

Casey News

84 Campers **69** Counselors **125** Volunteers **16** Nurses **1** Week



Memories to last a lifetime

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Save the Date

Feb **15** Camper Applications Online

Apr **1** Counselor Applications Online

May **16** Annual Casey Picnic

Jun **6** Art is Not an Option Workshop

Aug **2-8** Camp Casey 2015

Nov **14** Annual Fundraiser Auction and Bingo

For more details on upcoming events visit www.campcasey.org

Another Year in the Books

Kiwanis Camp Casey is a week long summer camp for children ages 6-17 with physical disabilities. Campers are never denied based on their use of a wheelchair and/or equipment. Camp is provided free-of-charge to campers by the North Central Kiwanis and is held at the Fort Casey Conference Center on Whidbey Island.

From the moment the Casey Bunch loaded up on the busses, I knew this group was full of Casey Spirit. "Oooooooh! The Casey Bunch is the truest and the best..." could be heard from Seattle to camp as 84 campers and 69 counselors made their way to the best week of the year. The 2014 Casey Bunch was made up of Hippiies (Big Girls), Despicable Me Minions (Little Girls), Dinosaurs (Little Boys), and World Cup Stars (Big Boys).

This year was truly one to remember. Between activities like campfires and Quiddich, swimming and the Talent Show, Head Counselors Adam Wolofira and Marie Zinck made sure that there was never a dull moment. Kiwanians, nurses, and volunteers worked tirelessly to make sure that every camper and counselor was safe and sun-screened, had plenty of pancakes, clean laundry, and a smile on their face. We owe a

huge thank you to our Volunteer Coordinator, Debbie Purser, for her countless efforts to make sure that every volunteer had a fun and fulfilling experience. And thank you to Alena Lomax, Head Nurse, for overseeing the health and safety of everyone at camp.

As always, camp would not be possible without the support and generosity of our community partners. In addition to providing all the bacon and cheese that campers have come to love while at camp, Petschl's Quality Meats and Haggen Foods in Burlington made sure our entire Casey Bunch was fueled by delicious and nutritious meals all week. Of course these meals would be nothing but ingredients without our dedicated Head Cooks, Bill Briggs, Bob Wagner, and Tom Donohue who woke up at 5am every morning to begin preparing for the day.

The week ended with a bang as skydivers parachuted down with our T-shirts! Thank you Rick Mangan and team from Jet City Skydiving for delivering our T-shirts out of the clear blue sky!

We did it, Casey Bunch. Another fabulous year is in the books! *Barb Williams, Camp Director*



Our Vintage Vegas Auction and Bingo night was a huge success! We are so thankful for our donors, volunteers, and guests for making this event possible. Together, we reached our goal and raised over \$45,000 which will go towards funding camp as well as our counselor and nurse scholarship program. We would like to give a special thank you to our auction chair, Erin Purser, for putting in countless hours to make sure this year's event was the best ever.

Save the date! Next year's Auction and Bingo event will be held on November 14, 2015.

Auction recap

Join the Casey CREW!

Get together with fellow Casey campers and counselors year round at The Casey CREW! The CREW typically hosts get togethers for past and future campers and counselors on the second Saturday of each month from 3-5pm at Nova High School located in Seattle. The CREW also hosts the annual Red Dance on the second Saturday in February and trip to Woodland Park Zoo in August.

For more information about The CREW, contact thecrewseattle@gmail.com and make sure to stay in the loop on CREW events by liking The CREW on Facebook. Information about The CREW is also available on the Seattle Adaptive Sports website at www.seattleadaptivesports.com



Like us on Facebook!

2015 Casey Committee

Camp Director:
Barb Williams
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(206) 713-7515

Head Counselors:
Marie Zinck and Patrick Hooley
headcounselors@campcasey.org

Webmaster:
Yuchen Mou

Head Nurse:
Alena Lomax

Club Treasurer:
Tom Donohue

Auction Chair:
Erin Purser

Head Cooks:
Bill Briggs
Bob Wager

Committee Members:
Cindy Barber
Doug Diel
Sharon Diel
Tami English
Mike Gullikson
Kayleen Hooley
Brian Hurley
Josh Laitila
Debbie Purser
Beth Rollinger
Kathleen Steyaert
Kathleen Ward

How well do you know Casey?

