



OCAsional news

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EDITOR: MARTIN HUNT

"I SAW OLD AUTUMN IN THE MISTY MORN, STAND SHADOWLESS LIKE SILENCE, LISTENING TO SILENCE, FOR NO LONELY BIRD WOULD SING INTO HIS HOLLOW EAR FROM WOODS FORLORN!"- Thomas Hood.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Recently a colleague of mine asked if I was enjoying the slow portion of my work year. Everyone assumes that camping people gear down during the off season. I spent the next few minutes outlining my busy fall and winter schedule.

Needless to say the O.C.A. calendar comes alive with various events for personal or professional development during this "slow" time.

Many of you will miss attending the November Director's Weekend which has become somewhat of a tradition for many of us. All of a sudden I have a weekend to myself with absolutely nothing planned. But you should mark in your calendar Friday, January 17 to 19, 1986 as the weekend set aside for the Director's Weekend. As in the past you can expect an informative and fun filled time with other camping people.

Our annual conference this year will be held at the Inn on the Park beginning on Thursday, February 20 to Saturday, February 22, 1986. Thursday will be a very special day in the conference and you should keep that in the forefront of your planning. Further information regarding the day will come very soon but you can be sure that an exciting event is planned for all of us.

You can see that there are some excellent opportunities planned for us by some very hard working committees. The programs mentioned here are planned by the Education Committee and the Conference Committee.

I should make known to you that we are looking for a camp, a group of interested people or some dedicated individual to head up the Counsellor Conference which will be held in May. Although it seems a long way down the road planning should begin soon. If you are interested please let us know here at the office.

I look forward to hearing from those interested and especially to meeting many of you at these various O.C.A. events.

FRED OKADA,
President.

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"Buck and Rose Mary Dawson of Matt Mann Camps have put together a very insightful pamphlet for parents, about camping:- 'An Important Letter for Parents and Prospective Campers' by Mike Mullins. If interested, you can contact the Dawsons at 1 Hall of Fame Drive, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, 33316.

The dark month is now with us - perhaps the quietest of the camping year; a dreary month after the brilliant colours of this past October. Trees stand as skeletons overlooking the bleak landscape as a hush falls, in anticipation of the first snow. Our minds take a much needed break from camp. However, I find it amazing how easy it is to be 'jogged' back and often at the most opportune times. And we never seem to mind when it happens.

It was on one of those dull November days that I had spoken to a group of teachers at a 'P.A.' event. The topic had been a combination of ones I had given at camping conferences, basically about 'hyping' up for kids. Having been forced to sit through so many mind numbing P.A. days in the past, I could hardly blame the group for being so unenthused. But going from speaking to the camping 'crowd' about kids (ziss, boom, bah!) to this group (fluhhdupp), was like going from that great feeling one gets from jogging around a super rubberized track with a pair of new Brooks Hugger GT's to the feeling one might have after wading through a field of mud wearing a pair of Cabbage Patch doll slippers. After the session, I dragged myself out to the parking lot somewhat unenthused myself, half wondering why we even try, where I encountered three lads who were easily a half hand higher than me. "Hawkeye?" said one. "Yes", I responded, hesitantly, not recognizing them. The one approached me, hands raised towards my head, my life passing before my eyes. He then pinched both cheeks at the same time saying "awright!"

"Pardon...!"

"Don't you remember?! It's the warm fuzzie our group invented four years ago!"

And then I finally recognized him and recalled the myriad of warm fuzzie stories. "Ya," he continued "that was a real blast we had up in there in the country. So! How ya doing anyway, Hawk?"

"Now, I'm fine just fine...thanks..." We exchanged a few updates and they were off. Needless to say, I felt somewhat restored. Why I hadn't even noticed the cold November drizzle which had begun to fall.

MARTIN HUNT,
Editor.

The privatization of selected Ontario Provincial Parks is a policy that may have repercussions in some O.C.A. camps. The government sees privatization of smaller parks as a cost-saving measure. They have rented out 21 recreational parks to date, and have plans to rent out at least 17 more. The Ministry of Natural Resources claim that leasing the parks not only saves money, but gives staff more meaningful work, and it creates opportunities for small business.

Concerns have been raised about the quality of the recreational experience at these rented parks. There have been reports of poor maintenance, understaffing and inconsistent quality of service in such areas as boat rental, firewood and food concessions.

Driftwood Provincial Park which provides access to the Dumoine River is one of the parks that have been leased to private enterprise.

If you would like more information, or would like to voice your opinion on the privatization of provincial parks please write to the Environmental Concerns Committee.

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IDEA EXCHANGE

When discovering the wonders of the insect world with your campers, take along several small squares of plexiglass. These props allow you to see such features as the 'foot' of the snail, and the millipede's legs in action.

Please share your successful environmental program ideas with other O.C.A. members. I would like to invite you to send in your teaching tips, techniques, ideas or points of view, for this column. Send them to the Environmental Concerns Committee Chairperson in care of the O.C.A. office.

The next Environmental Concerns Committee (ECC) meeting will be held at the O.C.A. office Tuesday, November 26, 7 - 9 P.M.

JUDY PAUL,
Environmental Concerns Chairperson.

FROM OUR PAST

BYGONE DAYS

From the Files of the Tribune 30 Years Ago. - Shadow Lake Camp Opens.

Stouffville is now known as the getting off place and the "holiday town" for the big new camp just across from Musselman's known as Shadow Lake. It is just six miles above Stouffville straight up the 9th con. and those who know Musselman's the new camp is a stone's throw northeast.

One hundred and seventy acres is its domain and three lakes stud its beautiful woodlands. Formerly a farm owned by Dr. Dale's of Stouffville, it was purchased but this spring and in a few brief weeks it has been transformed into a palatial girls' camp. Already it rivals these holiday resorts in the States where millionaires delight to send their daughters.

