



2012 Campers



Johnny McLaughlin, Executive Director of Camping Services

Johnny McLaughlin serves as the Executive Director of Camping Services and is primarily based out of Camp Nawakwa, close to Angelus Oaks in California. He joins Camp Fire USA with over twenty years of residential & day camp experience. He has worked for the YMCA both in New Jersey and Colorado coming up through ranks from Camp Counselor to that of Director of Camping Services. He also spent time working for the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Francisco as the Camp Director for their resident camp. He left the Boys & Girls Club Camp to put together Camp Yellow Ribbon, a day & resident camp based in San Diego for children who had at least one parent deployed to an overseas war zone. Prior to coming to Camp Fire he worked for a start up nonprofit managing their campus facility in Northern California, doubling the capacity and moving the operation from seasonal to year round. Over the course of his career he has worked with a multitude of special need populations, these include Diabetics, Emotionally & Developmentally challenged, AIDS Camp programs, Burn Survivors, Deaf & Hard of Hearing, Asthma Camps as well as working with wide selection of individual campers with allergies & intolerances to specific foods.

He received an Associate Degree in Communication Studies from West of Scotland University and also graduated from Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, Scotland with a B.A. in Applied Consumer Studies.

After he graduated from the University he served a term as Student Association University President, where he had the opportunity to meet the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh. After leaving secondary school he served in the Royal Highland Fusiliers as an infantryman. Recently in 2012, he was honored by the Rotary Club of Portola and received the "Service Above Self" award. Johnny has also served as a regional American Camp Association board member.

He is an avid outdoors person; he camps, hikes and snow boards whenever he has the opportunity. He loves to ride his motorcycle. When he moved to California from the East coast, he spent twenty-eight days on the road driving his motorcycle along the back roads of the country. He also passionately follows Glasgow Celtic Football Club, a Scottish soccer club, whenever he flies back to Scotland to visit family and friends he tries to time his trip around Celtic home games.