



OCAsional News

PUBLISHED BY THE ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER 1995

Telling our Story

The Ontario Camping Association is a community of day and residential camps serving to promote the benefits of a camping experience to children, youth, and their families. The success of this community to tell the important story lies in the hands of the individual member camps, its director, staff, and the Association's volunteers.

This is a time in the cycle when camp staff are preparing their new budgets and marketing plans before receiving registrations for the new season. Please think of YOUR provincial camping association in your plans. This is how we can all do our part in telling the OCA story:

Start with ensuring the official OCA logo shares a place on all your camp's printed materials. Be proud of your association by displaying the logo. This could include (without additional print costs): envelopes, brochures, flyers, business cards, advertisements, family information, shirts and alike.

When speaking to potential camper families, tell them you are OCA accredited.

This brings an additional note of credibility to your organization.



ACCREDITED
MEMBER
ONTARIO
CAMPING
ASSOCIATION

Plan to participate in an OCA event. It could be a conference, committee meeting, social event or campfire. Your presence shows support for the OCA work.

If you need additional photostats of the logos, call the OCA office. If you're looking for new ideas to promote your OCA Accredited camp, call a fellow member for advice. Let's work together to spread the OCA and camping story!

KEITH PUBLICOVER - OCA DIRECTOR

Camping Guide on the way!

The 1996 Camping Guide will be hitting the streets December 1st, as promised! This is a full month earlier than ever before but not too soon as our 1995 Camping Guide supply is exhausted and we already have more than 100 requests for the new Guide!

Thanks go out to everyone who helped make it happen:

- to the camps for sending in their information on time - we understand the extra effort it took!
- to the team of volunteers who proof-read, phone called, faxed, scrutinized, and strategized
- to Bobsie and Mary Lynn who put in long hours to pull it all together

Keep an eye on your mailbox - your copy will be arriving soon!

KATE MOORE - OCA DIRECTOR

An additional note from John Jorgenson (President): Both Mary Lynn and Kate Moore have held us to a rigorous schedule in relation to this first year of getting on track for the annual distribution of our Camping Guide on Dec. 1. Kate, in particular, cheerily set about to see this enormous task through to completion. The OCA will be able to see the fruits of that effort much earlier than ever before. Where would we be without volunteers like Kate?

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"MAN NEVER MADE ANY MATERIAL AS RESILIENT AS THE HUMAN SPIRIT" - WILLIAMS

A time for gaining momentum

Dear Journal:

October may be the time of losing leaves but it is certainly the time for gaining momentum. Thanks to the OCA Editorial Committee of the *OCA'sional News*, the September issue of our newsletter is now an annual kick start to the membership's year round commitment to quality camping. The minutes and work of many committees have indicated a great building of energy and the October 25th Advisory Council meeting confirmed it.

When the current structure of the Association was established, the Advisory Council was intended to provide a thrice annual link of all committees and task forces with the Board in order to provide for three functions: face to face contact; focus; and forum.

It was great to see new faces amongst some of the wily veterans. In some cases, it marks a healthy turnover of leadership amongst volunteers. In other cases, it marks a healthy distinction of roles between volunteers wearing two hats - those of directors on the Board and Chair of the committee(s) they are representing at the Board level.

The focus is now also a filter - the filter of our Action Plan. It has been very worthwhile to hold up the Action Plan to the minutes and projections of all of our efforts to test the role of the committees and task forces against this Association - wide target. We are scoring some direct hits on some of these Action Steps (Kate tells me that we are right on schedule for our Dec. 1 publication of the *1996 Camping Guide*.)

The forum of opinion, viewpoint and discussion is also critical. We have been able to bring together a dialogue over important topics which affect the whole Association but which we rarely pause to consider at other times in our busy schedule. What is the role of the OCA Code of Ethics? What is our overall professional development strategy? What is the role and responsibility of OCA Regionalism. These discussions were great and the entire Association can expect action resulting from them.

One more time Caryl Colton has stepped forward with just the right energy and enthusiasm around a key project. The addition of the membership survey to our membership renewal package has generated a wealth of information. Caryl summarized all of that information and we can now share it back with the membership in future issues of the *OCA'sional News*.

I loved examining it at the Advisory Council Meeting (It was like having a 200-member Advisory Council!)

What a great boon it has been to have Mary Lynn as part of the changes of the past few years. What a great loss it is to see her go. "Pepper" certainly spiced up the OCA. It was great watching this 'non-camper' gain more and more comfort with the Association - contributing thoughtful suggestions, diligent effort and special skills directly to her work but also to help the work of others.

The "non-camper" went on to be a "happy camper" at several programs in several OCA camps, a participant in two Skills week-ends, a volunteer in her own right and a leader in current and future projects.

Mary Lynn has moved to work with the Canadian Institute of Travel Counsellors of Ontario. That group had best brace itself! It is in for a great ride!

Jorg's To do List

- Thank Caryl Colton for her work collating Membership Survey results
- Thank Ellen Spigelman for bridging the gap between Mary Lynn's departure and the new office member
- Finish the search for our new office member by Nov. 15
- Review the minutes of all committees every month
- Hammer out a membership category review for the Annual Meeting
- Thank Barb Hnatiak for a great looking 1996 conference
- Welcome wishes to Advisory Council members: John Malcolmson (Skills Weekend), Roxanne Arts (Southwestern Ontario Regional Representative) and Maija Zeibots (Spring Training).
- Congratulate all those volunteers who have stepped forward to assist with OCA Risk Management/Internet and Camp Fair projects.

A family contribution

As in many camps, the grace Johnny Appleseed is an ole time favourite. At Camp Allsaw, this song is sometimes sung with a slight twist. Instead of Appleseed, enthusiastic campers and staff alike sometimes substitute the word Appleby. You see, the Appleby family has been involved with Allsaw for 15 years doing an assortment of volunteer assignments that never go un-noticed by the staff. This incredible family consisting of Dona, who first came to camp as a nurse, have made camp a family project. Dave, Warren, Laura, Stephanie and Alex have all become an integral part of the Allsaw life, having been involved in some way or other either as campers, C.I.T.'s, on staff or as active volunteers. What a commitment that this one family has made to the camp.

There is no shortage of energy in the Appleby clan. They had the idea of celebrating 33 years of camping at Allsaw by way of a reunion. They did the registrations, made the invitations, did the envelopes and welcomed 100 past and present campers and staff. Wow! Now that is commitment. The event was a huge success in just so many ways.

Allsaw is a very lucky camp, having the Appleby's involved in their camp community. It is truly through this kind of dedication that real magic happens and which makes those around them mindful of what true giving is about. Each member of this family is an example of what it takes to make success.

Congratulations, Appleby family - you're making a difference. Congratulations Allsaw on the celebration of 33 years of camping and contributions to the lives of many children and young adults.

WENDELL WHITE- QUIN-MO-LAC

Please send me a profile and photo of the volunteer that you would like to recognize. Once it appears in the news, share it with your staff via a newsletter or simply with the person featured. It works in terms of recognizing the efforts of people.

A letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

In reading my end of summer activity reports, I came across an unsolicited endorsement of the June OCA Skills Weekend, written by my boardsailing instructor.

"I revised the current camp levels which became a slight variation from ones I had been given by Ginny Heming who taught boardsailing at the OCA Skills Weekend at Bark Lake. I found that attending the Skills Weekend better prepared me for the summer than any one other single experience. It was extremely helpful and I would recommend it to anyone who is teaching boardsailing for the first time! I was given numerous handouts there that are all included in the black boardsailing binder."

Many thanks to co-co-ordinators Jeff Bradshaw and Barb Jorgenson and instructor Ginny Heming. Our boardsailing program improved this summer as a result of Melanie's attendance and it seems we will continue to benefit in summers to come.

CATHERINE ROSS, MI-A-KON-DA

OCA BOARD MEMBERS

President: John Jorgenson, Tawingo, RR#1 Huntville, Ont. POA 1K0 H: 705-789-8701. B: 705-789-5612. Fax: 705-789-8624. E-Mail: TNTAWINGO@AOL.COM.

Vice President: Barb Gilbert, 13 Maple Ave. Toronto, Ont. M4W 2T5 H: 416-921-7384. Fax: 416-922-4523. Portfolio: Regional Reps.

Past President: Larry Bell, Robin Hood, 158 Limestone Cres. Downsview, Ont. M3J 2S4. 416-736-4443. Fax: 416-736-9971. Portfolio: Nominations, PRO.

Treasurer: Adam Kronick, White Pine, 40 Lawrence Ave. W. Toronto, Ont. M5M 1A4. 416-322-6250. Fax: 416-488-9313. Portfolio: Fundraising.

Director: Jim Blake, General Delivery, Halliburton, Ont. K0M 1S0. 705-457-5278 Tel. and Fax. Portfolio: Legislation, Integration, PRO, MCTR & CCO liaison.

Director: Jeff Bradshaw, Couchiching, 4 Ripley Ave. Toronto, Ont. M6P 2Y9. 416-769-2233. Fax: 416-769-0204. Portfolio: Fundraising, Education (Conference, Skills, Spring Training.)

Director: Kate Moore, Camp Allsaw, 36 Evelyn Ave. Toronto, Ont. M6P 2Y9. 416-766-4204 Tel. and Fax. Portfolio: Public Awareness (Camping Guide), Professional Development (Newsletter).

Director: Ellen Nash, Northland B'nai Brith, 3995 Bathurst St. #200, North York, Ont. M3H 5V3. 416-630-1180. Fax: 416-630-8561. Portfolio: Health Care, Standards, Membership.

Director: Keith Publicover, YMCA Camp PineCrest, 3292 Bayview Ave. #302, North York, Ont. M2M 3R7. 416-225-9875 x 325. Fax: 416-229-1795. Portfolio: Public Awareness (Media, Camp Promotion), Archives.

Director: Patti Thom, Tanamakoon. 235 Church St., #3, Oakville, Ont. L6H 1N4. 905-338-8484 Fax: 905-338-3039. Portfolio: Human Resources (Volunteers, Events), Education (Director Training).

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Eastern Ontario (Ottawa): Deirdre Billes, Omagaki Wilderness Centre, Box 4, Pembroke, Ont. K8A 6W5. 613-732-0780.

Northeastern Ontario (Sudbury): Dave Ward, John Island, 185 Lloyd St. Sudbury Ont. P3B 1N1. 705-674-8315 Fax 705-674-3236. daveward@mcd.on.ca

Northwestern Ontario (Thunder Bay) Elaine Kalnbach, Dorion Bible Camp, Dorion, Ont. P0T 1K0. 807-857-2331.

Southwestern Ontario (London). Roxanne Arts, Y-Ma-Wa-Ca Day Camp, George White Outdoor Centre, RR #5, Clarke Sideroad, London, Ont. N6A 4B9. 519-455-2519 or 519-667-3300, Fax 519-455-2419.

Aboriginal culture shared with educators

The eagles soared at the Frost Centre Sept. 22-24, and boy did we fly.

The flying occurred during **Moving Forward, Together: An Aboriginal Awareness Workshop for Educators**, sponsored by the Ministry of Natural Resources. Over the three days of the workshop, our aboriginal brothers and sisters from Manitoba to Akwesasne to Onyata-ka (Oneida) willingly shared their traditional teachings, their histories and their love for life and unity with 50 aboriginal and non-aboriginal workshop participants.

We learned of the power of the circle, putting everyone on an equal footing, the value put on listening as well as sharing. They taught us about the importance of woman in their cultures, the sanctity of birth, life and death, and the need for universal harmony. According to the Iroquois and the Ojibwa, the circle has four equal parts - red for the red people, yellow for the Asians, white for the white people, and black for those from Africa. The traditional teachings, values systems and people of each colour hold equal value and all four parts are required to complete the circle.

Not only were we told about traditional teachings, we were given the honour to participate in many important ceremonies. We danced, sang, and cleansed using sage

(called smudging). From sharing circles to sweat lodges, the participants and the speakers shared histories - both the positive and the negative aspects, visions for the future and open hearts, resulting in the opening of our eyes and the cleansing of our souls.

We were also reminded that First Nations people are everywhere and are struggling to balance the best of their traditional teachings with the best of western technology and lifestyles. First Nations people are traditional spiritual teachers, doctors, nurses, professors, mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, sons, daughters.

Yes, First Nations people have been treated poorly through the policy of residential schooling, relocation of traditional lands and the banning of the use of their first languages. However, this weekend introduced me to people who have taken these experiences and are learning from them, are teaching others and sharing in order to make us all more receptive.

In the past, summer camps have taught many "Native" traditions and subjects. In general, this instruction has been framed in a very positive light. However, teaching about the traditional methods of hunting, gathering, living (i.e. teepees), are we not creating a problem as well? We, as educators need to teach that not all First N

Nations people live "traditionally", and that they are not so different from us.

By experiencing these ceremonies and teachings, I have gained a better understanding of the current struggles, and I have great respect for the beliefs of these cultures. The door has just been opened for me, the journey has just begun. By learning, experiencing and reading, we can only move forward, together!

Thank you everyone, both the participants and the presenters. Miigwetch!

JUDY KRAMER

Judy Kramer is an "Educator-for-Hire". She is currently working at the Forest Valley Outdoor Education Centre. She has been part of the staff at Bark Lake and at Illahee Northwoods Camp. She chaired the planning committee for this workshop and is eager to see it happen again. If you are interested in planning a similar workshop, please contact Judy at 416-538-9172.