Up on the brow of the highest hill are four cottages which a war's aftermath vocabulary now call huts. Stained a light reddish brown that suggests the Indian band that once camped in that very bush they are being named for the early tribes "Iroquois", "Mohawk", "Seneca", etc. The same color marks all the buildings and is a charming contrast to the varied greens of the foliage.

All that modern skill and science can do to make a camper happy and comfortable has been done in the splendidly designed sleeping chambers for Shadow Lake Campers. They hold twelve camp beds and screened windows have special shutters to draw up for stormy weather. At one end is a capacious clothes closet on which coats, etc. are hung.

The lucky campers are members of the Eaton Recreation Club, the girls connected with the big store, etc. or finally any girl without whom an Eaton employee would be unhappy if she went on a holiday. Rates range from \$6.50 a week for a club member to \$7.50 for other than Eaton employees.

No more ideal spot could be imagined than the picturesque old farm. Forty acres of bush, beeches, birch, maples and evergreen enable hikers to travel for miles and not go off the property. Shadow Lake at the entrance by the winding road is the largest of the camp's three lakes. About these lakes wind innumerable trails through fern-carpeted woods and over grassy meadows.

On the property as supervisors still reside Mr. and Mrs. Marriott (the latter is Mr. Dale's daughter) and a farm staff that provides fresh vegetables, milk and butter.

Swimming instructions are provided too. At ten and three each day those who cannot swim are given a chance to learn down at the beach to which the other girls come half an hour later.

Not only a victrola with the latest records, but a piano is installed in the big hall where the girls get their meals and dance any time they wish to turn it on.

Week day the rising bell at 7:30 warns the girls breakfast is at 8 o'clock and on Sunday it is half an hour later. Getting up exercises are also planned for those who wish such.

Frequent bonfires, hikes and informal dances are delightful features of Shadow Lake Camp. In the evening a two mile walk to the nearest village, Ballantrae allows any who wish, a chance to see the train come in and patronize the village ice cream shops. A candy stall is also open certain hours at the camp. At other times, trucks are provided and gay parties go to Stouffville's festive ball games, etc. To leave the camp's boundaries its visitors but notify the heads that they are off on such explorations.

Accommodation for fifty girls is now provided at the camp and the full number are revelling in the beauty and joys of an ideal camp life.

Submitted by:- ELEANOR KAY.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

DIRECTOR AND SENIOR STAFF WEEKEND
- January 17 - 19, 1986.

Due to a number of unforeseeable circumstances, it has been necessary to postpone the Directors' Weekend. It has been rescheduled for January 17, 18 and 19, 1986.

The Education Committee apologizes for any inconvenience this postponement may cause, however, we are excited about the benefits.

First, Friday night Bruce Harris, Camp Kawabi will share with us his many staff training secrets. Bruce's program is well known and we look forward to hearing and participating in his techniques.

Second, on Saturday we will be joined by Jim Flack, Superintendent of Staff Development, Peel Board of Education. Mr. Flack has held workshops throughout Ontario on the topic of Staff Development and Training and he will share his methods with us through presentation, discussion and group participation.

Third, many weekend participants have indicated they would enjoy taking advantage of the many recreational aspects of the Bolton Conference. A mid January weekend will provide an opportunity to toboggan and cross country ski on the many cross country ski trails.

So mark your calendar, pack your woolies and winter sports equipment and plan to join us. See you there.

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ANNOUNCING: Ryerson's Bachelor of Applied Arts (Social Work) Degree Program a part-time evening study option.

Complete details on the part-time evening studies option will be provided at an Information Night to be held on:-

Wednesday, December 4, at 6:30 P.M.

If you are interested in attending the Information Night contact the following address by November 27th.

Mrs. Cheryl Maine
Secondary School Liaison Office
Ryerson Polytechnical Institute
350 Victoria Street
Toronto, Ontario, M5B 2K3
Telephone: (416) 979-5030.

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"1986 Annual Director's Conference"

- November is here - but it won't be long before the Conference begins.

- Dates to remember are Thursday, February 20th to Saturday, February 22nd, 1986.

Mark your Calendars now.

- The location is: "The Inn on the Park" in Toronto.

- What's it all about?:-

- general & specialty programs catering to various camping concerns & issues;
- workshops - get involved!
- commercial & non-commercial exhibits. (come see what's doing);
- photography contest (looking good!);
- mmm...breakfasts, lunches & dinners plus a closing banquet;
- hospitality room & entertainment functions planned & ready for your participation;

- Registration available soon ("Get your pens ready"). Have you told your staff and others interested in camps about the 1986 Conference?

- Are you going to take advantage of the group discount rate offered with any amount over \$500.00 if paid all at once* prior to January 31st, 1986? Get your camp staff together and "go for it". (*No exceptions).

- Programs and Registration forms available in December 1985 from the O.C.A.; call or write the O.C.A. office now.

- Don't let the 1986 Conference pass you by. **PLAN AHEAD & REGISTER NOW.**

See you THERE.

Beverly Reisman.

HELP WANTED

WANTED - Senior Camp Position.

The applicant has extensive camp experience in various camp positions. These positions involved extensive program development, policy implementation, administrative duties, staff supervision and development, supervision of 50-75 campers in co-educational residential situation at waterfront based camp. Resume on file in O.C.A. office.

Contact:- Michael Freeman, 40 Fountainhead Rd., #1002, Downsview, Ontario, M3J 2V1 - (416) 665-3194.

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WANTED:- Employment in full-time year-round position with day or residential camp in Toronto (Central Ontario) area.

- