

THE POND

Dragonflies And Minnows

Summer Program

Over the Summer Dragonfly Pond offered two weeks of summer programs at the Penticton Community Center. 25 kids attended and participated in a variety of Swimming activities, games, crafts music, singing, gross motor play and just hanging out and having fun.

Thank you to London Drugs and Zellers who generously donated items for gift bags given out at the beginning of the summer.



Thank you to all our volunteers!



Funding For The Dragonflies and Minnows

Summer Program was provided by:

Okanagan Fest-Of-Ale Society, Business gives back, South Okanagan Children's Charity, Penticton Auto Dealers & Friends Golf Gala, United Way, Toskan Casale Foundation

Wal-Mart Hot Dog Sales

We have held a number of hot dog sales this summer at Wal-Mart who generously donates the use of their BBQ, tables and chairs.

Thank you to Grimm's for the donation of wieners and Canada Bread for the buns.



These fundraisers help enable the continuation of Dragonfly Pond Programs.

Thank you to the volunteers who make these events possible.

Next Sale: Sunday September 7, 2008

DRAGONFLY POND BOARD MEMBERS

Anna Campbell, Chair

Katie Bowling, Vice Chair

Frances Beaubien, Secretary

Margie Wyatt, Treasurer

Kevin Nickerson

Traci Fladager

Jennifer Hutchinson

Carol Wall

Candy Benedetti

Cheryl Woodman

Terry Woodman

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

LET FRIENDS AND FAMILY KNOW OF THE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT DRAGONFLY POND

Dragonfly Pond depends on volunteers to make Children's Programs, activities and special events happen



PEACH FEST PARADE

July 9th Dragonfly Pond Family Society took part with the United Way of the South Okanagan-Similkameen in the Annual Peach Festival Parade.

Families, kids, caregivers and volunteers turned out to show their support.

The rain came down before and after the parade and a small amount during but it was great.

The kids weren't hot and they all enjoyed the walk, most of them trekked the whole way.

The theme was everyday heroes and the kids enjoyed donning the towel capes and T-shirts

and then handing out Dragonfly Pond Tattoos to the children along the way.

This event went over well and we hope to do it next year.

IRONMAN

Global Spectrum/SOEC did an amazing job of running the Aide station that Dragonfly pond benefited from this year. They will again run the Ironman Aid station #10 (yellow Lake) next year and would like to have Dragonfly Pond as their charity partner again.

Thank you to global Spectrum/SOEC and all the volunteers who helped out during this event. Each year athletes are amazed at our amazing hospitality and support. This event brings thousands of people to Penticton each year and helps support our hospitality industry.

Dragonfly Pond Family Annual Christmas Party



Saturday December 6, 2008



12:00- 1:30

Penticton Community Center Gym
325 Power Street

RSVP will be required for this event as we will need to let Santa know what each child enjoys so that he may bring them a little something. Please email, Phone or mail Dragonfly Pond with the following information:
Childs name, interests, age and gender
RSVP by November 15/08

Kids Helping Pets, Pets helping kids.



Join us at
Pause For A Cause

September 14th at Rotary Park in Penticton by the Lakeside Resort
Dragonfly Pond will have a booth there

The kids will be selling animal treats



SUMMER SNAP SHOTS



Fun with the Chicken Dance



DRAGONFLIES & MINNOWS
2008

Communities for Kids

is pleased to present our
fourth annual one-day workshop
for
parents, grandparents, caregivers, ECE workers and
child care providers on

Saturday October 25, 2008
8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Similkameen Elementary Secondary School
830 Second Avenue, Keremeos, BC
For more information please contact:

Lynn Cook
(250) 496-5511

(collect calls accepted)

communitiesforkids@telus.net or visit our
website

www.communitiesforkids.ca



AGUR LAKE

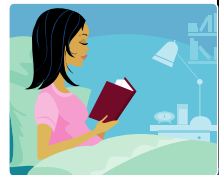
Come and see the folks from **Agur Lake Camp Society** at **the Summerland Fall Fair, Sept. 5th, 6th and 7th at the Summerland Arena**. We will be raffling a package including 1/2 day Boat Rental from Summerland Boat Rentals and a \$30 gift certificate to Cozy Bay Seafood Restaurant. There will be a fishing pond with prizes for the kids as well.

