



**11th Annual
Friends of Camp Whitsett Family Weekend
(formerly called Reunion Weekend)**

**SWIMMING AND BOATING
FIELD SPORTS
HANDICRAFT
HORSEBACK RIDING
HIKING**

**C.O.P.E. COURSE
CAMPFIRE
HEARTY CAMP MEALS
MEMORABILIA AUCTION
HISTORICAL DISPLAYS**

July 17-19, 2009

Please join us for a weekend of fun and fellowship at Camp Whitsett.

The cost of the weekend is \$25.00 per adult and child 11 and older, and \$15.00 per child 4-10 years old. Children 3 and under are free. River rafting can be arranged for an additional fee if available. Meals will be provided from Saturday lunch through Sunday breakfast.

Registration forms (found elsewhere in this newsletter) must be received by July 10, 2009

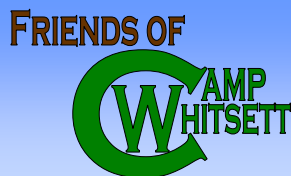
E-mail Chuck Smith at chucksmith@yahoo.com with any questions or concerns.

**Donations needed for the FoCW Family weekend's
Auctions, July 17, 18,19, 2009**

**Anything from old scout cloths, to old staff cloths, old scout books,
old patches, neckerchiefs, hats, badges, etc.**

contact :

**David Larson (Lashings)
24138 Matthew Pl.
Newhall, CA. 91321
661-259-6899**



Mailing Address

P.O. Box 9153
Calabasas, CA 91302

Website

<http://www.whitsett.org/alumni/alumni.htm>

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The SENTINEL

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Ron Fordis

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Andrew Sisolak and Chuck Smith

The Sentinel is published up to three times annually - Spring, Fall and Winter. Correspondence regarding the newsletter should be directed to the Editor or President at the mailing or e-mail addresses above.

The Friends of Camp Whitsett is a Charitable Non-Profit Unincorporated Association registered with the State of California. It is not affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America, Inc., or the Western Los Angeles County Council, Inc.

The purpose of the Association is to support the program of Camp Whitsett, which is owned and operated by the Western Los Angeles County Council, B.S.A., Inc., through donations of goods and services, monies, and volunteer resources; to act as the custodian of the history of Camp Whitsett through the collection and display of Memorabilia and Records; and to provide social activities for its members.

Donations of goods and services and monies to the Friends of Camp Whitsett are tax deductible.

Camp Director's Message

As I sit and write this piece for the *Sentinel*, it dawns on me that this summer marks my tenth year of service to Camp Whitsett. I still remember the first day I arrived in Camp the summer of 2000. My dad has a picture of me sitting on my footlocker on a platform with a tent ready to set up but missing poles. This was the image burned into his memory as he left camp that day hoping I would figure things out and not be homesick. I suppose you could say I did figure things out; I look back and think of the know it all I was at age 14, and certainly hope I am at a minimum slightly less of one as I approach the daunting task I take this summer serving as the Camp Director.

This summer presents a number of challenges for our Camp family. The current economy has placed great financial burdens on many Scouting families. Because of this we have seen a decline in the number of scouts attending camp, while at the same time seeing an increase in the request for financial aid. This will no doubt cause a certain amount of stress for all of us as we are forced to do more with fewer resources.

While other camps are closing numerous weeks or mothballing programs Whitsett will continue to provide the high quality and diverse programming we always have. Have we been forced to make changes in our staffing, budgeting, and spending? The answer is yes. These changes however will better prepare us for the future, and we will emerge a lean, mean, camping machine. Despite the challenges that we face this coming summer I am confident that as a staff, alumni, and family we will not only succeed in meeting our own expectations, but also blow all of our campers' expectations out of the water.

I look forward to meeting, training, and serving the best staff that I have seen in my many years at camp. This summer will give many young men and women the opportunity to take leadership roles in Camp for the first time. Their fervor and dedication will not only carry us through the summer, but also take us to new heights. For those of us returning to Camp we can look forward to seeing old friends and new faces. As a staff we can plan on rafting together, lip-synching, singing, and laughing during campfires. We can anticipate another summer of life changing experiences and making memories and friends who will never leave us. These experiences are the zest to otherwise wearying weeks of service.

