

OCAsional News

Monthly Publication of the Ontario Camping Association

February, 1995

"Whatever you can do, or dream you can do, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it." - Goethe

Bell Tones

During the past two years, I hope this column has helped to give you a better understanding of the direction in which your Board was taking the OCA and some of the issues that face us now and in the future. I believe that during these next two years we will have the opportunity to be a more significant player in policies relating to children's programs. In doing so, we will be more visible to the public.

We are fortunate to have the outstanding leadership of John Jorgenson and Barb Gilbert and a very dedicated Board of Directors. They can't do this alone. They need your help.

◆ We need more people who will step forward to be part of our Membership Committee.

◆ We need to seek out non-member camps and educate them about the benefits of our association.

◆ We need people to work on specific aspects of our outreach to the public, to prepare activities, to meet with editors and to do some marketing.

◆ We need people to come forward who are willing to wrestle with legislation regarding equal opportunities, minimum wage, maximum hours and year-round schools.

◆ We need all of you to support and develop fund-raising activities that benefit you and your clients.

In this way, we can grow without changing our membership structure. Only with your involvement and support can we meet those challenges.

Even now the work of the OCA is expanding. We have grown from an office with one secretary and part-time help to one with two administrative staff and now a third staff member as part-time receptionist. You'll often hear Ellen Spigelman when you call the office. Our phone lines will soon grow to three and we will add

voice mail to ensure that we handle all the requests and information reaching the office. As well, on March 1, 1995 we are moving to a bigger and brighter space along with our long-time neighbour, the national office of the CCA. We will be moving next door to 1810 Avenue Road, Suite 302. It will take a little time to adjust, but I'm sure if you bear with us, we will all benefit from this growth. I would be remiss if I did not thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve. If my term has provided any significant results, it is because of the support I received from Bobsie and Mary Lynn, the executive, board and those who have been actively involved.

Thanks!

Larry

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Upcoming Human Resources events

The OCA Human Resource Committee presents "The Topic of Integration". Share your ideas, concerns, thoughts, and issues. An open discussion & brainstorming session about you and your campers' needs

Date: Feb. 22, 1995
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Location: Integra/Camp Towhee
25 Imperial St., Toronto (one block north of Yonge & Davisville, west side). Phone for further information and directions: Sarah Oosterhuis (416) 486-8055.

Join us for our upcoming Breakfast Meetings (8-9:30 a.m.)

Wednesday March 8: Parents: Your expectations, their expectations (Location: OCA office)

Saturday April 1: Director's Day. Location: Havergal College in Toronto 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Our guest speaker in the morning will be Carol Edwards. She is a wellness and stress management consultant with "Feeling Good Productions". She is a well-known, dynamic and exciting speaker. In the afternoon we will

share ideas for the upcoming summer. Look for more information in the March OCAsional News.

Wednesday April 19: Health Care Issues (Location: OCA office)

Thanks to SERCA for organizing the delicious breakfast on January 11th. We received lots of useful information and some great new ideas for the summer. A job well done.

*Cathy Hitchcock
Oochigeas*

Letter to the Editor

It is with the deepest gratitude that I give thanks to my many friends in organized camping for their support concerning the recent death of my father.

I was overwhelmed by the outpouring from so many during what was a difficult time. Your words and deeds of comfort, particularly from those of you who have gone through similar circumstances, were of great help to me as I grappled with my own feelings. I always cherish the relationships I have made in the camping community.

Once again, I was given reason to understand why.

Gratefully,

*Ted Cole
Walden*

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Mustard and Noodles

The OCA Annual General Meeting at Sai Woo Restaurant January 25 was a night of contrasts.

The least expensive meal in living memory of annual meetings was combined with the most provocative speaker in the last two decades.

Good for you, OCA, for fighting the deficits.

Canada's debt could produce budget cutbacks that will impact children's health and nutrition. Dr. Fraser Mustard clearly and thoroughly delineated the correlation between unhealthy early childhood development and economic decline in the next generation.

His stimulating address gave all in attendance facts and motivation to be involved in influencing positive policies for early childhood development.

