Oktoberfest 2013—Oh What Fun We Had!

The weather was fantastic, the music lively, the food delicious, and the beer was pouring in the beer garden! Thanks to all members and friends who came out to support our Chinook School restoration and enjoy the fun.

The beer garden was a big hit! Volunteer servers Ken Leu, Gary Kobes, Aaron Schlosser, Doug Fauver and Maria Brooks served up not only great beer but also brats in the backyard tent. The fiddle music of “Double J and the Boys” provided the perfect background to visit with friends and celebrate the success of Chinook School. Thanks to The Lost Roo for donating a keg of their premier Scottish Ale, Sandy Prosser and Dr. Steve Bell for donating the brats.

Inside the gymnasium the Beach Buddies band produced their usual toe-tapping music and we hope you enjoyed Joanne’s delicious chicken dinner served by the young people of the community. Thanks to all who donated items for the auction. Your quality donations are the key to this event’s success and we are extremely grateful.

Friends of Chinook School needs volunteers to continue to fund and support our restoration project and future events. If you would like to help with decorating and setting up the gym and beer garden, securing and/or collecting donations, making signs, writing articles or taking event pictures, please get involved. We need you!

Volunteer by calling Karen Leu 206-713-6981 or email at alkileu@comcast.net.
Friends of Chinook School held the first annual Shakespeare Event on Thursday, November 14 and Friday, November 15 of 2013. We thoroughly enjoyed Christiana Clark and Jeremy Johnson, two remarkable Oregon Shakespeare Festival actors who delighted and surprised the community. Jeremy and Christiana performed vignettes from a number of plays, including “The Tempest,” “Romeo and Juliet” and “On Golden Pond.” These professionals were superb in portraying several parts in each scene and delighted the audience with their skills.

With our ties to OSF through Angus Bowmer, teacher and coach at Chinook School in the late twenties, we took advantage of the event to dedicate our stage to the community. A very special guest from Ashland, Paul Nicholson, spoke of Angus Bowmer establishing the Shakespeare Festival and its development and growth over the years. Mr. Nicholson, Director Emeritus of OSF, retired last year after 30 years of working with the actors and making the programs the success they are in cultural enrichment. Jon Krager, our master of ceremonies, pointed out the mounted brass plate naming the Angus Bowmer Stage and marking its dedication date for posterity.

This evening program started with the festive atmosphere of medieval food and drink being sold by The Depot Restaurant and The Shelburne Inn and with musical entertainment.

The crowd enjoyed numbers by The Ilwaco High School Jazz Band, The Bayside Singers, and The Naselle Drama Club playing marimbas. A brief intermission offered medieval sweets and drinks and the performance ended with plans for a workshop for Ilwaco and Naselle English and drama students the next morning.

On Friday, November 15, the OSF actors performed again for the students and then conducted two sessions of active and interactive workshops for enthusiastic participants. Our local Chinook Inn provided lunch for the students and chaperones. Everyone had positive comments and all are looking forward to next year. FOCS is pleased by the response and feel it was a good start to our mission of providing educational and cultural benefits to our community.

Stand by for next year's dates to be announced by OSF this spring.
From the FOCS Board

**An Important Year: 2013**

The year 2013 marked the tenth anniversary of the founding of Friends of Chinook School. It is the year where all major construction on the Event Center (gymnasium) was completed and the community began to see improvements on the school building. It was the year that the Event Center proved that it is an important regional asset. Activities and events of the year included the First Annual 4th of July Children’s Parade, the Ninth Annual Oktoberfest, the Third Annual Children’s Halloween Party, the First Annual Shakespeare Event and Angus Bowmer Stage dedication, and the second year of the Chinook Food Bank at the school building. Many private and public gatherings and meetings as well as children’s sports were a big part of the busy year. Sincere thanks to all who have helped with these accomplishments.

**Upcoming in 2014: Interior Construction**

Friends of Chinook School and the Port of Chinook are moving forward with construction. The project team made up of FOCS members, representatives of the POC, advisors and consultants, is finalizing plans for interior structural improvements and window/door installation in the school building. Plans also include rewiring the building. Project Manager Corky Wilson anticipates work to begin in February. “Construction needs to follow historic rehabilitation guidelines so we have to pay close attention to what we do and that requires a lot of planning…but we’re getting the job done!”

Project steps to follow include heating system, plumbing and fixtures, wall and ceiling repair, painting/refinishing and floor refurbishing. If you can help with any of the next projects, please contact us through our Website or by calling Eileen Wirkkala 360-777-8211.

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 fall newsletter have been received in memory of the following:

- Daniel G. “Dan” Whealdon
- Evelyn “Eva” (Coyle) Whealdon

In addition, memorials received for loved ones who have been previously honored in this newsletter are:

- Jean (Whealdon) Hornig
- Mildred (Kary) Malchow
- William R. “Bill” Litschke

A master Memorial list is available for viewing on our website [www.friendsofchinookschool.org](http://www.friendsofchinookschool.org) and which will eventually be on a plaque in the completed Chinook School building.

**2014 Calendars Still Available**

There are plenty of FOCS 2014 calendars available for your enjoyment. This year’s calendar features working boats, past and present, and wonderful color images of our port, river and bay superimposed on the local nautical chart.

A tribute to our special fishing community, this calendar begs to be shared among and beyond our local citizens. The beautiful photos accompany well-designed calendar pages to record your special days and dates alongside printed high-days and holidays of 2014. The calendars are sale priced at $10.00 each or three for $25.00 available at Chinook Country Store and the Chinook Inn Restaurant. When you get your copy, be sure to notice and patronize the local businesses who sponsored the production of our calendar. If you would like to have calendars mailed, please feel free to call or email Connie at 360-777-8859 or cshells@earthlink.net. Profits from sale of the calendar will go to the general fund of The Friends of Chinook School. We thank you for your support!
As we begin our work in 2014, FOCS volunteers have set well the anchor to ensure continued improvements of the Chinook School property. We again turn to our community of supporters to renew their memberships and cast for new members and volunteers to join us. Membership alone is a meaningful, important aid to our efforts. Membership shows support and interest in the project even if time doesn’t allow for active volunteering. Membership rewards with a voice, a vote, community connection, community pride and three fine newsletters each year. Your continued membership keeps you on our team and brings us your energy and your ideas.

Memberships are only $10.00 for an individual, couple or the whole family. Please fill out the enclosed bright yellow form and return it with your donation to FOCS, PO Box 243, Chinook, WA 98614.

Rent the Chinook School Event Center
For rental information: check availability on the FOCS website www.friendsofchinookschool.org then call 360-244-FOCS (3627).