I look forward to seeing all of you this coming summer, whether you will join us for the summer, a week, or a few days. While Whitsett and its staff may be slightly different, the fellowship and fraternity we as a family share will never change.

Yours in Scouting,

Andrew Sisolak

President's Message

Staff has been hired, orders are in, summer is just around the corner --- Camp Season 2009, Whitsett's 63rd (that's SIXTY-THIRD) summer is about to begin. For the Friends of Camp Whitsett (FoCW), even if one isn't planning to be at Whitsett this summer, this has got to be an exciting event. If you are one of the lucky people who will either be attending Whitsett or an actual member of the '09 staff, be sure to look to see the beginning of great changes that are about to happen. If you are a distant Friend, one who can't visit in person, be sure to check out the Whitsett webpage [www.whitsett.org], plans include a major change to the "Friends of Camp Whitsett" page, and to keep up with the daily uploading of pictures of campers having a GREAT time at camp.

A major finance campaign by the FoCW is in the works, keep an eye out for it. We are going to make a major impact on Whitsett operation in order to not only keep the camp up-to-date, but to ensure growth to continue to keep Whitsett at the top of the heap of Scout camps. In spite of the current economic woes, I think Friends of Camp Whitsett can make a real difference here. Keep tuned in ---

Do you know someone who is NOT on our eMail or snail mail list? Do you know someone who is a former staff member, or a former camper, who would like to keep up on Whitsett news? I get eMails every month from some former staff person (they usually ask, "Chuck! Are you still THERE? !!!!" LOL) who just happened across the Whitsett website and spent an afternoon looking at all the screens of information. They wind up asking me to include them in our FoCW database. So, if you know of someone who DOESN'T get our info, please have them contact me ... we'll get them included post haste!!!

Do you receive our newsletters and notices by mail? Are you able to receive same by eMail or internet download? Our mailing costs average \$300 + a mailing, more with the newsletter. If we can cut down on postage, we can add more to our gifts to Whitsett. Just send a request to me at chucksmith@yahoo.com, and we'll get you signed up.

Finally, save the weekend of July 17th to the 19th for the Camp Whitsett Family Weekend. The cost is going to be: Adults - \$25, Children (12 and under) - \$15. Just fill out the Registration form and send it in. We'll see you in camp for Fun, Food and a Fabulous auction. See you there.

Chuck Smith
FoCW President



Donations needed for the FoCW Family weekend's
Auction on July 19, 2009.

Anything from old scout clothes, to old staff clothes, old scout books, old patches, neckerchiefs, hats, badges, etc.

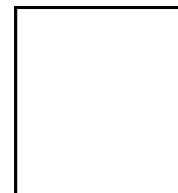
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FRIENDS OF



A CHARITABLE NON-PROFIT UNINCORPORATED ASSOCIATION REGISTERED WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**POST OFFICE BOX 9153
CALABASAS, CA 91302**



**PLEASE SEND US YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE
DONATIONS AT THE ADDRESS ABOVE.**

100% OF MONIES DONATED GOES TO CAMP WHITSETT

Postmaster:
Forwarding and Address Correction Requested



MEMBER REPLY FORM

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

2009 Camp Whitsett Family Weekend REGISTRATION

_____ Adults, and Children 11 and older, will be attending @ \$25.00 each = \$ _____

_____ Children between 4-10 will be attending @ \$15.00 each = \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Ages of the children attending _____

I would like to make a donation to the Friends of Camp Whitsett

___ **Unrestricted** \$ _____

___ **Restricted** \$ _____

Camp Whitsett Alumni Tracking

If you have not done so recently, please complete the information below so that we can update our records and keep you informed about future events.

Years Served on Staff _____ Areas Worked in _____

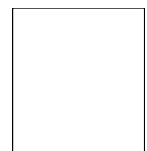
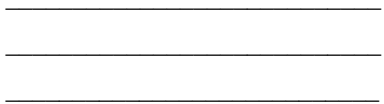
Profession _____

Martial Status _____ Children?/Ages _____

Favorite Camp Memories _____

Names and addresses of Staff members that you have stayed in touch with

Please return this form and monies to the Association at the address indicated on the reverse by July 10, 2009. Make checks payable to "Friends of Camp Whitsett".



Friends of Camp Whitsett
P O Box 9153
Calabasas, California 91302