about the area in which the office, meeting place, or program site is located, crime can happen anywhere. Some points to consider are:

- **External lighting:** Consider various types of lighting and how extensive the lighting should be. The organization may not be in the control of the lighting, in which case it will need to be negotiated with the landlord or public utility company. If the organization controls the exterior lighting, consider lights at doors, connecting walks or paths, and parking areas. At a program site, such as a resident camp, also include lights at restrooms, the health facility, living and program areas.
- **Alarms:** Consider whether alarms are necessary and, if so, which alarms would be best to use for security.
- **Boundary barriers:** A local police department usually will have a staff person in charge of "crime prevention through environmental design," who will come to the site and give advice regarding areas of risk. This process should include surveying the site for facility-design risks that reduce crime. Plants or hedges next to the building can be hiding places for intruders. At camp or program sites with large outdoor spaces, consider structural barriers, such as fences, or natural barriers that serve as deterrents to unauthorized entry onto the property. Contact a local forester for suggestions of natural barriers.
- **Keys and locks:** Keys should be distributed according to need, not convenience. Keys should be collected or locks re-keyed when a staff position change occurs. Consideration should also be given to keys for locked files, petty cash, and other money in the office. Staff should limit, or have safe places for, their personal items, especially at a program site.
- **Orientation of staff:** Impress upon staff the importance of safety without unduly alarming them. Discuss working late and safely leaving the building. If meetings are held in the evening, plan to depart together.
- **Visitors:** Visitors should be required to check in. Many offices have cut back on their receptionist positions, and some programs are held in places to which the public has access. Consider procedures for greeting authorized and unauthorized visitors. Staff members should be trained on when to approach an intruder and what follow-up steps to take. In the *Risk and Crisis Management Planning Workbook*, Worksheet O-4: Emergency Procedures for Hazards and/or Disasters and Worksheet O-6: Security include emergency information about intruders. Occasionally, what appears to be a prank or vandalism may be a sign of a more serious problem. Therefore, these incidents should always be investigated.

Other security items to consider for program sites include:

- **Buddy system:** Traveling in pairs is always a good idea. Encourage night travel in groups. Recommend that staff members travel in pairs if at all possible.
- **Orientation of participants:** Without unduly alarming the youth, impress upon them the importance of safety. Discuss such rules as traveling in groups, informing a leader or counselor whenever leaving the group, and using flashlights after dark.
- **Orientation of staff:** Impress upon staff members their roles in helping to ensure the safety of everyone. Training should include a thorough discussion of all facets of the security and emergency procedures.
- **Entrance gate closed at night:** If the site has an entrance gate, it should be closed at night. Whether or not it is locked will depend on the location and situation. Be sure to allow for emergency access.
- **Site location:** Information on where the program site is located should be given to parents but not necessarily to the general public. Other information—including staff time off, when a facility is locked or unlocked, and participant or staff personal information—should be carefully evaluated before being given to anyone.
- **Appeal of the program site:** Assess the attractiveness of a site—because of children, horses, and water-front equipment—to intruders. Steps can be taken to reduce this appeal through a show of protection, a discussion of appropriate safety guidelines for participants, and less public exposure.
- **Off-season security:** Vandals and squatters often cause significant damage to the interior of a building. Two of the biggest deterrents are signs of occupancy and internal and external lighting.

## National YAC Highlights

By Mary Milton, YAC Member

Serving on the Camp Fire USA Youth Advisory Cabinet (YAC) has been a great experience for me. I have been able to greatly improve on my leadership skills, gained many new friends and contacts, and been able to share my knowledge. I have loved going to the national events, getting to learn the workings of them, and being able to help the adults make them fun for the youth. This picture of me is after a service project at the food pantry during the 2009 National Leadership Conference.



I still remember getting to go to one of the youth forums when I was in sixth grade. It made my love for Camp Fire USA grow stronger. I still talk with some of the youth I met at that conference and the information, I brought back from that event helped our council's youth program grow significantly. We were able to encourage the youth and bring back our experiences to them. Now, being on the planning side of the events, I strive to make sure that the events we host include things that will interest the youth and information that will help them become strong in their leadership roles and to present it in the fun way that it was presented to me.

YAC has taught me a lot about what it takes to set up and run an event and has also made my thinking cap run wild while Camp Fire USA has struggled to stay strong. I truly feel honored to have been a part of the YAC, especially during the Centennial year. Being on the YAC has taught me communication skills and helped me learn ways to make things happen, even when I am thousands of miles away. The YAC is a diverse group of people from all over the United States, which makes it very unique. At times, such things as setting up a call so that everyone will be awake and free is hard. But the diversity adds to the group, allowing us to get a better idea of what Camp Fire youth throughout the country are thinking and what will help them the most. With budget cuts the last couple of years, it has been a big bummer for the YAC to not get to have a face-to-face meeting each year. However, I have been really happy to see how not having the face-to-face, instead of making us lose direction, has caused us to regroup and discover how we can really make an impact and help others in and outside of Camp Fire.

Camp Fire USA, for me, is a great way to learn the importance of giving service and to find others that share this common goal. It has given me the strength to be able to stand up and teach youth and adults alike. Camp Fire does an amazing job of showing youth positive things to do with their time and teaching them how to become leaders. The National YAC has really let me be a leader, which has been a wonderful experience.

## National Youth Advisory Cabinet Positions Announced

The National Youth Advisory Cabinet (YAC) is composed of 12 youth between the ages of 16 and 21. YAC members are selected through an application process and serve for two-year terms. A member can apply for an additional term, providing he or she meets the age qualification. Applications were accepted and reviewed in September for terms beginning in January 2011.

### New Youth Advisory Cabinet members selected for two-year terms include the following:

Owen Ballard, Heart of the Hawkeye Council  
 Hannah Kraar, Georgia Council  
 Katie Scott, Central Puget Sound Council  
 Emily Smith, Sunshine Council  
 Callie Stern, Georgia Council

### Those National Youth Advisory Cabinet members continuing their term include the following:

Emily Cotter, Sunshine Council, YAC chair  
 Justin Berl, Portland Metro Council  
 Heather Crain, Green Country Council  
 Kayla Hensley, Central Coast Council  
 Molly Johnson, Sunshine Council  
 Lauren Lampe, Adahi Council  
 Taylor Marts, Southwest Louisiana Council



## New National Partnership with Girl Up!

Camp Fire USA recently formed a national partnership with a new global initiative called Girl Up. A campaign of the United Nations Foundation, Girl Up addresses education and health disparities among adolescent girls in developing countries. Girl Up encourages teen and tween girls in the United States to learn about their peers in the developing world, discover how their lives are quite different, and help activate girls in the United States and others to make a difference. Camp Fire is partnering with Girl Up to activate **American boys and girls** in this campaign.



Girl Up will soon release materials with inclusive language, and specific messaging and tools to encourage the involvement of both girls and boys in addition to materials that will activate and engage adult and teen males. Girl Up will also release a service-learning tool kit in January 2011 for Camp Fire USA's use, hopefully in time for Martin Luther King's Day of Service, which will be held January 17, 2011.

Camp Fire USA will support Girl Up by sharing information about Girl Up, encouraging councils and youth to participate in Girl Up events, nominating youth to serve on the Girl Up Youth Advisory Board, and standing up to give a "High Five." Council youth and supporters of Girl Up can give a "High Five" by doing any of the following:

- Taking five minutes to learn about the issues that impact girls in developing countries.
- Sharing five facts about girls and the campaign through social networks (Facebook, Twitter, MySpace).
- Sending the campaign's "Girlafesto" (available for download at [GirlUp.org](http://GirlUp.org)) to five friends and family members and ask them to join in supporting Girl Up.
- Donating \$5 or more to provide school supplies, health check-ups and more.
- Hosting a Girl Up fundraiser at a school, in a club, or in a community to raise money for the campaign by challenging five friends to see who can raise the most money to help girls.

