

# LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

## FROM DICK HAAPALA



Campers enjoying a wagon ride on the way to the boat dock.

### Annual Recap

The 2019 season was a very good one with many new developments but no forest fires. We started the season on a pretty normal schedule after a mild winter and essentially no storm damage. Kevin Holmes served as our Camp Manager/Caretaker for the first half of the 2019 season as he had for the previous two years. He got a fantastic offer to become the winemaker for the Bonair Winery and left for that challenge mid-summer. Steve and Mary Smith brought their talents to camp to finish out the season as a Camp Manager/Caretaker team. Since they have firm commitments for the summer of 2020, they will not be available for the 2020 season. We are now reviewing the qualifications for several applicants. More recently, our Executive Director, Cec Anson, of 6 1/2 years, decided to accept a challenging career move to join the Yakima County Health District. We received several well-qualified candidates to fill her position and are happy to report we have found our new Executive Director, Paul Golke! We look forward to welcoming Paul and his family to our wonderful Yakima Valley and all that it has to offer.

### Long Range Planning

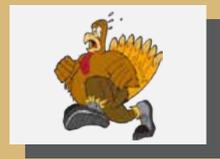
To keep our efforts focused, we have developed a long range Strategic Plan. The plan has recently been updated for the next five year cycle. Consistent with the Strategic Plan, we are working on a few capital improvement projects that include a storage building for equipment at camp, propane stoves for heating the cabins, and cabin upgrades.

### Activities & Camp Improvements

We are looking into the feasibility of reactivating our horseback riding program. The successful "movie night in the treehouse" will be continued. Our dedicated volunteers, donors, and campers continue to make Camp Prime Time better every year.

Thank you for your continued support of Camp Prime Time!

*Dick Haapala*  
Board President



The Leftover Turkey Trot had 273 participants and generated \$9,750!



Volunteers collected hundreds of Christmas trees and raised nearly \$10,000!

## Some Quick FUNdraising Facts

Camp Prime Time relies on donations to fund annual operations that provide for over 20 camps each and every year!

IT'S BECAUSE OF ALL OF YOU WHO DONATE YOUR TIME, TALENTS AND TREASURE THAT WE ARE ABLE TO OFFER OUR SPECIAL CAMPER FAMILIES A WEEKEND IN OUR BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAIN FOREST AND HOPEFULLY GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO RELAX.



## NATIONWIDE COLLABORATION NEW FIREPIT DRAWS NATIONAL SUPPORT

By Mike Poppoff

"Do you know of any organization that can use some great decorative concrete? Donated?" That was a question posed to me a year ago by my friend Chris Klemaske, a decorative concrete contractor in San Diego, and a member of the American Society of Concrete Contractors (ASCC). My mind went immediately to Camp Prime Time. After a phone call to Ralph Berthon, the idea of a new fire pit was started. The ASCC is a national concrete contracting association based in St. Louis. Each year ASCC sponsors a Community Project that is made of decorative concrete to

benefit a nonprofit. In the past years, these projects have been installed in programs such as a veteran's nursing home, a remote school for kids in southern California, and many others.

In the spring of 2019, ASCC approved the project to replace the fire pit at CPT. Immediately donations of materials, labor, and money came in from the Yakima area, as well as Washington state and national suppliers. The project started in August with demolition of the old fire pit. We then excavated the area, set forms, and poured and finished the concrete.

We then added back rests to the bleachers. The project was completed in September. This could not have been done without the generous support of ASCC members all over the nation, CPT staff and volunteers, local labor, and local donations. The net result is that there is a beautiful addition to CPT that will put smiles on the faces of kids for decades.

