



### THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Conference 1981 is all over but the shouting and even the shouting (evaluating) has been reviewed. The inevitable is to do still; a considerable volume of paper work at the office; accounting to record, bills to pay and without missing a beat, opening a file on Conference 1982. Fred Okada begins his second, of a two year term, as acclaimed Conference Chairman. We are all very pleased Kirsty Griffiths has agreed to chair the Program Committee again next year. Both Fred and Kirsty possess serene personalities and organized work habits that draw loyal committee workers. Trust and understanding prevail.

An outstanding worker is David Sands. Exhibits are a very important feature of a Conference. As a pastor knows and guides his flock, David shepherds his Exhibitors. Dave took photos of each booth and has included each exhibitor's picture in the thank you letter.

Each year, Jack Bowman, a former Conference Chairman himself, establishes the availability of his Humber College Recreation students, this year, under the supervision of Mary Joy Tersigni. The continuous participation of Mary Joy on committee and the assistance of the students she organized, to do dozens of useful tasks is indispensable. Others equally deserving of accolades and indispensable to a successful Conference, are Carolea Butters, Immediate Past Conference Chairman and Janet Adamson, Conference Chairman 1973-79, both on Finance. Bob Slingerland for the third year, Facilities; Kim Lowes, for the second year, Meals; Eleanor Kay, for the third year and this year with Airlie Armstrong, Kits and Evaluations. Kirsty Griffiths', conscientious Programme Committee included Marilee Tisdall, Merv Rogers, Althea Poulos, Kim Lowes, Sara Londerville, Lisa Labbett, Patty Hose, Hal Hannaford, Joyce Barnett, Airlie Armstrong and Walter Tose, Walter whose responsibilities start and finish a Conference; THE PRINTING of, with Nora Robinson's help, the program and the Digest. The master mind for Registration is Jean McIlwrick, week by week faithfully processing forms for the 679 delegates and in the final stages assisted by Janet Hoyer, Joyce Barnett, Lisa Labbett and Patti Thom, in addition to registration duty Patti is the Conference Secretary - loyal and true! Paul Abra, O.C.A. Board Public Relations Chairman, convened the Photography Contest, an ever popular highlight. A newspaper reporter did join us for lunch one day at the Conference. Little or no coverage is disappointing. Sensationalism is not prominent in camping. Let us contemplate sending an expert rappelling down the side of the Conference Hotel from the roof. To obtain publicity "you gotta" have a gimmick.

To the foregoing twenty-five O.C.A. Members; Congratulations on producing a very fine Conference.

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President's Page cont'd.

Am I sad or glad to be completing my term as President? This I have heard often recently, indicating the questioner knows the position is not without problems but revealing too, awareness of benefits and rewards. It has been my privilege to never want for support or encouragement to solve a problem or ever be allowed to feel undeserving of a benefit. "Never underestimate the power of a woman" O.C.A. is on the threshold of its third woman President in succession. I have been the benefactor of Joc Palm's professionalism. We are all about to reap the benefit of Janet Adamson's quiet wisdom. Join me, please, in offering Janet our total support. I aim to be, in my way as helpful a Past President to Janet as Joc, in her way has been to me.

THANK YOU!

BARBARA GILCHRIST - President

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OCAional News Bulletin No. 114

APRIL 1981

EDITOR: Eanswythe Flynn

LET'S GET WITH IT

Last year over a thousand prospective Counsellors attended the Counsellors' Conference, so there will be a demand again for this year's equally effective programme.

Application Forms have been mailed but more are available if you will pick them up at 1806 Avenue Road, Toronto or phone the office: (416) 781-0525

DATE: SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1981, 8:45 A.M.

PLACE: CENTENNIAL COLLEGE PROGRESS CAMPUS

CLARE MAGEE HAS REMINDED US THAT -

A meeting of the Outdoor Education Task Force and the Government Concern Group will be held -

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 7:30-9:30 P.M. at the O.C.A. OFFICE, 1806 AVENUE ROAD

A short simultaneous meeting followed by separate working meetings on "Extended Season Camp Guidelines" and "Expressing Government Concern" are planned. As well as regular attendees, all interested in either of these efforts are welcome.

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NEEDED! 60 INFORMED PEOPLE TO VISIT 60 CAMPS

In our Annual Workshop for the Standards Visitation Programme, volunteers are thoroughly trained in the general procedure, but they must be well-informed directors or senior staff people in the first place. There's no room for the casual approach in this requirement for membership in O.C.A. The Workshop will be held at the

ONTARIO SOCIETY FOR CRIPPLED CHILDRENS CENTRE, 350 RUMSEY ROAD, TORONTO

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1981 at 6:00 P.M.

Any questions should be addressed to Bruce Harris, Chairman of Standards Committee; but remember, this is a dinner meeting: please call the O.C.A. Office if you are attending. The Ontario Society for Crippled Childrens Ctre. need the count for catering! Thankyou!

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YOUR CO-OPERATION, PLEASE!!

MEETING - called for February 16, 1981

In the depth of winter, but not even a blustery evening!