Throughout 2011, Girl Up will host nationwide launch events. Councils located near event locations will be provided with information and encouraged to participate. Girl Up will provide financial support to ensure councils and their youth can participate in launch events and other activities supporting the Girl Up campaign.

this partnership has tremendous value for Camp Fire USA. It will encourage our youth to become global citizens and advocates, and it will help promote Camp Fire as a leading national youth development organization.

To learn more about Girl Up, visit [www.girlup.org](http://www.girlup.org); read the October issue of *Seventeen Magazine* or check out [www.seventeen.com](http://www.seventeen.com); watch for the advertisement on the Toshiba screen in Times Square in New York City; "like" Girl Up on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/girlup>), or search for some of their wonderful interviews, such as those on *Good Morning America*, *Today*, *MSNBC*, *Fox News*! For more information about the national partnership with Girl Up and how to get involved, contact Lauren Wiedt at [lauren.wiedt@campfireusa.org](mailto:lauren.wiedt@campfireusa.org).

## Payless to Provide \$1.2 Million in New Shoes to Children in Need

In mid-October, Payless ShoeSource launched its grassroots annual giving program, Payless Gives™, for nonprofit organizations throughout the United States of America, Canada, and Puerto Rico, to apply to receive coupons for new shoes for the low-income children they serve. Nonprofit organizations that serve children in need are invited to apply online at [www.PaylessGives.com](http://www.PaylessGives.com) through November 5. This year Payless, through its grassroots nonprofit partners, will give \$1.2 million in free shoes to children of families in need. Coupons, each redeemable for a pair of shoes, are provided to qualified nonprofit groups located near Payless stores. Go to [www.PaylessGives.com](http://www.PaylessGives.com) for more information.

## Centennial Merchandise—Going, Going, Gone!

As Camp Fire USA nears the end of its Centennial year, national headquarters will be discontinuing Centennial logo merchandise as each item sells out. Interested in buying a few last minute gifts as mementos of Camp Fire's historic year? Consider a favorite polo shirt, hoody, or commemorative piece of jewelry, perhaps? Now is the time! Once they're gone, they're gone!



## Centennial Youth Project Still Available

The Camp Fire USA Centennial Youth Project was designed to encourage participants in Camp Fire (such as those in clubs, after-school programs, camp programs, and leadership programs) to celebrate the Centennial throughout the year. This is still the Centennial year, and council staff can include the Centennial Youth Project in fall program plans. Items can be adapted to exclude events that have already occurred. See the Camp Fire Compass for more information, or contact DD Gass, [dd.gass@campfireusa.org](mailto:dd.gass@campfireusa.org).

## News From Camp Fire USA Councils

### Camp Fire USA Paint Out Event Held

First Texas Council held its third annual Invitational Paint Out, a unique outdoor painting event, at a local botanic garden in mid-October. Guests were able to watch up to 35 professional artists create original works of art. In addition, Plein Air workshops were held for children. *Plein air* is a term derived from the French phrase that translates to "in the open air." Children created artwork in the open air in workshops taught by professional artists. Find out more at [www.campfirepaintout.org](http://www.campfirepaintout.org).



### Miss Ohio to Talk About Bullying

In early November, Greater Dayton Area Council will be hosting Miss Ohio, Becky Minger, who will be presenting her program centered on bullying: "Discovering You, Empowering You," during the Camp Fire USA after-school program in Dayton, Ohio. Minger, who was crowned Miss Ohio in June, graduated from Bowling Green University and was bullied herself as a child and struggled with her own self-esteem.



"We've been offering programming centered on the prevention of bullying since the early 1970s," said Keith Harrison, executive director of the Greater Dayton Area Council. "Of course bullying changes as our environment changes and so our approach changes." In talking about Miss Ohio, Harrison said, "I met her at a local fundraiser I recently attended. In speaking with her booking agent, I found out about her background, and I thought she was a perfect fit to speak to our children about this issue."

