



The Royal Page

Fall 2009

Royal Family Kids' Camps, Inc.

Vol. 14

For 6,500 children, it was a summer to remember!

Thanks to everyone who gave their time and their money to make Royal Family Kids' Camps 2009 a life-changing experience for 6,500 boys and girls who had been abused, abandoned and neglected.

This year, we had 168 camps in 35 states and even 19 international camps as well. Our volunteers numbered approximately 7,000.

Amazing work, everyone! Your generosity, prayers and investment of your time made this a wonderful summer for children in need.

It was a summer to remember for thousands of children across the nation!

Foster kid comes full circle at Royal Family Kids' Camps

Her folks broke up.

Her mom gave her up.

Her dad and grandparents couldn't manage her and her two siblings.

Pam went into foster care.

Her sisters were adopted by their foster parents.

She was left alone and heart-broken.

It's a sad story, but one that's repeated often among America's abused, abandoned and neglected children.

Pam bounced in and out of different foster care situations and re-placement with her family and extended family, but nothing worked.

Finally, a minister and her husband took her in to foster, and there, for the first time, Pam began to feel some stability and love.

"They were always there for me," Pam says.

In fact, when she grew up, married and had children of her own, it was these godly foster parents that her daughters called Grandma and Grandpa.

Last year, Pam's church sponsored Royal Family Kids' Camps in Wenatchee, Washington. When Pam and her husband heard about it, they both knew they wanted to be involved.

They volunteered as Counselors, and Pam says it was a life-changing experience for her.

"I wanted to let my campers know that I understood how they felt, and that I always knew God loved me and was with me," she says.

"My foster mom used to tell me God would be my Mother, Father, Sister and Brother. I wanted them to know how true it was."



From foster child to Camp Counselor ... Pam Johnson serves at Royal Family Kids' Camps with a smile!

One of Pam's campers from last year has begun attending her church.

"This young girl ran up to me and gave me a hug. I was reminded that if we change just one life, it was all worth it."

Pam and her husband Dan returned to camp as Counselors again this summer.

Thanks Pam, and Dan, and everyone who embraces the wounds of the past to help heal those same hurts in others.

A personal word from Founders Wayne and Diane Tesch

Dear Friend,

Summer's over. Kids are back in school.

But the compassion you showed to 6,500 children this summer — that's still making a wonderful difference.

The children we serve go back to homes that, sometimes, are less than stable, and they carry in themselves the horrible scars of abuse, abandonment and neglect ...

... but because of the love they experienced at camp this summer, they go back home, and back to school, with something new inside —

Emily Dickinson called it "the thing with feathers, that perches in the soul." Hope!

That little feathered bit of hope is now alive in some of these young children — hope that there's life after abuse, hope that there's a better future ahead, hope that there are people who care ... and most importantly, hope in knowing that God loves them.

Thanks for setting that hope fluttering in their souls this summer.

You've made a marvelous difference for children who have nowhere else to turn.

God bless you for it.

Wayne & Diane Tesch



Jeff Juhala promoted to Director of Training



Jeff Juhala received from Diane Tesch, symbolically, the essence of his responsibilities as Director of Training by accepting the many training manuals needing continual updating.

It gives us great pleasure to announce that Jeff Juhala, formerly Training Development Manager with Royal Family Kids' Camps, was recently promoted to Director of Training. This comes after completing 2-1/2 years of development in this capacity, under the leadership of Diane Tesch, Co-Founder and former Director of Training.

Jeff's background in training and safety management, combined with his experience as Camp Director for the Concord, California camp, suit him well for maintaining the already strong training programs offered by RFKC, and prepares him to expand the responsibilities of this position for the future growth of Royal Family's training and development of its people. Jeff's responsibilities also

include raising his personal support, along with day to day responsibilities related to his job portfolio.

Jeff and his wife, Janet, joined Royal Family full-time in August of 2006, along with their four children, Jessica, Janae, Jonathan and Judy.