PLACE - Central; loads of parking space - FREE; No Charge; questions and goodies afterwards.

Cliff Labbett had brought a special guest, a top expert in the field of Insurance Protection and Liability; and what, we ask, is more important, basically, in the business of running a camp?

So what happened to our hundred and fifty Camp Directors who should have picked up such a priority? We don't know. One member turned up to join the Committee! What's the matter with these people who should be on their toes in all matters legal? Meeting was announced in two editions of the OCAsional News, early enough to set aside the date and place.

Actually our very hard-working Education Committee was highly embarrassed, and rightly so. Hours of work and detail-arranging go into even the smallest gathering. To describe the feelings of the Chairman and Speakers is impossible; and when experts outside the Association have been invited, a situation like this does nothing for our public image.

No matter how "With-It" camp people feel they are, no matter how long...or even a lifetime...of directing or officiating in camp affairs, there is always room for learning and acceptance of new ideas...and improvement. Surely our group doesn't need a telephone call as a reminder?

But then, although members say they read every word of OCAsional News...perhaps the notice would have been more effective had it been mailed separately? Tell us, how can we cope? How can we avoid another such embarrassing situation? What is the answer? We have been asked to offer discussion on specialized topics. Does the Association as a whole support the efforts of the Education Committee? Let us have your opinions and suggestions; it would help!

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CANOEING COURSE O.R.C.A.  
LEVEL II  
CLAIRVILLE CONSERVATION AREA

DATE - MAY 16, 17, 18 and MAY 23, 24 (ie two weekends). COST \$80.00 - NUMBERS ARE LIMITED. For further information and Registration contact -

ANDY WICKEN - Metro Toronto & Region Conservation Authority  
5 Shoreham Drive, Downsview, Ont. (416) 661-6600

To be eligible for the O.R.C.A. Level III Course at the end of August you must have O.R.C.A. Level II

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O.C.A. PAST PRESIDENTS

Just to keep our records in order, please note that corrections should be made in the list of Past Presidents in the O.C.A. Directory. W.E. (Ted) Yard was followed by John Hoyle, then Bert Danson, Margaret Govan, Barry Lowes, etc. The misquote occurred in the Directory only because we did not make an accurate search of those ancient minutes which grace our shelves.

E.F.

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REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP ABOUT O.C.A.'S NEW TASK FORCE

At the Saturday luncheon of the '81 O.C.A. Conference, the following information was made available to each delegate: -

"YOUR O.C.A. BOARD HAS APPROVED THE SETTING UP OF A TASK FORCE DESIGNED TO DEVELOP SKILL PROGRAMS FOR LEADERS IN O.C.A. CAMPS".

Consider this option: Spring weekend courses for staff in O.C.A. Camps involved in the teaching of basic camp skills - for example - canoeing, sailing, nature, campcraft; program content designed to help camp leaders learn more about their role in the skill development of O.C.A. Campers.

Courses would be run at O.C.A. Camps - program content would be determined by O.C.A. members who have expertise in particular skill areas.

We want to meet your needs and we need information from you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, this would be of value to my camp

\_\_\_\_\_ No, this would not be of value to my camp.

Would you encourage your staff to attend: -

Canoeing Weekend YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Nurse Conference YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

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Here are the results of the survey:

Number returned 151

Number of Camps represented 106

CAMP RESPONSES:

Value of Task Force	YES	<u>100</u>	NO	<u>3</u>	
Canoe Course	YES	<u>76</u>	NO	<u>7</u>	Doesn't apply <u>15</u>
Nurse's Conference	YES	<u>50</u>	NO	<u>18</u>	Doesn't apply <u>5</u>

Based on these encouraging results, the Task Force is going to proceed with the organization of a Canoeing Course, and a Day Conference in Toronto for Camp Nurses.

TENTATIVE DATES FOR CANOEING WEEKEND (we are considering offering two courses):

- 1) June 4 - 7, 1981 (for supper Thursday - after lunch Sunday)
- 2) June 11 - 14, 1981 (for supper Thursday - after lunch Sunday)

TENTATIVE DATE FOR CAMP NURSE'S CONFERENCE: EITHER Saturday June 6 OR Saturday June 13

Registration forms will be mailed as soon as final dates are set.

PLEASE SEE THE TENDER FORM ENCLOSED FOR CAMPS INTERESTED IN HOSTING THE CANOEING COURSE

My thanks is extended to all who filled out questionnaires. I hope all O.C.A. camps will take advantage of this exciting new program.

Sincerely, JANE McCUTCHEON - Task Force Chairman

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CAMP ADVERTISING

Are you presenting yourself to your best possible advantage when you design your ads for general publicity? Do you include the O.C.A. crest, or words "ACCREDITED MEMBER OF THE ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION"? It's an assuring statement of quality and dependability, and it's the privilege of all members in good standing to announce it to parents!

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UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR LEADERS IN WILDERNESS TRAVEL

This is one of the best courses, emphasizing personal responsibility and initiative.