### Youth Attend NYLC Regional Meeting

Youth from the Patuxent Area Council participated in a National Youth Leadership Council (NYLC) National Youth Leadership Training Regional Meeting. As part of the meeting, the youth joined members of the community to help clean up trash and begin work on a Three Sisters Garden in the West Greenbelt Community. The participants learned about ways to use sheep mulching, cleaned trash from areas around the complex, and engaged with city leaders in discussions about the importance of being responsible for the community. Youth noted in their service reflection that it was important to be part of the community and to make a difference. As part of their weekend conference, the youth looked at issues around the achievement gap and how they could find ways to increase learning. Over the next few months the youth will be implementing a youth-led service-learning workshop for middle and high school teens, helping with the garden and finding ways to help



### Tack Shed Remodeled by Summer of Service Kids

Central Puget Sound Council hosts a Youth Volunteer Corps Summer of Service camp session at Camp Sealth. This past summer, youth and staff participated in a construction project to renovate a tack shed at the camp. The kids learned basic carpentry skills and earned 100 hours of service through the camp. The end result is a beautiful and functional horse supply room and an upper deck with seasonal housing. See more at the camp's blog, <http://campsealthnews.blogspot.com/2010/10/tack-shed-remodelled-by-yvc-summer-of.html>.

### S'mores to Benefit Camp Fire USA

Camp Fire USA has partnered with a local restaurant, the Prime Rib Grill based in Kansas City, Mo. The Prime Rib Grill's dinner dessert menu will feature Camp Fire USA S'mores. For each S'more dessert sold, \$1 will be donated to Camp Fire USA local programs.



## Gamma Phi Beta Continues to Support Camp Fire USA

Gamma Phi Beta, an international women's sorority, continues to support Camp Fire USA as the sorority's membership group fulfills its philanthropic goals. Since 1929, Gamma Phi Beta has supported camping for girls. In 2002 this commitment led to a collaboration with Camp Fire to provide camping opportunities for girls who would otherwise not be able to enjoy an outdoor experience. To this end, Gamma Phi Beta chapters support Camp Fire councils in their local communities through volunteer work, by providing financial support, and by sponsoring young girls in Camp Fire programs.

This year, through the annual Gamma Phi Beta campership program distributed through the Camp Fire USA national office, 163 girls received camperships. This was a total of nearly \$59,000 which was distributed through 45 Camp Fire councils. In addition, the Gamma Phi Beta Foundation approved the use of camperships toward any summer program.



Following are quotes from two of this year's Gamma Phi Beta campership recipients.

"I hope to go to camp next year! My favorite part was meeting new friends, nighttime campfires, and being able to talk about real stuff with my cabin-mates and counselors, like peer pressure and bullying." Lourdes, age 12, Camp Fire USA Orange County Council.

"I could not have made this experience possible without the campership help. I have five children and it is hard to find the money for the extras, but camp is the best extra they have ever gotten!" Mother of Nijah, age 11, Camp Fire USA Minnesota Council.

Interested in collaborating locally with a Gamma Phi Beta collegiate or alumnae chapter? Contact Lauren Wiedt at [lauren.wiedt@campfireusa.org](mailto:lauren.wiedt@campfireusa.org). Be sure to thank the chapter members for their dedication and support for Camp Fire USA. As a reminder, chapter officers change each January. Be sure to celebrate the outgoing officers and welcome the new ones to ensure continued support.

## Lip Sync Concert Benefits Camp Fire USA

Orange County Council has a great relationship with its local Gamma Phi Beta sorority. Recently the local Memorial Hall rocked for two nights during the annual Airbands Lip Sync Competition to benefit Gamma Phi Beta's philanthropy, Camp Fire USA. The show run by Gamma Phi Beta brought together 10 of the 13 Greek organizations and three non-Greek clubs for the lip-sync performances. Gamma Phi Beta hoped to raise \$10,000 during this event. The local sorority believes that the event's uniqueness has been the key to its success over the past eight years.

