

## **Camp Quest NorthWest meeting minutes**

**Round Table Pizza (15730 1st Ave S, Burien, WA)**

**Tuesday, November 19, 2013, 6:30pm sharp**

Board Members in attendance:

President – Chuck Wolber

Vice President – Brennon Church

Secretary – Jami Blackann

Treasurer – Jerry Schiffelbein

Members at Large – Brian Demong, Becky Friedman

Others in attendance: Michael Warbington, Sam Mulvey, Paul Mopps

### **Action Items:**

- \* Brennon: Contact the camp and make sure CQNW is officially signed up.
- \* Brennon: Lock down dates for the retreat.
- \* Jami: Work on new website banners.
- \* Michael: Come up with flag contest plan.

### **Meeting Minutes:**

**Start time:** 7:24 p.m.

- \* Chuck moves to accept the October board meeting minutes without reading them. Jerry seconds.
- \* October meeting minutes were accepted unanimously.

### **Financial Report:**

- \* The treasurer gave his report. Contact Jerry for details.

### **Lou's Materials Requests:**

I'd like permission to buy some long lead time items for next camp:

- \* Fletching for the arrows. Last summer all of them fell off the arrows, so all of the arrows need to be refletched.
  - \* 100 black <http://www.lancasterarchery.com/trueflight-3-rw-round-back-feathers.html>
  - \* 100 purple <http://www.lancasterarchery.com/trueflight-3-rw-round-back-feathers.html>
  - \* Total would be ~\$50
- \* 24x 28" arrows.
  - \* We had some long armed kids this year. I ended up using my arrows and didn't have enough.
  - \* \$5/arrow
- \* Sport Flight long bows. For the kids who don't want compound, or can't pull the long bows.
  - \* 2x \$32 - <http://amzn.com/B000R9QTFY>
  - \* 2x \$20 - <http://amzn.com/B000BTJUM4>
- \* Paracord. This unfortunately has a long lead time.
  - \* Spools of the thin cord are \$75. This should last 2 seasons. I'd like to get spools of popular colors: Black, Neon Green, Blue, Purple.

## **Darwin Day**

Date: February 9, 2014

- \* Lou usually leads it. May have trouble finding enough people to work on this.
- \* Good opportunity for recruiting staff.

## **Darwin on the Palouse**

“A free event to celebrate humanity, science and rational thought, held annually in Moscow, ID and Pullman, WA.”

Date: February 6 – 9, 2014

- \* Would be nice to have a presence there. Good for recruiting staff. Julia Sweeney will be there.

## **2014 CQNW Programming Vision:**

The goal of Camp Quest NorthWest programming:

- Motivate campers to use confusion and uncertainty to drive inquiry.
- Identify whether an explanation is a reasoned one based on evidence.
- Foster a sense of discomfort with unquestioned explanations.

The 2014 camp session’s program theme will be “Blast off!”

- Activities reflect the theme even as they explore different disciplines.
- A theme anchors program developers and instructors while allowing for creativity.

The session will include as many of the following disciplines as reasonable (individual activities should address one or more of them):

- art, design, and creative expression
- biology/life sciences
- chemistry
- citizenship and sustainability
- engineering and technological design
- health and physical education
- mathematics
- philosophy and freethought
- physics
- psychology

Considerations for designing activities:

- Don’t lecture
- Campers should learn/solve/create through a process of questioning, trial, and error.
- Activities should utilize inquiry in ways that intentionally maximize fun.
- Activities should foster community and bonding.
- Emphasis should be on cooperation rather than competition.

Age Considerations:

- Some activities may be disaggregated per age of camper, especially in the CIT program.
- CIT programming will use inquiry to explore leadership at camp and the larger community

## **Some Details...**

Examples of activity modules specific to theme:

- Coke and Mentos
- egg drop
- kite building
- water-based launch of model rockets

- balloon-rocket races
- decorating rockets
- paper airplanes, parachuters, whirligigs
- homologous structures of flying creatures (insects, birds, bats)
- bird watching
- phases of the moon with oreos
- robotics – extraterrestrial rover design
- learning about tardigrade biology – sewing your own stuffed tardigrades
- Socrates cafe questions prompted by issues of extraterrestrial life, ethics of terraforming, what you would bring on a 5 year trip to Mars, etc.
- Flying Gizmo presentation from Museum of Flight staff (onsite educational guest programming)
- Tandem climbs and challenge climbs
- Solar system walk
- Geodesic dome construction competition (for off-world shelters) – Very cool!
- Making galaxy t-shirts
- Bernoulli's principle experiments

Other ways to incorporate theme:

- cabin skit prompts
- pod names (Cassini, Concorde, Voyager, etc.)
- Session flag
- movie
- campfire/bedtime stories

A bit about inquiry vs. demonstration:

- Learners gain and retain knowledge better if they discover the knowledge themselves (or collaboratively) as opposed to being told or shown.
- A lesson in principles of air pressure and forces of flight can involve demonstrating and lecturing, even in an engaging way. An inquiry-based activity where campers learn about the same topic involves the “expert” asking questions that prompt campers to hypothesize, observe deeper, and suggest their own conclusions and explanations. Instructors can then question how campers would verify their explanations.
- An activity in painting galaxy tshirts could involve showing a final product and instructing in the technique required to achieve it. An inquiry-based approach to this activity would involve looking at examples of galactic photos, having many supplies at hand, and asking how campers would approximate a galaxy print. It would also involve practice rounds on paper until the camper was ready to replicate the print on the tshirt.
- Instructors can (and should) share their knowledge, but in support of (and secondary to) campers' own discoveries and observations

\* Becky: Tweak the staff application form so it accurately describes the roles/expectations and figures out what the applicant wants to contribute. If anyone has suggestions, contact Lou about it.

### **Brainstorming about Owning a Camp:**

\* Lou and his wife want to buy some land off the grid, which CQNW could use for camp. Sink a well, bring out power, build structures – this would be very expensive. Let's start to have conversations about this. Advantages: flexibility, complete control over expansion, future investment/ownership, becoming a freethought retreat center magnet, can rent it out. If we make a decision about it, it's useful to announce it, start fundraising. We need a master plan in place.

### **Radio:**

- \* Sam needs help editing material.
- \* We need new CQNW ads. They should emphasize staff recruitment.
- \* Need a banner on the website.

### **Making a Flag:**

- \* Purpose: Showing our brand, staking our claim at camp for a week.
- \* How do we want to do this? Design contest? Designer?
- \* Michael likes the idea of having someone make one for us from our design.
- \* <http://www.the-flag-makers.com/>
- \* One official flag for camp, in addition to unique yearly flags.
- \* Gives kids and volunteers an opportunity to participate in the group and contribute.
- \* Entries that don't win can still be displayed on website, Facebook, etc.

### **SA/HOW Solstice Party:**

- \* December 14, 2014
- \* Sam requests that someone make a poster to represent CQNW.

### **Reminder of 2014 Camp Kirby Dates:**

- \* Reserved: August 9-17
- \* Camp: August 10-16

**Next Meeting: Thursday, December 19, 2013**  
**Round Table Pizza (15730 1st Ave S, Burien, WA)**

**End time: 9:13pm**