Diane Tesch will continue managing Communications, major fund raising events and general daily operations of the national office.

Wayne Tesch
C.E.O.

Camp Director Awards



First Year Founding Directors:
Shirley Turner, Kathy Heebner, Becca Johnson, Christie Williams, Cathy Winstead, Renée and Jake Calloway
(pictured from left to right)



Congratulations to our 5-Year Camp Directors:
Jan and Bill Krueger, Rhonda Montgomery, Larry and Kim Speiss, Mark Thengvall, Gregg and Lida Thompson, Amy Warrick. *(pictured from left to right)*



Congratulations to our 10-Year Camp Directors:
Sharon and Richard Berumen, Lance Colkmire, Melinda and Darren Edwards, Carolyn and Allan Hartman, Sandy Lupica. *(pictured from left to right)*

Camp Awards



Celebrating our 5-Year Camps:
Canton, OH — Faith Family Church
Cuyahoga Falls, OH — Northampton United Methodist
Geneva, IL — First Baptist Church of Geneva
Madison, AL — Asbury United Methodist Church
Omaha, NE — Brookside Church
Pottsville, AR — Pottsville Assembly of God Church
St. Peter, MN — Jesus Assembly of God Church



Celebrating our 10-Year Camps:
Fort Worth, TX #1 — Richland Hills Church of Christ
Cleveland, TN — S. Cleveland Church of God
Issaquah, WA — Eastridge Christian Assembly of God Church
Tulsa, OK — Christian Chapel
Wichita, KS — Westlink Christian Church
Midland, MI #2 — Christian Celebration



Congratulations to our 15-Year Camp:
Crown Point, IN — First United Methodist Church



An afternoon of wonders!

They'd been running and playing up a storm on the softball field that afternoon —

But there was no *fire*, so the kids from one of our Colorado Royal Family Kids' Camps were startled to see fire trucks pulling up —

And then delighted when they saw the Bible teacher, Ms. Caelyn, on one of the trucks, waving to them.

The firemen showed them all the features of the truck, talked to them about firefighting and then — wonder of wonders! — gave each camper a fun ride!

Each child wore a fire hat and enjoyed a photo on the truck too.

As they waited for their turn, some of the campers became interested in what the other fire truck was doing: it had turned the hose onto the softball field ...

In a few moments, it became clear,

the truck was marking a giant, wet "X" in the middle of the field.

Next, the kids started to hear the rotors of an approaching helicopter.



Firetrucks, a helicopter and new shoes! The children from this Colorado Camp were amazed and delighted by an afternoon of wonders — in a beautiful setting near Pike's Peak.

The firetruck had marked out a landing spot for the chopper!

By this time, the kids were jumping up and down, screaming and waving at the team from the local "Flight for Life."

Each camper had their photo taken with the helicopter and the med-evac

team. What a day! But wait — there was still more ...

The firefighters lined all the children up in front of the helicopter. Then, along with the Flight for Life team, they began to distribute a new pair of Crocs shoes to every single camper!

Soles for Souls donated hundreds of pairs for many of our boys and girls across the country this summer.

As the excited shouts and laughter from the Colorado kids made clear, this gift of shoes was a wonderful blessing and will be treasured — for as long as they fit ... and maybe even longer.

We would like to thank *Soles for Souls*, all the wonderful firefighters, the Flight for Life teams and all others who donate their time to entertain and delight our campers each summer.

You're making a lasting difference!

From Campers to Counselors



One way we know that Royal Family Kids' Camps makes a difference:

Our campers want to return as Counselors — and they often do!

This summer, we had 41 (and still counting) Counselors and other Camp Volunteers who used to be campers.

One of our Counselors commented, "My weeks at Royal Family as a kid were the BEST week of my whole year. When you don't

have a dad and for a whole week you have someone to pay attention to you and just have fun with, it's huge! I do this to 'give back' because I received so much."