# 2019 RECAP

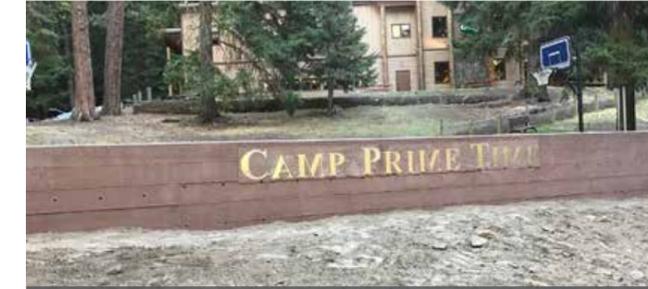


## AUCTION A SUCCESS

Bidding was lively at the November 23rd dinner/auction when the beautifully restored 1957 Thunderbird Convertible sold for \$32,000. A huge thanks to Milton and Delia Zeutchel for such a generous donation – our first ever collector automobile to be donated to the auction. It was a fun evening with so many people coming out to help us net over \$300,000 towards funding Camp Operations for the next two years. THANK YOU to our sponsors, all those who donated items, everyone that purchased items, raised the paddle, and a big heartfelt thank you to the numerous volunteers that selflessly dedicated endless hours to make the event so successful. We couldn't have done it without each and every one of you.



NEW 3/4 TON 2019 FORD TRANSIT VAN



NEW CONCRETE WALL IN PLACE OF THE FALLEN TREE

2019 was a good year for the camp. Thankfully we had no fires in the area, and the weather was cooperative. With twenty camp sessions, we served nearly 1,200 people and had over 2,866 mandays of use. We amassed over 7,800 hours of volunteer time. Our fundraisers were a big success, and we had some changes to the camp facilities. We removed over 5 trees that were hazards, and we removed the old fire pit in exchange for a newer, better one. In 2019, we started a project to replace all the wood stoves with propane fired units in each cabin.

with the departure of Kevin Holmes who left in mid-July. Steve and Mary Smith stepped in to temporarily fill in behind Kevin to finish the 2019 season. They were a great help, and we wish them the best in their overdue vacation.

Bringing with him over 20 years of experience, Bill Schorzman has been hired to be their replacement.



We also saw a change in the Caretaker/Manager at camp

## CAMP WINS GRAND PRIZE

This past October, Camp Prime Time had an unusual streak of good fortune in a raffle run by the Sunrise Rotary of Yakima. A few generous Rotarians wrote the camp's name on several tickets and as it turns out, one of those tickets was the winning ticket, and Camp Prime Time WON a brand new 2018 F 150 4x4 Ford pickup.

The board decided the best thing was to sell the truck and use the proceeds to purchase a van that could be put to better use by the camp.

# MEET PAUL GOLKE

## NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CAMP PRIME TIME

**Paul Golke is excited to join the amazing team of Camp Prime Time. He brings over 30 years of outdoor camp experience and leadership from camps served in Minnesota, Iowa, Michigan, and Washington.**

Paul has always had a great love for the outdoors. Building community through the shared experience of camp is one of the most powerful learning and development tools around. Years of camp experiences and stories have shaped his outlook and makes his presentations entertaining and fun. He may pull out his guitar or lead a group in a camp related activity. So get ready for almost anything!



Paul with Wife Kristi, Daughter-in-Law Johanna, and Sons Garrett, Paul, & Isaac.



Paul enjoys hearing people share how camp has impacted their lives. Camp Prime Time offers an ideal place and setting to build relationship and community. The one word in Camp Prime Time's motto that catches his attention is 'enrich.' Enriching lives, families, enjoyment, all in an enriching outdoor wilderness. He looks forward to further enriching all who are touched by Camp Prime Time.

## FOCUS ON VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

You can always volunteer to help run the camp or work on projects such as "Spring Clean Up" on weekends in May. We are looking at ways volunteers can help us grow.

Administratively we are looking for a Volunteer Coordinator as well as a volunteer that could help us with the various group leaders and the booking of the camper groups. We are also looking at the possibility of recruiting a few individuals that are skilled in various trades

that could be on call to help with assessing a problem or making emergency repairs to our buildings, equipment, or utilities at camp. A few areas where we need to expand our volunteer base for the camp are: electricians, propane equipment service technicians, carpenters, and equipment maintenance and repair workers.