In camping we do our part to foster positive developmental outcomes.

Dr. Mustard of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research provoked us with the larger picture - a stimulating evening.

*Janet Adamson
Gay Venture*

New Commercial Members

Braids and Laces Limited. 60 West Wilmot St. Unit 20, Richmond Hill. L4B 1M6. (416) 494-0350 Fax: 905 886-8095. Ropes, shoe laces and cord.

Fresh Start Foods Inc. 1143 Haultain Court, Mississauga, Ont. L4W 2K1. (905) 625-1500. Fax: (905) 625-2530. 1-800-563-5033. Province-wide distribution of fresh produce and pre-cut vegetables.

Look-See-Paint. Box 148, Emsdale, Ont. P0A 1J0. (705) 636-5437. Fax: (705) 636-0335. Producers of video and print instructional programming dealing with the outdoors.

Ottawa Parent. 102 Boyce Avenue Ottawa, Ont. K2B 6J2. (613) 721-0811. Fax: (613) 721-0944. Parents' magazine serving Ottawa region.

Quest Canada Products. 3279 Lenworth Dr. Unit F, Mississauga, Ont. L4X 2G9. (905) 625-8770 Fax (905) 625-8776. 1-800-625-8772. Manufacturer of Quest tents and back packs. Camping accessories and H2O Water Bottle system.



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ORCA

training events

ORCA Canoe Tripping Level III Instructor course June 9-18 followed by a combined St. Johns Ambulance First Aid/CPR course June 19-21.

ORCA Canoe Tripping Level III Instructor course July 3-12 followed by a combined St. Johns Ambulance First Aid/CPR course July 13-15..

Cost for either ORCA course is \$695 per person. Included is all food, lodging, equipment and ORCA program materials.

These course are approved by ORCA and are designed for camp staff, guides, teachers and outdoor recreation instructors who have responsibility for leading wilderness canoe trips or teaching canoe tripping skills.

The St. John's Ambulance courses are separate and cost \$275, which includes all food, lodging and program materials. Successful candidates receive Level C certification.

All courses are held at Smoothwaters Outfitters' lodge near Temagami.

Those interested can write for a detailed information package to: Smoothwaters Outfitters, Box 40, Temagami, Ont. P0H 2H0. (705) 569-3539.
Fax: 705-569-2710

A 67 Year legacy

Moccasins, a booming infectious laugh, a dynamic speaker, a loving husband, father and loyal friend.

This is just the beginning of the Ron Johstone who touched the lives of so many of us - campers, athletes, leaders, story tellers. If we became discouraged, Ron led us into the world of hope, confidence, and self respect.

Ron left this physical world Dec. 29, 1994. But the legacy of the man will remain for so many years, as young and old happily reminisce about the moments when he cast his spell upon us.

Camping people who fished with him, who listened to his magical stories around a campfire, who sat with him on Boards, and committees will for a long time to come say "Remember Johnstone?" Yes, Ron, so many people across this country will, for many years, chuckle about the pressures you put upon us to achieve. We shall remember the often unworded challenge you provided for us to become better human beings, pleased with the values you instilled in us, and so

very, very proud of the fact that you allowed us into your life.

And thank you for bringing so many of us into the real world of true living. As your close ally and friend John Eberhard stated, "You are admired by your achievements, known by your style and respected by your commitment. You did not teach us by setting rules, you taught us by setting an example. You believed in trust rather than supervision. You were not a man of judgement, but of known values."

Many of us in our sixties are better human beings because Ron inspired us, taught and counselled us. Thanks for being a 67-year legend. Thanks for walking down this memory filled path with us. Thanks for letting us join you. Thanks for the day, comrade.

*John Latimer
Kilcoo*



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An OCA Camp Volunteer

Congratulations to **In-Suk Jang** of Camp Trillium.

In-Suk has been involved in camping for a few years. His involvement began as a summer volunteer at the Garratt's Island site and continued into the off season where he became involved in winter camp programs and fund-raising. His interest in this special population of children (campers with cancer) influenced him to become involved in the Trillium Community Program where he visits campers and family members.