Think you know all there is to know about Camp Casey? Think again! Take the quiz below to test your Casey knowledge.

1 # of campers the 1st year of camp? 

2 how much does it cost to run camp? 

3 # of campers who graduated in 2014? 

4 # of games at the carnival? 

5 # of acts in the 2014 talent show? 

6 # of nails painted at the Casey Salon? 

7 what year did camp start? 

8 # of interest groups at camp? 

9 lbs of cheese used at camp? 

10 Total # of duties counselors had at camp? 

11 # of paid staff at Camp Casey? 

12 # of words in the "Casey Bunch" chant? 

13 what ages are Casey campers? 

14 farthest away state a camper came from? 

15 lbs of bubblephenalia the Bubble Man brings to camp? 

16 # of marshmallows for the catapults we made at camp? 

17 scholarship dollars granted to counselors by North Central Kiwanis? 

18 amount campers pay to come to camp? 

check your score:

Answers: 1.) 24 campers 2.) over \$45,000 3.) 11 graduates 4.) 8 games 5.) 43 acts 6.) over 400 nails 7.) 1931 8.) 6 interest groups 9.) 236 lbs 10.) 255 duties 11.) None, everyone volunteers! 12.) 38 words 13.) 6-17 years old 14.) Tennessee 15.) 300 lbs 16.) 440 marshmallows 17.) \$5,000 18.) Nothing, camp is provided free of charge!

Camp Casey touches many lives and leaves a lasting impact on campers, counselors, parents, and volunteers alike. The true heart and soul of Casey is best expressed through the personal stories of those who have experienced the warmth of Camp Casey. From the camper who has found a place where he is unconditionally accepted by his peers, to the mother who is overjoyed by the newfound glow in her daughter's eyes, each person who becomes part of Camp Casey will go on to experience **CASEY FOREVER**.

The transforming power of Camp

12 years ago, I was a scared little six-year-old clinging on to her parents for dear life as they sent me away into the unknown for a week. I thought camp was a place for broken children. Little did I know that it would soon become my favorite place in the world.

Before camp, I refused to accept that I was different. I played on an able bodied tee ball team and going to a camp for disabled children seemed like the end of the world for me. But when I got to camp I realized that I am not so different after all. All of the campers were normal people with passions and dreams just like I had. When I came back after my first week I had a whole new outlook on life which has stuck with me all these years. Camp has made me the confident person I am today. I am no longer ashamed of my disability, I am proud of it.

I have been blessed enough to have amazing friends at school and an amazing family at home. However, although they try to understand what I go through on a daily basis, they just can't. Camp has given me a week-long break from the stares and the stereotypes that I have to fight to disprove every day. I can't explain how much it means to have all of the wonderful people at camp to support me and love me for who I am, and how much I look forward to this break.

Although I'm sad that I am graduating and have to leave camp, I leave with the knowledge that another little girl who doesn't know where she fits in the world will be able to take my place in this amazing camp and leave proud of the person she is.

-Ayanna, age 17



Changing the lives of others

“ Thank you so much for letting my son Jace Goforth be a counselor at Camp Casey this past summer. He attended the training sessions before camp and heard from the older counselors that this was their favorite thing to do during the summer. He really didn't know what that meant until he experienced the week himself. Jace came back a changed person.

He was truly exhausted getting off that bus after camp, but couldn't stop talking on the way home. He had us in laughter and tears with his stories. Jace had so much fun with these kids. He and some other counselors had tried to stay up until dawn that last night planning how they want to be the leaders of the camp when they get to that age. This camp has affected him to the point that he wants to come back every year and take a leadership role when he can. That was something we have never heard.

