



Camp Fire

Light the fire within

May 2013

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Camp Fire
 Southeast Michigan
 Camp Wathana
 9750 Milford Road
 Holly, MI 48442
 248-382-8382
www.campfiresem.org

Camp Fire Log

A Monthly Guide to What's Happening at Camp Fire SEM



SPRING EVENTS!

<p>OPEN HOUSE MAY 18th, Noon-6pm</p> <p>Come see what camp is all about! Tours, exciting activities, and snacks. Bring friends and family for this FREE day of camp! The BEST way for interested campers and families to learn about our beloved camp!</p>	<p>ADULT WEEKEND MAY 31st-JUNE 2nd</p> <p>Camp sound fun but you are passed the age limit? Enjoy a relaxing weekend away from it all, while being able to participate in our unique activities. \$50 per person, meals and cabin included, and all proceeds go to benefit camp!</p>
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At Camp Wathana! RSVP for Both Events
info@campvalor.com or 248-729-7086

WANTED!

Certified Water Safety Instructor

Needed for 2 hours at Camp Wathana on Saturday June 8th

If you know a qualified person, please email Peggy right away.

Thanks!



Look for the awesome new **Summer Camp Posters** around town this month!

Help us out! **Post one** on a community bulletin board near you!

Posters and post cards are available from the [office](#) or call 248-382-8382

ADVENTURE AWAITS AT CAMP VALOR!

BATTLE WILDED MONSTERS! **DIG UP ANCIENT TREASURES!** **EXPLORE FANTASY WORLDS AND HEROES!**

WHAT IS CAMP VALOR?! **WHERE IS IT?!**
 Camp Valor is an overnight summer camp for boys and girls age 7 to 16. We are known for our awareness art programs, our unique outdoor educational programs, and our exciting adventure games.
 Camp Valor is being held at: **Camp Pennington, 9150 Monroe Rd., Hillsdale, MI 48202**

WHEN?! I NEED TO KNOW WHEN?! **BUT HOW MUCH?!**
 We have two main sessions: **Session 1 from Sunday, July 26th - Saturday, Aug 1st** and **Session 2 from Sunday, July 29th - Saturday, Aug 4th**.
 We'll let you know if you're eligible to go! Just call 248-382-8382.

BUT IS IT FUN? THE MOST FUN!

CHECK US OUT ONLINE!
[www.campvalor.com](#)
[facebook.com/campvalor](#)
[twitter.com/campvalor](#)



In recognition of military families
Camp Fire Southeast Michigan
announces a new program

Camp 4 Military Kids

This new program helps support military families by awarding camperships to kids who have a parent serving in the armed forces. The benefits of a camp experience can do wonders to relieve the stresses that military children face every day while their parent is absent in service to our nation. Our goal is to provide ten camperships for kids to Camp Valor this year.

You can help. Please **DONATE** today!



Around Town

Local Activities for Families and Clubs



The OLANDER PARK SYSTEM

Fossil Hunting!

Our new Toledo club provides occasion to seek adventures beyond our customary boundaries and this one looks like a real winner! Travel back in time 375-million-years to when our region was a great sea teeming with life. At [Fossil Park](#) in Sylvania, OH kids of all ages can search for Devonian Era fossils in an ADA-accessible 5-acre rock quarry. Bring a toothbrush to dust off your fossils and a milk jug or egg carton to carry them home! Free parking, free admission, free fossils and lots of enrichment info on the website!



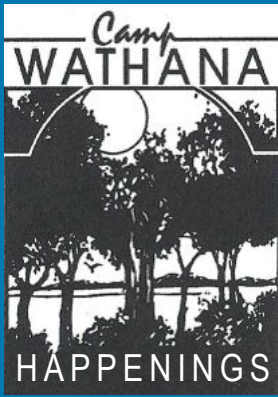
Tornado Alert!

It's tornado season in the midwest and the perfect time to go over [tornado safety tips](#) with the kids. Kids can learn about weather science in the film **Tornado Alley** at the Michigan Science Center's [Chrysler IMax Theater](#). Join Storm Chasers star Sean Casey and the researchers of VORTEX 2, the most ambitious effort ever made to understand the origins and evolution of tornadoes, on this heart-pounding science adventure. Little Stars will enjoy Mi-Sci's [Kids Town](#) featuring a child-scaled "town" where pre-schoolers can explore the basic science concepts we encounter every day.



May is National Bike Month

sponsored by The League of American Bicyclists. Your school may be participating in [National Bike to School Day](#) on May 8th to promote year-round safe routes to school. It also encourages bicycling to school as a healthy way for kids to make their school commute. Planning a club cycling event is another way to celebrate National Bike Month. The League offers tips for [teaching kids to ride](#). [Huron-Clinton Metroparks](#) and [Toledo Metroparks](#) have fun bike trails and the [Rails to Trails Conservancy](#) is another great place to find bike trails in your community. Ride on!



What a great feeling to finally get A ROUND TUIT! This annual weekend at Camp provides an opportunity for adults to get away and enjoy time to follow their own interests in the camp setting. Scrapbooking was popular as ever, enhanced by vendors Meg Breiter, of Stampin' Up and Tracey Arnold, of Close to My Heart. Massage therapist Kymm Loch was there again to knead out stresses and soothe aching muscles. Sue Julian from NOHLC led a hike and talked about invasive species. Swans Discovery girls, Savanna, Sophia & Brynn came in their 50s costumes to be servers and work in the kitchen with their leader Carole Gafa. And the attendees all chipped in on communal tasks of setting up, cooking and cleaning up afterward. Many hands made light work leaving plenty of time to get A Round Tuit—and enjoy some free time with friends.



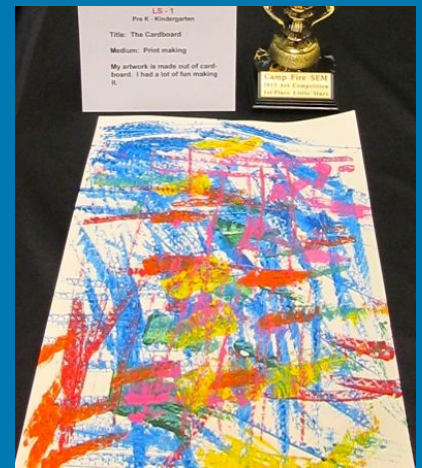
The
Round Tuit
Adult Weekend



3rd - 5th Grade
Title: Four Eyed
Medium: Galatin Print
Camp Fire SEM
2013 Art Competition
People's Choice Award



D - 3
6th - 8th Grade
Title: Cries of the Night
Medium: Linoleum Block Print
I learned this method recently in art class. I made several and my friends voted on their favorite. I loved using paint, however found it difficult as it dried quickly. Used ink and was happy with the final result.



Pre-K - Kindergarten
Title: The Cardboard
Medium: Print making
My artwork is made out of cardboard. I had a lot of fun making it.



Camp Fire SEM Annual Art Competition at Briarwood Mall, Ann Arbor



WOW!
WOW!
WOW!



What a fabulous event! So many wonderful printmaking projects by our youth members. Just a few of them are pictured here with more online at www.campfiresem.org—along with the names of all the winners. Every child who participated expressed their creative selves and gained skills in a new art medium. Besides the competition, we had a chance to talk to many shopping families about Camp Fire's wonderful programs and especially Camp Valor. Voting for the People's Choice Award, Sword fighting and a craft table were all big draws, too. Thanks to EVERYONE for their extraordinary efforts before, during and after, to help fulfill our purpose: helping young people *Light the Fire Within!*





Full Planting Moon

May, the Cherokee Planting Moon, brings warmth and light to the earth. It is a time for planting and tending crops and for animals as well as people to shed their winter coats. Moon names can help us see how the changing seasons affected and defined indigenous people's lives. To the Winnebago and Abenaki, this month was the Hoeing Corn Moon. Similarly, the Algonquin called it When Women Weed the Corn.

Out on the vast prairie, the Sioux and Arapaho dubbed this the Moon When Ponies Shed Their Shaggy Hair.

It was the Budding Moon to Shoshones west of the Rocky Mountains and going east from the verdant Ohio River valley the Shawnee and Potawatomi named it the Strawberry Moon. In naming this moon, people welcomed food and warmth after a long hungry winter!

Look for the full Planting Moon on May 25th.