*THE WILDERNESS TRAVEL LEADERS' COURSE, ROCKY MOUNTAIN Y.M.C.A.*

*Yamnuska Centre, near Banff, Alberta*

Takes place from May 15 to May 24, 1981, at a cost of \$335.00

Ontario delegates are limited to four, and those qualified will be selected by the Education Committee. Participants already must be skilled, must have had at least one season of leadership experience, as well as camping in a position of major responsibility. Their basic skills shall include navigation, camping, counselling, leadership in safety procedures, and a valid First Aid Certificate.

O.C.A. will subsidize the chosen leaders to the amount of \$110.00. Their only additional expense will be ground transportation to and from the airport.

It is expected that on return to their respective camps they will be prepared to set up a Wilderness Travel Course through the expertise the Yamnuska Course has given them.

Please send to the O.C.A. a written request including background and experiences; this, by April 24th. For further information phone -

*KIM LOWES, Chairman, Education Committee, at 651-5198*

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ORIENTEERING ONTARIO

We make a very strong suggestion that all Camp Directors send to Orienteering Ontario, Ontario Sports Centre, 160 Vanderhoof Avenue, Toronto, M4G 4B8 for their Spring 1981 programme booklet (Vol. 13, No. 1). You'll find a fantastic amount of Outdoor information and a list of Orienteering Courses to be held in every corner of the Province this summer. Membership information in the organization is outlined - even a few outdoor recipes.

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CAMPING CLUES

The season is here again, and the booklet for parents is available to any Directors of Camps or Organizations who would like to have copies. It's great to give to parents with its hints on preparing, buying supplies and packing the trunk, and it's free to those who can pick up a hundred or so copies in Toronto. Out-of-town bundles are sent by Express or Courier will go collect; but telephone Eanswythe Flynn at 487-2206, preferably between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. for delivery arrangements.

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SAFETY POSTERS

To add to your camp programme of Safety Hints, send to the St. John Ambulance for a very effective set of posters illustrating the Do's and Don't's of safety procedures ...fractures, spinal injuries, safe play, burn treatment, choking, etc. They're well worth a place on notice boards, cabin or dining hall walls or wherever. St. John Ambulance address is -

*46 WELLESLEY STREET EAST, Toronto M4Y 1G5, OR telephone (416)923-8411*

AND the set is FREE!!

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TALKS OR DISCUSSION GROUPS - THIS MONTH'S SUGGESTIONS

We are fortunate in being on the receiving end of a host of publicity releases of varying types. This month came the Royal Bank Letter, which ever is an encyclopaedia in itself. "Courtesy", this heading says, "is the lubricant that makes society run smoothly". The whole article is one containing enough topics for a month of Sundays and two nights a week. Touching on so many facets of leadership, general good behaviour leading to success, and just sound common sense. The swing back to civilized social relations, fair play, reasoned discussion, consideration for others is most heartening, not to say suited to any camp's captive audience. Write to the Editor, Royal Bank Letter, Royal Bank Head Office, Montreal to put your camp on the free mailing list. In addition...we used to place the names and addresses of all our campers and staff on Royal Bank's list. You might consider the idea. It's appreciated!

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WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW PROVISIONAL MEMBER TO O.C.A.

SADDLEWOOD EQUESTRIAN CENTRE - R.R. #2, Bethany, Ont.

DIRECTORS - Mr. & Mrs. James W. Smith

and

NEW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

WAYNE GREENWAY  
ELEANOR LOKER

JAMES SWEENEY  
ROBERT WHITEMAN

JAMES WILLIAMSON  
RAOUF WILSON

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FULL TIME CAMP DIRECTOR - Camp Couchiching, Anglican Church; position to commence September 1, 1981. Previous Camp experience, post-secondary education, business, maintenance knowledge. To manage Camp and Toronto office. Send resume prior to June 10, 1981 to:

M. SOMERVILLE, 37 Oriole Road, Apt. 405, Toronto M4V 3E6

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FOR SALE - CAMP KITCHEN EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES: The recent fire at London downtown YM/YWCA forces the sale of two near-complete kitchens, Stainless Steel Sinks, Ovens, Pots, Dishes etc. with a replacement value of over \$15,000.00 are being sold for \$6,500.00 Contact:

MICHAEL GREENSTEIN (519) 434-7128

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SENIOR STAFF at least 19 yrs. old; COUNSELLORS at least 17 yrs. old; CIT's 16 yrs. old

PHONE or WRITE: DAVID SHERWIN, 80 St. Mary St., Toronto M5S 1J2 (416)978-3880

REGISTERED NURSE - and other working staff:

ARNIE CHAMBERLAIN, R.R. 2, Barrie, Ont. L4M 4Y8 or phone (705)728-9538 - CAMP SIMPRESKA

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THE EASTER SEALS SOCIETY requires a Supervisor of Camping and Recreation. Responsibilities include: - Budget preparation and control, Program direction, Staffing responsibilities and Monitoring of Camp utilization.

We are looking for a University Graduate in Camping Recreation Field with excellent administrative skills. For further particulars call -

MRS. DIANA GURLEY - Director of Personnel - (416)425-6220 Ex. 345