Jace has always been a “great” kid, but he hugs just a little bit longer now, tells us more stories, and doesn't complain as much when we ask him to do things. Hats off to not only providing a wonderful, free camp for you campers, but for also changing the lives of others like my son Jace.

-Cindy Goforth, Counselor Parent

Simply Priceless

“ My daughter is the only child in our town that is in a wheelchair and not severely mentally challenged. She misses out on so many social aspects of growing up and it causes her a lot of inner sorrow. She doesn't fit in with the “kids” but she doesn't fit in with the “sped” either. She begins glowing months before camp and doesn't stop for months. It makes my heart happy to know that for one week of her year, she belongs. What you provide my daughter and I is simply priceless.”

- Anonymous Camper Parent

Parent voices

Camp Casey 2015

Camper applications will be available online starting February 15, 2015

Counselors and adult volunteer applications will be available online starting April 1, 2015

www.campcasey.org





Donations make a difference.

Camp costs over \$45,000 a year and even though everyone involved in Kiwanis Camp Casey completely volunteers their time, camp would not be possible without the support of people like you! For the past four years we have been able to raise monies to completely fund camp. As a result we were able to reinstate our scholarship program for counselors and nurses who have volunteered at camp. Please consider donating to Kiwanis Camp Casey. Your donation will help to provide a FREE camp experience for children and youth with physical disabilities.

How to Donate:

Online

www.campcasey.org

Mail

P.O. Box 31033
Seattle, WA 98103

Checks should be made out to Kiwanis Camp Casey Memorial Fund.

If you have questions about donations, please contact Barb Williams, Camp Director at director@campcasey.org.

Other Ways to Help:

- 1. Amazon SMILE** - Join Amazon SMILE and Amazon will donate .5% of each eligible purchase to camp! www.smile.amazon.com
- 2. Fred Meyer Community Rewards** - Link your rewards card or set up a rewards card online and help raise money for camp at the same time! www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards
- 3. Do you work for Amazon, Microsoft or Starbucks?** Kiwanis Camp Casey is now set up as an eligible nonprofit designated to participate with Amazon, Microsoft and Starbucks' matching donations programs.
- 4. Join the North Central Kiwanis** - Contact Ray Walters, North Central Kiwanis Club President, at (206) 784-2773 for more information or visit www.northcentralkiwanis.org.

2014 In-Kind Donors

- A Very Tiki Tiki Bar & Grill
- Alderbrook Inn
- Ali Black, Hair Stylist
- Bill Pierre Motor Enterprise
- Cactus Restaurants
- Central Market
- Chiang's Gourmet
- Christine Lawson, Hair Stylist
- Compass Rose B&B
- Dick's Drive In
- Divya Espresso, Greg Hamper
- Fort Casey Inn
- Great Harvest Bread Company
- Gully's Imprinting
- Haggen Grocery
- Heavy Restaurant Group
- Hillcrest Bakery
- Historic Flight Foundation
- Holland America
- Honey Bear Bakery
- Jet City Improv
- Jet City Skydiving: Rick Mangan
- KDW Architects
- Leap Frog Entertainment
- Limerick Pony Farms
- Massage Envy
- McDonalds
- Metric Media
- Milltown Nails
- Monique Deruiter, Esthetician
- Novelty Hill Januik
- Olympic Spa
- Ostroms Drug and Gifts
- Parlor Live
- Petschls Meats, Paul & Debbie Slat
- PinkaBella Cupcakes
- Pointbreak, LLC
- Rusty Pelican
- Sandpoint Golf Division
- Seattle Adaptive Sports
- Seattle Pacific University
- Shelford Fisheries
- Sinclair Creative, Web Design
- Snappy Dragon
- Starbucks
- Sunshine, Polynesia Dance and Drum Group
- Schwartz Brothers Restaurants
- Wilcox Construction

Thank You!

We are very grateful for the support we receive from all of our generous donors. From the meat in the hamburgers to the prizes at the carnival, Camp Casey would not be possible without our many donors and supporting Kiwanis clubs. To see a full list of donors, visit the Kiwanis Camp Casey website online at www.campcasey.org



Kiwanis