For In-Suk, the value of camping is easily articulated. "Volunteering at camp has given me a sense of usefulness and belonging." He goes on to mention the significance of meeting a special kind of individual who becomes associated with children's camping. These dedicated people, he mentions, are the ones who are accessible and supportive during the good and tough times.

On behalf of OCA, I applaud In-Suk Jang. It is through such efforts, that camping is the great experience that it is. His dedication is an example to all of us and a credit to Camp Trillium.

Do you know someone in your organization who deserves recognition in this special way? If so, please send me their name and phone number along with their photo.

*Wendell White
Quin-mo-lac*

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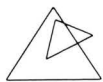


1995 The Camper in You

We don't always have professional hockey and we don't always have professional baseball, but if you're into camping this summer, the OCA has all the professional training you and your staff will need for a "Camp-Tacular" season.

Join us on May 27th at Camp Robin Hood for the 1995 Spring Training Counsellor Conference. See you there! Read the March edition of the OCAsional News for full program and registration information.

U V T



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sun catch
you frying!"**

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Skills Weekend Tender Review

The board of directors of the Ontario Camping Association recognizes the need to periodically review the process taken to tender for the spring Skills Weekend. To assist the Board, the review process will be lead by Keith Publicover with the assistance of the general membership.

The actions to be taken in the process of reviewing the procedures of application, selection, and communication will follow the critical path outlined below.

<u>Task Description</u>	<u>Target Date</u>
Meeting with the past Skills Weekend Staff	Jan. 26
Establish a Skills Weekend Hotline for feedback	Jan. 20
Meet with past hosts and applicants to review process	February
Develop a draft policy and procedures paper for future tender calls	Mar. 30
Review paper with the Board of Directors	April
Announce new tender process to general membership	May
Call for tenders for 1996 and 1997	May
Visit final applicants and potential sites for 1996 and 1997	July '95
Announcements to all applicants of selections	Oct. '95

Your feedback is important!

Call the hotline at (416) 255-9875 (ext. 750)

Classified Advertising

For Sale: 250-300 Single Camp Beds (Steel, 30" x 72")
Contact Ted Cole - Camp Walden (416) 635-0049 for prices on all or part.

Position available: Director of Programs. Camp Trillium, year round programs for children with cancer and their families. Director will be responsible for overseeing the operation of summer residential camps and year-round programs. Qualifications required: 3-5 years experience in directing position, excellent supervisory and decision-making skills, strong leadership and background in camping environment. Bilingualism an asset. Excellent salary and full benefits. Please send or fax curriculum vitae to: Pauline McKenna, Executive Director, Trillium Childhood Cancer Support Centre, 179 Sydenham Street, Suite 2, Kingston, Ont. K7K 3M1. Fax: 613-542-2499.

'Out of our kids hearts - Our Camping Roots' The 40th Anniversary Ontario Camp Leadership Workshop will take place June 1-4, 1995 at Bark Lake Leadership Centre with keynote speaker Martin Hunt. Sessions promise to be exciting and dynamic, with a variety of topics and speakers to share their knowledge. Our

workshop streams include: Measuring the Experience with Chris Anjema. Thom Lambert will be returning to host an Adventure Ropes Course Workshop. For more information call 1-800-668-6638.

Camp Rental: Short or long term for adults or youths. Camps, retreats, conferences etc. Spectacular shorelines, beach, trails, canoe routes, two hours to Toronto. Possible sale. (416) 449-6029.

Program and Personnel

Director: Camp Nominingue, a 71-year old private residential boys' camp located in Quebec, seeks a dedicated highly motivated individual eager to head up our 7 week summer program. This person must be camp experienced with strong leadership, staff supervision, programming, communication, organization and administration. An excellent opportunity to join an exceptional team at a great facility. Housing available for a family and camp scholarships available for sons. Please contact: Shannon Van Wagner, Camp Nominingue, 119 Guy, Vaudreuil, Que. J7V 8B1. (514) 455-4447 or 1-800-263-2269.