## The Sunshine Council Loves Gamma Phi Beta By Holly Lane, Sunshine Council

While we are fortunate enough to now have a Gamma Phi Beta collegiate chapter at a local college, in previous we have worked to establish a rapport with chapters in other parts of the state. Each year, chapter members from the Florida Institute of Technology in Melbourne, more than two hours away from our council, make the annual trip one Saturday in October to volunteer in our Haunted House. This year they are even fundraising on their campus to raise money for haunt supplies. Last year the Gamma Phi Beta chapter from Jacksonville University, more than four hours away, held a fundraiser that was supplemented by the Gamma Phi Beta Foundation for the Sunshine Council. Members from both chapters made the journey this past July to help celebrate Camp Fire USA's Centennial and connected with women from the new local chapter at Florida Southern College.



In addition to fundraising and volunteer support, the council has now connected with a Gamma Phi Beta alumnae chapter, which resulted in the donation of summer-themed kid's toys and a contribution of scholarship funds for future camping opportunities for girls. It has been a fun and easy relationship to build. These women of Gamma Phi Beta are excited to be connected to Camp Fire USA and are always willing to share their time and energy. I encourage you to reach out to a Gamma Phi Beta chapter and start cultivating a relationship with them. The possibilities for collaboration are endless!

## New York Teacher of the Year Is a Camp Director

Central New York Council Executive Director Jan Peneston and her husband Jeff Peneston have been directors of Camp Talooli for the past 26 years. They are passionate about outdoor education and the power of environmental experiences for youth. Jeff, who was named 2011 New York State Teacher of the Year, is an earth science teacher and as part of his platform as teacher of the year, he is advocating for the camp experience as a way to educate the whole child. In 2008, Jeff was selected to assist an international team of scientists aboard a Swedish icebreaker for two months in Antarctica. Jeff used the trip as a teachable experience for his students. The coming year will be an exciting one for Jeff as he travels the state, talking about his passion for teaching in the outdoors and his experiences with Camp Fire USA.



## Free One-Year ACA Membership for Counselors

The American Camp Association (ACA) recognizes that professional development is an important part of any career, including that of your frontline staff and counselors. Now you can encourage them to take advantage of professional development opportunities with a FREE one-year ACA membership. With its membership, your staff will receive professional development tools, such as access to ACA's professional development center, *Camping Magazine*, *CampLine*, discounts on books and educational events, access to current research, and much more! Go to the following link for more information: [www.acacamps.org/membership/counselors](http://www.acacamps.org/membership/counselors)

## American Camp Association Fall *CampLine*

The fall 2010 issue of the American Camp Association *CampLine* features the annual Camp Crisis Hotline report, information on e-signatures, the HIPAA Privacy Rule, and the progress of the Promoting SUCCESS (Students Using the Camp Community for Enrichment, Strength, and Success) Act. This issue is full of helpful information for any Camp Fire USA program and is available to download at [www.acacamps.org/campline/fall-2010](http://www.acacamps.org/campline/fall-2010). If you are considering converting forms that need signatures to electronic files, be sure to read the article about e-signatures!



## Program Resources

**From the National Science Foundation:** After-school providers can search thousands of hands-on interactive math and science activities at the National Science Foundation's new website, [www.howtosmile.org](http://www.howtosmile.org).

**Child Trends Issue Briefs for After-School Practitioners:** Relevant information for after-school providers is compiled in topical briefs by *Child Trends*. Following are new briefs with great information.

"Assessing Stress in Children and Youth": [www.childtrends.org/Files/Child\\_Trends-2010\\_10\\_05\\_RB\\_AssessingStress.pdf](http://www.childtrends.org/Files/Child_Trends-2010_10_05_RB_AssessingStress.pdf)

"Assessing Bullying": [http://www.childtrends.org/Files/Child\\_Trends-2009\\_10\\_29\\_RB\\_AssessingBullying.pdf](http://www.childtrends.org/Files/Child_Trends-2009_10_29_RB_AssessingBullying.pdf)

"What Kids Think About Themselves": [www.childtrends.org/Files/Child\\_Trends-2008\\_08\\_20\\_RB\\_SelfConcept.pdf](http://www.childtrends.org/Files/Child_Trends-2008_08_20_RB_SelfConcept.pdf)

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