Chinook’s Celebration Season

Summer wanes, reluctantly allowing golden warmth to welcome golden leaves. For Friends of Chinook School, the hints of autumn in the air bring added buzz of excited activity as we get ready for Oktoberfest 2013. Each year Oktoberfest grows. For us it is the central fundraising event and community party celebrating all renovation of our historical school properties.

OKTOBERFEST 2013 IS COMING – DO JOIN THE FUN!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19th 5:00 - 10:00

We are planning another wonderful Oktoberfest. Joanne Leech is creating another delicious dinner for us. The Beach Buddies Band will be performing on stage and this year we will have a “Beer Garden” in an outdoor tent with choices of great beer and live fiddler music. Of course we will have fantastic auction items to bid on. Come early and stay late. Join friends and neighbors for all the fun!

Again this year we are looking for high quality items for our silent and live auction. We must have the item(s) no later than October 14th. Items received after that date will not be accepted for this year’s auction.

Please call Jill Wirkkala at 360-244-1414 if you have any questions, any items to donate or if you need to arrange pickup or delivery.

Here’s a small sample of the some of the great bidding items!

“Stock up your wine cellar” The Wine Raffle always adds excitement to the evening. Bring a bottle of wine to Oktoberfest to donate to the raffle. Last year’s winner took home almost 100 bottles of great wine!

Enjoy a scenic airplane ride for three over our beautiful North Coast area – Bid on a chance to take a ride in a private plane. Cruise the coast or land for lunch.

Seahawks tickets for 4 people with 2 nights at a beautiful townhouse on Alki Beach in West Seattle! Watch the Seattle Seahawks vs. Tampa Bay Buccaneers on November 3rd. Ask your friends and come prepared to bid on this great package and enjoy a fun weekend in Seattle.

See you at OKTOBERFEST – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19th
OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL AT CHINOOK SCHOOL EVENT CENTER

In our last newsletter (friendsofchinookschool.org) we asked you to stand by for details and here they are. Be sure to mark your calendar and join the festivities.

Thursday evening, November 14

From 6:30 to 8:00 pm guests are invited to come enjoy the festivities. You will have the opportunity to purchase medieval foods and beverages from local vendors while listening to entertainment provided by the Ilwaco High School Jazz Band, the Bayside Singers Madrigal Group and the Naselle High School Marimba Band.

At 8 o’clock our Master of Ceremonies, Jon Krager, will introduce OSF Director Emeritus, Paul Nicholson, who will talk briefly about Angus Bowmer’s history with the Chinook School and his subsequent accomplishments. Jon will then dedicate the Angus Bowmer Stage to the community. Angus was the inspiration for our stage.

Following the dedication we are honored to host the first OSF performance which we hope will become an annual event. With the restoration of the gymnasium we enlarged the performance area of the stage, added a back stage dressing area and two bathrooms. With generous contributions we have been able to purchase side curtains to be used the first time at this performance.

During intermission Joanne Leech will serve medieval sweets and the vendors will continue to sell wine and beverages.

Admission is by a $10.00 donation for those who wish to have a good seat for viewing the stage. 200 advance-sale tickets are offered for purchase at Bank of the Pacific in Ocean Park and Long Beach, at Swanson’s Realty in Naselle or by calling Connie in Chinook at 777-8859. The tickets will be available at these locations until Friday, November 8, and any remaining will be available at the door on Thursday evening. All donations will go towards next year’s performance and workshop.

There is no charge for the young people who will be attending the workshop and no charge if you wish to come enjoy the food and music and then stand or find a seat along the walls during the OSF performance.

Friday, November 15

From 10:00 until 2:00 Friends of Chinook School has sponsored the OSF performers to give a workshop for IHS and NHS drama and English Literature students at no cost to the students. Youth involved with PAPA or Peninsula Players have also been invited to participate. Lunch will be provided mid-day.

We are especially proud to present this festival because it meets our stated mission of increasing educational and arts opportunities at the Event Center. Do take advantage and join us there.