Administrator seeks position in Toronto area. Do you need someone to run your office smoothly, liaise with staff and clientele and help promote your camp? Can you use a person who has excellent computer skills, is a fast and accurate keyboardist, loves to do research, enjoys writing and communicates effectively yet empathically (in addition to being trilingual)? Resume and references available. Inquires to Box 1913, c/o OCA office.

Calendar of Events

Feb. 10
Executive Meeting
New OCA office
10 a.m.

Feb. 21
Board of Directors' Meeting
New OCA office
9 a.m.

Feb. 22
Breakfast Club
Integra/Camp Towhee
8 a.m.

Camp Maple Rock on Trial

What an unbelievable eye-opener! Jan. 26, 1995 Camp Maple Rock went to trial in the Civic Courtroom of the Sheraton Hotel, for the death of Jimmy O'Brien in the summer of 1991. This "mock" experience was a wake-up call for all delegates in attendance. Never in the history of our annual conference have we attempted this type of self-education and to this extent. To say this day was a success is an understatement. Delegates from OCA members camps and outside organizations were connected to a source of information common to all our operations and dealing with the children in our care. The day put us in a situation that we never hope to be in and always fear. Well, to a significant degree, we found out what it would be like.

Quite often in our own camp environment, we don't always continuously question our "processes" for administering camp life and often tend to rest on our heels, saying, "Well, we've never had any problems before." It was clear in this courtroom that Camp Maple Rock had many processes in place, but a series of contributing situations resulted in the "mock" death of a child. Although the prosecution and defence lawyers both tried to demonstrate who was truly negligent (Mrs. O'Brien or Camp Maple Rock), the bottom line was that communication (and the lack thereof) was the key contributing factor to Jimmy's death.

At the trial, the court registrar (John Jorgenson) handed out "Some Notes for OCA Members" which contained several recommendations which surfaced from the trial. Those suggestions represent a starting point for delegates toward a full

examination of their camp in preparation for this upcoming summer.

This mock trial is now being prepared as a training package for the benefit of the entire Association. The camp version of the trial, which will contain transcripts, testimonies, conclusions and additional information will soon be available for purchase. As a result, the benefits of this day can be brought to your staff training sessions this summer.

On behalf of the membership, I would like to thank John Jorgenson for developing and coordinating this fantastic educational event. We can only imagine the amount of time and energy Jorgi put into this day; I assure you it was immense! Thanks also to Justice Jack Ground and the lawyers: Hugh Christie, Graeme Mew and Jane Waechter of Smith, Lyons, Torrance, Stevenson and Mayer for their time, support and dedication to making this one of the best and most pertinent tools we have even seen come out of an OCA event.

I would also like to thank the participants: Mrs. Phyllis O'Brien (Catherine Ross), Rick Keelin (Wendell White), Wilma "Woody" Black (Kate Moore), Barry Caruthers (Rudy Massimo), Helen Ward (Bev Unger) and of course our jury (that's you!) Without the sharing of thoughts and opinions among our peers, this day could have been like watching a movie. Instead, our jurors truly made this an educational event which we know will help continue to make OCA camps the safest and best in Ontario and the world. Have a fantastic and safe summer.

Skip Turner (Andy Rodford)
Onondaga

► OCAsional News offers you a variety of ways to promote products and services within the association.



- Deadlines are the 10th of the month preceding the issue of 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 (nine 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 9 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 inquiries to our Editorial Committee:

- Janet Adamson, Inspirational Messages (416) 481-7322
- Henri Audet, Hot Tips (416) 443-9058
- Jim Blake, In-depth Board issues (705) 457-5278
- Kate Moore, Editor, (416) 766-4204
- Mike Moore, Photographer, (416) 322-9735
- Patti Thom, Obituaries (905) 338-9464
- Wendell White, Profiles (613) 473-2877
- OCA office, 1806 Avenue Road, Suite 2, Toronto, Ont. M5M 3Z1 (416) 781-0525. Fax: (416) 781-7875.