



Camp Fire

Light the fire within



*Camp Fire River Bend
2012 Annual Report*





**I like that she has
the opportunity to
grown and learn
about herself .**

- Parent

**I feel like she
always comes
home just a
little more sure
of herself than
before she went.**

- Parent

**I love that camp
allowed her to
figure things out
for herself while in
a safe, nurturing
environment.**

- Parent

Our Promise

Young people want to shape the world. Camp Fire provides the opportunity to find their spark, lift their voice, and discover who they are. At Camp Fire, it begins *now*.

Light the fire within.

Our Council

Camp Fire River Bend is creating new experiences for the youth of our community. Of programs are co-ed, youth-oriented, and inclusive. Our kids develop the self-reliance and confidence that comes from exploration and creation. We teach youth about community and how they can make the world a better place. For over 90 years, Camp Fire River Bend has given thousands of kids an opportunity to grow.

Camp Fire National

Camp Fire is one of the nation's leading not-for-profit youth development organizations, currently serving nearly 750,000 children and youth annually. Camp Fire, with national headquarters in Kansas City, Mo., provides all-inclusive, coeducational programs in hundreds of communities across the United States. Founded in 1910, Camp Fire's outcome-based programs include youth leadership, self-reliance, after school groups, camping environmental education and child care.

*Light the Fire
Within*

President's Report

Another strong year is in the books for Camp Fire River Bend. From a national level we experienced a small change in name and a bit larger change in our logo.

It was another great year for our council. We made a number of improvements to Camp Tannadoonah and were very fortunate to have some of our very generous donors help out and raise necessary funds for some abnormal emergency repairs.

We are continuing to grow and make the necessary improvements to our camp to ensure we are delivering a great experience to all of our youth. We will continue to evaluate and develop our programming to best fit the needs of the community and to deliver an enriching Camp Fire experience.

This upcoming year we will be looking to stress the inclusiveness of of the Camp Fire program. We are enjoying the current track we are on and are looking forward to the possibilities of where we may be heading in our future programing in our continual goal to serve and develop youth in the best possible ways.

A big thank you to all of you who have supported and continue to support Camp Fire and our council It is your support that keeps us moving in the right direction, toward continual improvement in all that our council does.



Bret Robertson

President, Board of Directors

2012 Board of Directors*

President	Bret Robertson
Vice President	Maureen Koscielski
Treasurer	Rich Mullin

Members-at-Large:

Joe Bellina, Glenn Geiser, Tony Laskowski,
Judy Olson, Patti Russwurm, Neil Waechter

Council Staff

Executive Director	Amber Grundy, Ph.D.
Camp Tannadoonah Director	Amber Grundy, Ph.D.
Club Program Director	Peggy Laskowski
Office Manager	Cathy Kruszewski

Executive Director's Report

We continued to strengthen our council during 2012. We had another fantastic year at Camp Tannadoonah, and worked to further develop the Club program.

We have put a lot of emphasis on improving the facilities at Camp Tannadoonah. During 2012 we installed two permanent basketball hoops, built a picket fence along the dining hall lawn, and installed all new ladders for the waterfront pier. We also sealed the shower house floor, and added tile along the bottom of wall in the shower areas. We painted the shower house with colorful camper handprints. New fans and light fixtures were installed in the Birds cabins.

Austin Raffelock, a former camper and Eagle Scout candidate, built new bunk beds for the Wallace and Exchange cabins. We also started a camp garden to supply fresh food for the kitchen. Unfortunately, a tree fell on the waterfront stairs at the end of the summer. We plan to completely rebuild the iconic waterfront stairs in the coming year.

Our Club program grew slightly this year, increasing from six to seven active clubs, including two new staff-led clubs at Battell Center. We increased from 40 youth to 57 youth in our Club groups. We held many fun Club events this year, including the annual Fun Run and Fun Fair, spring and fall camping weekends, outdoor training, service days, a Sweetheart's Dance, a Harvest Party, and a Craft Workshop.