CAMP DIRECTORS WANTED

for Easter Seal Summer Camps offering recreation programs for children with physical disabilities aged 7 to 19 years.

Dynamic, energetic, enthusiastic leaders needed to mobilize veteran staff and inspire rookies in a camp setting. Only leaders from a camping, teaching or recreation environment need apply. Must be able to utilize your proven people management skills to lead a team of dedicated, keen staff. Must be able to generate excitement, provide consistent leadership, objective evaluation and supportive encouragement.

If you have the drive to survive: room and board, a salary commensurate with skills and experience, an orientation with applicable training and development and the fantastic benefits of working with exceptional children and staff can all be yours. Bring your sense of humour, your firm hand and your flexibility. You'll need them all and much more.

Commitment to the job includes some evening and weekend recruitment of staff, senior staff meeting and conferences prior to the camping season, on-site attendance during the camping season from June 20 to August 24 and ongoing correspondence with Toronto office via mail and telephone.

If interested, send your resume, before December 1, 1995, in confidence to:

Ms. Bev Unger, Director, Camping & Recreation
The Easter Seal Society of Ontario
250 Ferrand Dr., Ste. 200, Don Mills,
Ontario M3C 3P2
Tel: (416) 421-8377
or toll-free: 1-800-668-6252
Fax: (416) 696-1035

NOTE: Only qualified applicants will be acknowledged via correspondence.

**easter
seal
society**



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Camp Crafts - Tandy Leather Company. Box 13,000 Barrie, Ontario. L4M 4V4. 1-800-387-9815. Free Catalogue/wholesale Prices. Leathercrafts, Jewellery and Native Crafts, Fast Services.

Camp rental. Short or long term for adults or youths. Camps, retreats, conferences, etc. spectacular shoreline, canoe routes, gorgeous beach, trails, surrounded by hundreds of square miles Crown Land Forest. Cabins with private washrooms. 2 hrs Toronto. Possible sale. 705-657-8432.

Camp Director position available at R.K.Y. Camp. Entering its 64th season, R.K.Y. (Rotary/Kiwanis/YMCA of Kingston) offers a camper-centered program with land-and water-based activities. This is a full-time career position requiring a year-round commitment to our charitable organization. For information, contact Eric Bogstad at the Kingston YMCA (613) 546-2647. Deadline Nov. 15th.

Registered nurse available 2 weeks - either July 21-Aug. 4 or Aug. 4-Aug. 18. 13 years nursing experience - 7 years emergency nursing. Please contact Rita Lajoie (home) 905-723-4884 (work) 905-428-5210.

Camp Director for 1996 season for Camp Big Canoe, a United Church Camp located in the Bracebridge Area. To continue our strong Christian Camping Program. Emphasis is on Camping Skills, community building and leadership development. Full-time while camp is in session (June 20-Aug. 31) and part-time the rest of the year. Mail resumes to Linda Wheler, 765 Sunnypoint Drive, Newmarket, On. L3Y 2Z7. (905) 898-3623.

Managing Director required for Christian camp in Muskoka. This is a contract position running from May 15th to September 15th, 1996. Please send resume to: Camp Kwasind, c/o Cindy Anthony, 62 Denvale Road, East York, Ont. M4B 3B8.

Potential site for sale to qualified group or organization for a recreation camp. Site was formerly held by Scout group. Property is located on the south shore of Big Cedar Lake, 15 miles north of Peterborough on Hwy. 28. Site has road access and hydro. One small building and two cleared acres are only improvements on the land. Market values estimated at \$300,000-\$500,000. Purchaser must provide development plan and be prepared to assist in addressing the concerns of the land owners on the lake. Contact Tom Vince or Bill Hutson at the Ministry of Natural Resources in Bancroft 613-332-3940. Also, information on additional Ministry sites can be obtained from Mike Belcher at 705-286-1521.

"Campable-minded" individuals sought to serve on the 1996 Spring Training Counsellor Conference Committee. As a committee member, you will assist in putting together one of the most respected events of the OCA. Joining this committee will require a great deal of dedication and commitment from all members. However, efforts will be met with satisfaction of "Doing it Good for our Campers!" If you are one with a campable mind, joining the Spring Training '96 committee by leaving your name with the OCA office.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Former Shalom Camp Director **Steve Gillick** has taken on a new position with the Canadian Institute of Travel Counsellors - Ontario Division in the role of Executive Director. Steve plans to stay involved with the OCA in his voluntary capacity as Chair of our Standards Committee.

