



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: All Local Media  
FROM: Camp Fire USA “*Golden Empire Council*”

(KANSAS CITY, MO) - Camp Fire USA “*Golden Empire Council*” chartered in March 1939 was recently awarded a commemorative 100-year crystal charter in honor of the Camp Fire USA Centennial, which will be celebrated in 2010. Fifty councils received these charters, etched with traditional Camp Fire symbols, at the organization’s recent biennial business meeting, which was held November 5 in Kansas City, Mo.

*Camp Fire USA Golden Empire Council* board chairmen “*Maxine Box*” accepted the charter from National Board Chair Gwen Whitson, whose name and signature is etched on each charter. “*Maxine Box*” said, “Camp Fire USA ‘*Golden Empire Council*’ has served our communities, children, youth, and families for nearly a century, and this Centennial Charter is a fitting recognition of that service. On behalf of all the dedicated staff, volunteers, and board members of our council, I am very proud to accept this honor.”

Gwen Whitson, who has served as Camp Fire USA’s board chair since 2006, said, “These beautiful crystal Centennial Charters serve to remind us not only of a magnificent past but also of a great future for Camp Fire as we move into our next hundred years. We have never been more relevant as an organization, and our services have never been more needed.”

The charters were designed to reflect the organization’s rich 100-year history of service, with the traditional Camp Fire symbols representing the value of work, service to others, and an appreciation for the environment. Last year alone, Camp Fire provided more than 30 million hours of service through hundreds of different programs administered by councils across the United States.

Camp Fire USA’s Annual Business Meeting was part of its recent National Leadership Conference, which took place November 5-7 in Kansas City, Mo. This annual event, attended by executives, staff, board members, volunteers, and outstanding youth members representing councils from coast to coast, helps build strong leadership skills through workshops and trainings presented by leading experts in the field of youth development.

Camp Fire USA will celebrate its 2010 Centennial through several events. The 14th annual Absolutely Incredible Kid Day® national campaign is scheduled to be held March 18. This is a day on which parents and other adults write letters of support, love, and encouragement to the children and youth in their lives.

The keystone Centennial event will be the lighting of National Centennial Campfires by councils throughout the country. These ceremonies, in which the

public will be invited to participate, will take place at the same time on Saturday evening, July 31, 2010.

Camp Fire's original goal of building caring, confident youth and future leaders has never changed, nor has its commitment to inclusiveness: Camp Fire USA welcomes all youth and adults, regardless of race, religion, socioeconomic status, disability, or sexual orientation.

For more information about Camp Fire USA "*XYZ Council*," contact:  
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