The summer brought us record high temperatures along with record high numbers of campers at Camp Tannadoonah. We finished the year with 706 total campers for the summer. We were able to provide over \$22,000 in campership funds, distributed among 102 campers.

In July, the council held its 4th annual Hog Roast at Camp Tannadoonah. We honored three new Legend Tree nominees for their contributions to the council over the years. The 2012 honorees were Mrs. Jo Murphy, Camp Tannadoonah Director from 1971 to 1997; Mrs. Pat Laing, former Assistant Camp Director and Camp Fire Executive Director; and Ms. Jane "Toody" Goldsberry, former camper, counselor, Camp Director, and longtime council volunteer.

In the fall we held our third Silent Auction in conjunction with the Birch Lake Yacht Club Fall Dinner. The 2012 event included many wonderful items donated by individuals and businesses, and raised over \$7,600 for the council. We ended the year in a strong financial position, with a balanced budget and a positive net income for the third year in a row! We are looking forward to another successful year in 2013.

Amber M. Grundy, Ph.D.
Executive Director



Camp Tannadoonah



CAMP TANNADOONAH

**The kids feel at home
and feel welcomed from
the minute they arrive to
the moment they leave.**

- Parent

Our resident camp is a traditional overnight camp, set in a wooded area along the shores of beautiful Birch Lake in southwestern Michigan. Camping activities for boys and girls include sailing, swimming, archery, nature, drama, sports, games, and lots of outdoor enjoyment.

Director's Note

Camp 2012 was one very hot summer! We added some brand new program options this year, including Japanese, Spanish, lacrosse, archaeology, and advanced sailing. We added an 8th week of camp, and once again increased our camper numbers, with a total of 706 campers this summer. We provided 102 full or partial camperships, and had a 57% camper retention rate from 2011.

	2011	2012	Change
Total Campers	647	706	+9%
Unique Campers	483	528	+9%
Campership Awards	\$25,767	\$22,150	-12%

Camp Fire Club

9 Leaders

57 Youth

7 Club Groups

The Club group program brings families and communities together in youth development, service projects and fun family events. Clubs meet monthly or bi-monthly with their volunteer leaders, as well as doing service projects and monthly activities arranged by the council.

Director's Note

Our Camp Fire Club program grew this year to seven active groups. We had 57 youth in Club this year, from 14 different area schools, plus some home schooled youth.

I am very pleased with the Battell Center for letting us come in twice a month to run two Club groups. We have 18 youth from seven schools between the two groups. I look forward to working with The Res in Mishawaka in the fall to get a group started there. I am hopeful that the new Club brochures will help bring in more interest in the Club program in the upcoming year.

Throughout the year, Club youth, leaders, and families participated in monthly activities, including a Sweetheart's dance, Fun Fair, Spring and Fall Group Camping at Tannadoonah, a Harvest Party, Craft Workshop, Bowling, a Hat Workshop, outdoor training, and the Rum Village Hike.

I am always very proud of the excitement and hard work the Club youth show when giving service for our community and the council.

Peggy Laskowski

Club Program Director



Camp Fire River Bend

Balance Sheet, September 30, 2012

**shortened fiscal year of January 1 - September 30, 2012*

ASSETS

Cash

Petty Cash	\$	25.00
Checking		111,990.03
Investments		100,000.00
Accounts Receivable		3,874.99
Undeposited Funds		1,240.00

Fixed Assets		126,572.92
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TOTAL ASSETS	\$	<u>343,702.94</u>
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LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Accounts Payable		243.50
Unearned Revenue		1,808.36

Payroll Liabilities		1,578.31
Accrued Retirement Benefit		30.00

Total Liabilities	\$	3,660.17
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Retained Earnings		298,003.54
Opening Balance Equity		-2,917.72
Net Income		44,956.95

Total Equity	\$	<u>340,042.77</u>
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TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$	<u>343,702.94</u>
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