OCA office staff member **Mary Lynn Trotter** has also moved on to work with the Canadian Institute of Travel Counsellors. M.L. will fulfill the role of Member Services Manager. Her involvement with the OCA continues as a volunteer, assisting with the 1996 Skills Weekend, the Internet Task Force (she loves to surf) and the *OCA'sional News*.

OCA Standards Committee is looking for new members to join us in our discussions, deliberations, recommendations and, from time to time, our thespian productions (Acting!) Please consider volunteering to join our creative, dynamic, dedicated and concerned team. No previous experience is necessary. Please call Steve Gillick evenings at 416-481-4370. Free Pizza to first 100 callers.

Upcoming Camp Fairs

Feb. 10 - Wabikon-sponsored. Please contact Camp Wabikon for information 416 483-3172.

February 14th - Canadian Adventure Camp sponsored, in Unionville. Please contact 905-886-1406 for information.

February 15th, Canadian Adventure Camp sponsored, in Thornhill. Please contact 905-886-1406 for information.

Welcome Accredited Camp Members!

Congratulations to the following camps for attaining their full OCA Accreditation: Camp Adelaide, Alfred College Summer Camp, Camp Banting, Gesstwood Camp (re-attained), Laurentian Camp Cherith, Camp Ma-Kee-Wa, Rolling Hills Area Camp, Seneca College King Day Camp, Toronto French School Summer Camp, Trails Youth Initiatives, Whipple Tree Recreational Camp.

(Please note: The above camp fairs are organized and operated by individual camp owners. Please contact them directly for further information.)

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

NOV. 9TH CAMPFIRE OF INCLUSION - 4:00 PM OCA OFFICE

NOVEMBER 15TH OCA BOARD MEETING - TORONTO

DEC. 1 CAMPING GUIDE DISTRIBUTION

DECEMBER 5TH OCA EXECUTIVE MEETING - OCA OFFICE

JAN. 25-27TH "CIRCLE OF LIGHT" - OCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Calling All Camp Directors!

Imagine a chance to network with your colleagues and peers from across the country. Imagine spending a day or two discussing the contemporary issues your camps and organizations are faced with!

Wouldn't it be great to meet those people who share your mission, your concerns, and your frustrations?. Well, you can at the **Circle of Light Conference!** Organize your Kindred meeting prior to or following the conference (Jan.25-27th, 1996).

To book your group or ask further questions, contact Chris Dunlop at 613-729-6226.



CCA/ACC Insurance Program

This program has been designed to provide full protection for the unique exposures of camps at a competitive and stable premium. Property, liability, accident & sickness, crime, directors & officers liability, automobile and other coverages are all available. Dale Intermediaries Ltd. is the exclusive broker for this program. For more information and a quotation, please contact Robert Reid or Alice Mak at 416-591-2500 at Dale Intermediaries Ltd., 145 Wellington Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5J 1H8 or CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-265-6196.

OCAsional News offers you a variety of ways to promote products and services within organized camping. Next deadline is October 15th for November publication.

- Display ads are sold on a single or multiple insertion rate, with a 10% discount for members. Please contact the OCA office for rate information. Camera-ready art required.
- We also offer professional and business directory ads of business card size (2"x1.5"). Camera-ready art required. Ads must be purchased with a three issue minimum insertion or full year (10 issues). OCA member fee: \$35 per insert (3 months) or \$28 per insert (9 issues).
- Classified ads are sold with a maximum size of 25 words for a fee of \$10 for members and \$25 for non-members. Additional space sold in 25 word increments.
- Paid advertising content will not exceed editorial space.
- The OCAsional News is published 10 times a year by the Ontario Camping Association, a voluntary, non-profit association committed to excellence in Camping. We want to hear from you. Please send your thoughts and inquiries to our editorial committee:
- Janet Adamson, Inspirational Messages (416) 481-7322.
- Henri Audet, Hot Tips (416) 443-9058
- Jim Blake, Current issues (705) 457-5278
- Kate Moore, Editor (416) 766-4204
- Mike Moore, Photography (416) 322-9735
- Patti Thom, Newsworthy items and Obituaries (905) 338-9464
- Mary Lynn Trotter, Design and Layout (416) 761-9135 mlt@inforamp.net
- Wendell White, Profiles (613) 473-2877
- OCA Office, 1810 Avenue Road, Suite 302, Toronto, Ont. M5M 3Z2. (416) 781-0525. Mary Lynn ext. 15; Bobsie ext. 11. Fax: (416) 781-7875.