Another Celebration - The Calendars Are Coming

The Friends of Chinook School Calendar 2014 arrives at the party on October 19. This fourth annual celebration of community will again be a 13-month, color production. The theme of this year’s calendar is Working Vessels, River and Sea. We feature some of our commercial fleet, past and present, and the Port of Chinook that shelters them. These are photographs to touch the souls of peninsula folk. Come to enjoy our Oktoberfest and leave with calendars for yourself and for special gifts. Calendars sell for $13.00 each or three for $30.00. After Oktoberfest calendars will be available at local businesses in Chinook.

Rent the Chinook School Event Center

For rental information check availability on the FOCS website www.friendsofchinookschool.org then call 360-244-FOCS (3627).
Memorials
The dearest people in our lives leave lasting imprints. Valuing those imprints with memorial donations helps to keep the memories strong. Friends of Chinook School is honored to dedicate remembrance donations to the work of improving and managing the Historic Chinook School property. New donations since the spring/summer newsletter have been received in memory of the following:

WILLIAM R. “BILL” LITSCHKE
DOUGLAS WILLIAM ANDERSON

Strong Reasons Make Strong Actions
William Shakespeare

Our reason is the indisputable fact of neighbors needing healthy food. Our action is continuing operation of the Chinook Food Bank (CFB) and keeping you informed of ways you might help.

Recently we received positive news in local support of efforts to ease food-insecurity in our community. Currently a local bank is set to donate cash for each ATM deposit made at their Long Beach branch. Between September 1 and November 30, each Bank of the Pacific ATM deposit will yield a $1.00 donation to the food banks on the Peninsula. Our CFB is one of the three food banks to receive a share. That donation could go a long way toward stocking our shelves for winter and the holiday seasons. And, as we speak of ways to help feed neighbors in need, we again ask for volunteers in support of the cause. We need more folks to sign up to staff the CFB on open days, each first and third Wednesday from 10:00-1:00. In addition, there are many opportunities other than “food day” staff that will help our food bank run smoothly. If you can imagine yourself being enriched by helping community members, call Tammy Engel to volunteer time for the CFB: 360-244-2448.

New roof, and windows, and paint! Oh, my!
Our excitement and pride are enormous! Friends of Chinook School and the Port of Chinook have shown such patience waiting and working toward giving the existing Chinook School a fabulous facelift. Finally we begin. The new roof and foundation were in place early (see the From the Board article) and now we witness the fabulous new dressing obvious to all passersby. We also recognize that the local community has stood by us as we move into the final phase of renovation. For that we thank you all! Again, please refer to the “From the Board” article for details of our forward progress and know how much we appreciate you!

From the FOCS Board
Chinook School Restoration Project
The 1924 Chinook School Building is now starting to look as spectacular as the former 1921 Chinook School Gymnasium
The historic Chinook School Gymnasium is restored and a busy hub of community activity. This building is now the Event Center. Focus has turned to the restoration of the historic Chinook School building. Work already completed on the school includes a new roof, foundation repair and other structural improvements. While these are all very important to the physical integrity of building, nothing is more noticeable and appreciated to the passerby than the exterior painting currently underway. The work is being done by John Carriere Paint and Drywall.

With funds raised by Friends of Chinook School and a financial award from the Templin Foundation, the school building has been power-washed, resurfaced in some areas and is now getting a long-awaited painting!

Up next for school building improvements: The Port of Chinook has received a grant (Washington State Heritage Capital Projects Fund) for windows and doors for the building. Once the Port and the Washington State Historical Society enter into a contract, the installation will begin.

From there, the plan is to continue raising funds for the restoration of the building’s interior.

The Friends of Chinook School, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, and the Port of Chinook continue to work with the community, local/outside foundations and a host of governmental agencies to get the job done.

When the school building is complete it will be known as the Community Building and together with the Event Center, southwest Washington will have one great historically restored community facility.
Hot Dog, What a Day!!

Oh my gosh!! Cuter than anything! It is true that the children shall deliver us forward, remembering the past with focus on the future. July 4th was a day of joy for locals and visitors. There were 82 registrants lined up for the parade. Waiting at the Event Center at the end of the parade route Joanne Leech, Jill Wirkkala and Tammy Engel were ready to dispense hot dogs. This is such a special revisitation to early days of a favorite summer celebration. We can hardly wait for next year!