A Bit of History

What's in a Camp Fire Club Name?

Camp Fire founders Luther and Charlotte Gulick recognized that choosing names for individuals and clubs was important for young people's self esteem and sense of group spirit. They set a tradition of choosing names which were personally meaningful to the members and expressed their ideals, aspirations and sense of place.

Our council history tells us one of Detroit's earliest Camp Fire groups, formed in 1913, adopted a place name, *Teuchsa Grondie*, "which was the name given by Wynadot Indians to their hunting and camping grounds on the site of the City of Detroit long before the white men came. The name *Teuchsa Grondie* appears in old colonial documents, and its meaning has reference to the course of the river."

Another place name, *Detroit Arsenal Camp Fire* was chosen by the group that formed at Dearborn High School in 1917. That name was a historical reference to the bricks from the demolished Detroit Arsenal that were used to construct their school.

A Detroit club in the 1980s decided to call their Adventure group *Adventurous Suns*. The name reflected their goal of having each day be a new adventure.

Historic place names are still important to club identity today. Our Ann Arbor club is called *Camp Fire USA at Eberwhite*, after Eberwhite Elementary School. That name comes from the first settler of the property on which the school stands, Eber White.

Nature inspires many names. Members of the *Swans* desired a name that would represent the place where they live and the personalities of it's members. Every year from April to December they watch the swans glide along the river in Anchorville. From observation they understand the swans to be nurturing, lively and unpredictable, all while being beautiful with their own place in the group—just as the members see themselves. The official name of their club is *Swans on the Lake*.

The *Cheetah's* selected their name from among the members' favorite animals. The cheetah, known for its speed, represents them as fast learners who love to run and play.

Long-time Camp Fire member Diana Chapman formed a group for all her grand nieces, nephews and other young friends. One nephew couldn't say "Diana" when he was little so he called her "Nana." The name stuck and now they call themselves "Nana's Kids."

Although there are many traditions for choosing club names, members are encouraged to be creative in selecting a name that is meaningful to the group, fits their unique identity and serves to proudly declare their place in the larger community that is Camp Fire.



Some names are inspired by nature: a certificate from the Bright Star Blue Bird Group, 1957

Club Corner

Swan Fun at Camp Wathana!



The Swans brought along their own warmth to Camp in mid April and had a blast hanging out in Watona, practicing Camp Fire songs, hiking in the woods , and just plain loving being a part of this great organization.



They had even more fun dressing in cool 50s outfits and helping to serve classic hamburgers, fries, and milk shakes at the Round Tuit adult weekend.



Cheetahs Visit the Belle Isle Aquarium and Conservatory



At the aquarium each child recorded the name of their favorite animal, its type (fish, amphibian, mammal, etc.) and a favorite fact they learned, and drew a picture of the animal. One of the most popular was this moray eel.



The kids also made fish masks and some gave donations to help the aquarium acquire more fish to fill the empty tanks. When you donate, you can write your name on a fish and post it on the bulletin board.



Many adults shared memories of going to the aquarium when they were kids.

After seeing the fish, the group went next door to visit the conservatory.

What a great trip!



On the Horizon

May

Annual Meeting and Potluck Lunch

There will be a potluck luncheon followed by the Annual Meeting in Watona Lodge beginning at noon on May 11, 2013. Among the important agenda items is a vote on the official council name change and changes to the bylaws. The official council name will become *Camp Fire Southeast Michigan* as mandated by National. A copy of the proposed bylaw changes may be obtained by [email](#) or by calling the office at 248-382-8382. See the back page of this *Log* for more details.

Leader Training

Leader Training for the 2013-14 program year will take place on May 18th from 9 to 3 at Camp. Training is a must for experienced or new leaders and will include: general policy and procedure training, individual program level training for Little Stars, Starflight, and Adventure programs, and a 2014 Art Competition workshop in Photography. Please bring a camera with manual for this workshop. Lunch will be provided.

Camp Valor Events

Kids, bring your parents to the **Camp Valor Open House** on May 18 from noon to 6pm! Meet the counselors, find out how much fun you'll have spending two whole weeks at summer adventure camp! FREE for those who [RSVP](#) and let us know how many will attend!