Drop in, say hello, and find out more about the camp's progress - hiring an architect to do final site and building plans, teaming up with White Crow Village, being given another 7 acres of land for camp use, becoming an affiliate of United Way etc.

We continue to work hard to bring the dream of Agur Lake Camp to reality. Our goal for all the deserving families is to **"Make It Happen!"**

Respite South Okanagan

08/09 season will be underway in October. For
more information please
Call or email Tina at 250-490-3305
www.dragonfly@vip.net



A letter submitted by a Dragonfly Pond Parent

I am the parent of two Autistic children ages 5 and under, when I first received the information about their disability, I was in shock, then grief settled around me like a heavy blanket. The loss of the dream(s) for my children - never to drive a car, never to go to university, never to live on their own without a supported environment - some days it became overwhelming....how could we carry on with a normal family life, how could my children participate in community events - there were so many "service providers" who needed a piece of our family - how do I juggle day to day life?

Just when I thought that I would get no "real life" answers, our family received a referral to Dragonfly Pond! Wow, a real person to talk to who lives with a challenging child - someone who really gets it! Someone who understands the trials of negotiating their way through all the red tape, but more than that. Our family has been blessed with having people come into our lives who celebrate the joys of parenting a "challenging" child! Who celebrate with us, - the successes that others who have not walked in our shoes take for granted.

Dragonfly Pond provides an unduplicated, incredible service to families in the South Okanagan. Being part of the Dragonfly Pond family has enabled my children, - enabled them to participate and be successful in swimming lessons and spring/summer day camps. Dragonfly is inclusive enough to ensure that our Neuro-typical child has an opportunity to participate in the activities as well, because sometimes the "typical" child gets left out of activities as a result of having special needs siblings.

The respite portion of Dragonfly Pond is a lifeline to us. My husband and I are able to have one night at a lovely hotel with a beautiful meal and even a movie! On our first stay, there was even a "welcome" basket in our room with bath salts and lovely treats! Just having the ability to be a couple was a gift! As a parent of children who are "other-abled" it is difficult to find the time during everyday life to connect as a couple, the evening away allowed us to recharge our batteries and to sleep uninterrupted for an entire night!

The volunteer board of directors, staff and volunteers of Dragonfly Pond deserve a standing ovation for their dedication to the best interests of the families they serve!

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the United Way for their continued funding of such a valuable resource to the "other-abled" community, the work that Dragonfly Pond does is unparalleled.

Respality South Okanagan Similkameen

The Respality Program will be once again be starting up in October. We would like to acknowledge the community partners who without we would not be able to offer this program that gives parents a chance to relax and recuperate. These businesses show their support in numerous ways and have enjoyed hearing how you have enjoyed the experience. They look forward to serving you in the future we encourage you to let them know that their support is appreciated.

Thanks to...

RAMADA INN, COAST LAKESIDE RESORT, PASTA FACTORY, HOLIDAY INN
OSOYOOS, WHITE SPOT, PEN MAR THEATER, BAREBONES THEATRE,
OKANAGAGAN SYMPHONY SOUTH OKANAGAN,
SHOPPERS DRUG MART, LOCAL WINERIES



DRAGONFLY POND FAMILY SOCIETY IS SUPPORTED BY...

Penticton Auto Dealers Association, Penticton & Friends Golf Tournament, , United Way of the South Okanagan, Ministry of Child and Family Development, Lakeside Resort, Ramada Inn & Suites, London Drugs, Shoppers Drug Mart Penticton, Pasta Factory, Knights of Pythias, Rick Whittaker, Accountant. Bernice Greig, Lawyer., Business Gives Back, South Okanagan Children's Charity, City of Penticton Community Centre & Pool Staff, Okanagan Fest of Ale Society, Safeway, Communities for Kids, Penticton Kinettes, The White Spot, Community Foundation of the South Okanagan, Pen High leadership and the Toskan Casale Foundation, Penticton Herald, Summerland Review, Penticton Western, Princeton review, Barebones Theatre Company, Wal-Mart, Okanagan Symphony of the South Okanagan, private consultants, concerned citizens, family members, foundations, community agencies & service providers