

For immediate release: June 5, 2015 CONTACT: Wayne Marlow 573 434 4043 <u>waynesm2@yahoo.com</u> <u>http://www.ozarkcoastkiwanis.org</u> PO Box 1245, Lake Ozark, MO 65049

Kiwanis presents \$1,000 check to Missouri Children's Burn Camp



Jason Hynson, Kiwanis President presents a check to Larry Conley, Burn Camp Director and Emily Bieker, Administrative Assistant.



For more information or to help support please go to Burn Recovery Support Group at <u>http://brsg.org/</u> This week, Missouri Burns Recovery Support Group held the 19^{th} annual camp week specifically for severely burned kids, ages 6 - 17 from all over Missouri. 68 campers had the opportunity to learn from peers as well as experts, how they aren't different because of their scars, but are STARS because of their ability and strength...in fact this years theme is Hollywood,...ALL CAMPERS ARE STARS.

Many of the staff are burn survivors or burn experts themselves. Camp Director, Larry Conley's day job is as a Captain in the St. Louis Fire Dept. He has been working at the camp for 13 years and Emily Conley first attended 15 years ago as a burn camper. Now she works year-round for the Burn Recovery Support Group.

What do the campers do? The same as other campers...outdoor and water based activities including tubing and zip lines as well as life skills all kids need but focused **on turning burn patients into burn survivors**...sometimes the scars cause more self esteem focus then the healing of the actual skin tissue.

Ozark Coast Kiwanis is proud to give back to Lake Area kids. In this case, 5 kids from the immediate Lake Area were burn campers this year. Camp costs \$1,700 per camper and there is no charge to the campers. Ozark Coast Kiwanis is one of the largest service organizations at the Lake. All funds raised go back to the Lake Community to support dozens of children focused programs that depend on Kiwanis to fund and run their programs.

Kiwanis fundraisers that you might recognize as sponsored by Kiwanis include :

5K Run/Walk to the Beach over the Community Bridge...April 18, 2015 Annual Peanut Day May 22, 2015 Duck Drop & Duck Drop Golf Tournament July 31 & August 1st 2015 2nd Chance Bikes...year round Christmas for Kids...December 13, 2015

Plus we provide volunteer support to many community wide events.

Some of the groups that we support/sponsor include: Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boy & Girl Scouts, CADV, Feed The Children, Hope House, Lake Regional Hospital, Parents as Teachers, Share The Harvest, Wonderland Camp, YMCA...Key Club, Key Leader, Builder's Club, College Scholarships.

Kiwanis Club of Ozark Coast was organized in 1988. We have proudly served Lake Community children for 26 years.

We are a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable foundation. Our club members are service-minded men and women from all segments of the community. We meet every Thursday, at **Ozark Yacht Club**, 12 noon to 1:00 pm for lunch, fellowship, discussion of club business, and a program presented by community business people on topics of interest such as community issues, public affairs, service, or entertainment. (Members do not have to attend every week...just when you can and be willing to help volunteer).

We'd love for you to join us for good times as we work together to better the lives of the children in our community. Please join us at our next meeting or contact our Club President for more information.