Past the age limit for summer camp? This is your lucky day! Camp Valor is holding an **Adult Camping Weekend** May 31–Jun 2 for grown-ups to be kids again. And just \$50 per person! You *know* you want to go! To register, [email](#) number of adults attending.

June

Fly-Up Weekend

This is a Council Weekend to be held June 7–9 at Camp. Youth will receive awards and recognition for their year's activities and those advancing to new program levels will Fly-Up to the next level. The Fly-Up ceremonial and Pinewood Derby will be held on Saturday, June 8th. Plan to join us for this exciting event!

Save the Date!

Blue Jeans & BBQ

Saturday, September 28, 2013

Get ready for a great evening filled with BBQ & Bands.

Wear your Blue Jeans & Boots and come ready for an event you won't want to leave!

Proceeds will benefit our new **Camp 4 Military Kids** program.

For more details, stay tuned to the Log or check our website.

www.campfiresem.org

Spotlight

Meet Camp Fire SEM VIPs in this continuing series.



Lisa Rutledge is a returning Board Member and candidate for Board President.

Long-time Camp Fire member and returning Board Member, Lisa Rutledge recently accepted a nomination for the office of President of the Board of Directors bringing a wealth of Camp Fire experience to the Board as well as exemplary work experience in Community Relations and Outreach.

Lisa graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Studies focused on political science, psychology and communication. She currently works on Special Projects for Western Wayne Family Health Center. She has a strong background in the fields of community outreach and community health improvement, a long history of successful collaboration, and active volunteer board leadership in the community. She has been recognized for excellence in her

work in community relations and outreach, project planning and evaluation, collaborations and partnerships, legislative advocacy, community benefit programming and tracking; grant writing, event planning and program development with a track record of leading high performing teams and producing award winning programs.

Lisa has been active on the boards of many nonprofit organizations including AIDS Partnership Michigan, The Information Center, Western Wayne Family Health Center and Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit, and on the Michigan Council for Labor and Economic Growth and the Michigan Rehabilitation Council.

Lisa is very familiar with Camp Fire culture. She first joined Camp Fire as a Blue Bird in 1967 and continued her participation through Horizon Club in high school. She went to Camp in 1969 in Sunset and then attended summer camp for eight consecutive years, the last two as a CIT. She worked one year as a staff counselor and has been an adult member most years since the late 1980s. She has served on our Board of Directors several times over the years since 1974 including five years chairing committees and a term as Board President.

“One of the most important building blocks of my personal and professional development is “Wo-He-Lo”, said Lisa. “Those words guide me now as much as they did when I was a Camp Fire Girl. My dearest friends are from Camp Wathana. I am looking forward to the challenge of helping reshape Camp Fire for today’s youth—maintaining the old values while making sure we expand our vision to insure that area youth will want to go to camp, be in a club or participate in leadership development.”

Welcome back, Lisa! We’re very fortunate to have your seasoned, savvy, insightful and innovative leadership back on the Board of Directors!





Camp Fire SEM Events

May 11, 2013 Noon
**Annual Meeting
and Potluck Lunch**

May 18, 2013
Leader Training

May 18, 2013
**Camp Valor
Open House**

May 31–Jun 2
**Camp Valor
Adult Weekend**

Jun 7–9, 2013
Fly-Up Weekend

Jun 8, 2013
Pinewood Derby

Summer Camp
Session I
Jul 14-27
Session II
Jul 28- Aug 10

Blue Jeans & BBQ
Sep 28, 2013

* All events take place at
Camp Wathana unless
otherwise noted.

Annual Meeting

All members of the
Camp Fire Southeast Michigan
Council are invited and
encouraged to attend the
Annual Meeting and potluck lunch
on **May 11th at 12 Noon**
at **Camp Wathana.**

Agenda Items Include

- Year end review
- Vision for 2013 and 2014
- Nominations of new members
- Election of officers
- Vote on official Council name change
- Vote on proposed bylaw changes
(Request a copy by [email](#) or call
248.382.8382)
- Awards and recognition

2013 Board Meeting Schedule

The Camp Fire SEM Board meetings are open to all. They are held every other month on Saturdays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at Camp.

Saturday, May 11th—Pot luck lunch and Annual Meeting to follow

Saturday, July 13th

Saturday, September 14th

Saturday, November 9th