If any of these areas are of interest, please contact the camp office at (509) 248-2854 and we can discuss these ideas in more detail.



## DEBBIE'S DREAM

By Ralph Berthon (Co-Founder)

Debbie Armstrong, a valued employee of Camp Prime Time for over 10 years, retired in late 2018. Sadly, she passed away in October of 2019. Our sincere condolences to her family and friends. In our many conversations, Debbie expressed that one of her dreams was to recruit a minimum of 5,000 members for Camp Prime Time. We used to say that the only thing we could give them for their membership would be a "God Bless you and a Hail Mary". We both thought that was the perfect thank you.



True to Debbie's sweet nature, she was willing to donate her time as a volunteer to work on making that dream come true. She wanted to create a data base and send out annual statements to all those members. Unfortunately, her health prevented her from being able to realize her dream. One of her many talents was working with numbers and accounting. Debbie once told me that if we had just half of the people in our database become members at just \$25.00 a year we could raise over \$100,000 annually. And if we had all the people in our data base become members, we would raise over \$250,000! All for just \$25.00 per year. Thirty-five years ago, Camp Prime Time started as a dream. Now, you can help Debbie's dream become reality. Join me, with so many others, and become a Camp Prime Time Member today!

Your support means...

Join or make a donation online  
Visit [www.campprimetime.org](http://www.campprimetime.org)  
Complete the pledge envelope  
Envelope included for your convenience

**THANK YOU!!!**

Camp Prime Time is recognized as a charitable organization by tax code 501(c)(3). All gifts are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law (Tax ID#91-138128)

Camp Prime Time  
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**Volunteer Board of Directors**  
President: Dick Haapala  
Vice President: Betty Jo Murray  
Treasurer: Lisa Martin  
Secretary: Terry Alapeteri  
Member at Large/Development: Ralph Berthon

**Staff**  
Executive Director: Paul Golke  
Camp Manager/Caretaker: Bill Schorzman  
Administrative Assistant: Merrita Stelten

Dave Berthon  
Sheri Smith  
Kelli Barton  
Michael Moore  
Dave Wakefield  
Levi Wyatt

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. It's the only thing that ever has."  
Margaret Mead



Spring/Summer  
2020

A camp for families with a seriously/terminally ill or developmentally disabled child to experience the great outdoors



### COVID-19 CAMP IMPACTS

The impact of the COVID-19 virus has been staggering for our communities. We hope you all are safe and will be able to remain free of any illness. Camp Prime Time is honoring the "stay at home" restrictions that are in place in Yakima County and the rest of the state. We understand this creates a slowdown in services for people trying to contact us. We have implemented telecommuting protocols for telephone calls, email, and general operations. Unfortunately, no one knows just how long the current restrictions will remain in place. The US Forest Service issued a partial closure to recreation in the forest. Permitted facilities such as Camp Prime Time have not been impacted by this closure.



At this time, Camp Prime Time has decided to remain positive and is gearing up to open for camping as planned the last weekend in May. We understand this is optimistic and that our plans may have to change. We encourage all campers and volunteers to sign up for camp as usual, understanding that everyone's plans may be put on hold at the last minute due to the nature of the virus and its control.

**FOR CURRENT UPDATES ON COVID-19 IMPACTS TO CAMP PRIME TIME, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.CAMPPRIMETIME.ORG](http://WWW.CAMPPRIMETIME.ORG) OR VISIT US ON FACEBOOK**



## What's Inside

- A message from our President Dick Haapala
- Details on the new firepit
- 2019 recap
- Our new Executive Director - Paul Golke
- Debbie's Dream



## Stay Connected

For the latest news and info about Camp Prime Time, visit:  
[www.campprimetime.org](http://www.campprimetime.org)