We're privileged to be part of a life-changing outreach, and delighted that those whose lives have been touched want to come back and help others in the same circumstances.

Mark your calendar now And celebrate 20 years of outreach through Royal Family Kids' Camps!

- Twenty years of outreach to abused, abandoned and neglected children —
- Camps in 35 states —
- 9 International camps —
- More than 60,000 children served to date —
- And 7,000 current volunteers!

That's a lot to celebrate, and on Thursday, February 25, 2010, the Annual Royal Family Kids' Camps Celebration Banquet will be *the* place for celebration, and also a time to say "thank you" to all the friends like you, who have made Camps possible.

Royal Family Kids' Camps was established as a full-time endeavor 20 years ago. Countless lives have been changed

since then.

You'll witness some of that at the banquet, as the "featured speakers" will be children and young adults who were once Royal Family campers themselves.

What a blessing to hear about the critical difference you made in their lives!

The banquet will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 25, at the Marriott in Irvine, California, and we'll be sending invitations to all our friends after January 1, 2010. Mark your calendar now, and prepare to celebrate with us.

Don't let those miles expire!

Whether you're a road warrior with a lot of airline miles about to expire, or a less-than-frequent flyer with a few miles you'll never use, you can donate those miles to Royal Family Kids' Camps and make a big difference for children in need.

Our staff travels across the United States and sometimes internationally to set up new camps, conduct training for

Directors, tell people about Royal Family Kids' Camps and recruit new churches. Your gift of airline miles could help with travel expenses.

Find out how easy it is to donate miles. Just call Diane Tesch at (714) 438-2494, or email her at dianet@rfkc.org.

Thank you!

Help our kids — and yours



Proper estate planning can benefit you and help the children we serve.

You can support Royal Family Kids' Camps and provide for your own family, too — through proper estate planning and planned giving.

With a Will, Living Trust, or Charitable Gift Annuity, you may be able to ...

- Avoid excessive taxes
- Benefit from generous tax deduction
- Minimize probate costs for your family after your death
- Or even generate a lifetime income for yourself and your spouse

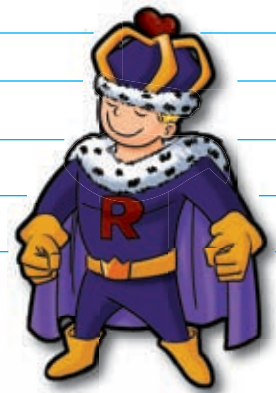
At the same time, your specific bequest or annuity gift would be helping to expand Royal Family Kids' Camps to touch the lives of even more children who have been abused, abandoned and neglected.

Find out more. Email Glenn Howard at GlennH@rfkc.org or call him at (714) 438-2494.

Why I like Royal Family Kids' Camps:

I like the Royal Family Kids' Camp because it is really fun and you get to do all kinds of activities. You get to go swimming and fishing. They have a game room. The games are pool, air hockey, ping-pong, and soccer ball. I like it here because we learn about the Bible and all the parts of the Bible. We eat three times a day and the food is really good. We could get how ever much food we want. I like it because you get to make new friends. There are so many nice Counselors here. You get to take a lot of pictures. We get to have a birthday party even when it is not your birthday and get presents. That is why I like the Royal Family Kids' Camp.

Shontae



October: check if your office is observing United Way Giving Month

Many businesses are taking part in United Way Giving Month this October.

You can direct your employee contribution to Royal Family Kids' Camps when you fill out your enrollment form for United Way giving — just use RFKC Inc. and our IRS 501-C3 number: 33-0380021.

You'll receive your tax-deductible receipt from United Way, and of course a percentage of your donation will go toward United Way itself and its other charitable works.

We appreciate your support of Royal Family Kids' Camps through United Way!

Check out our website's new look!!

Please visit us at www.rfkc.org to:

- Read moving personal testimonies
- Find Royal Family Kids' Camps near you
- And so much more!



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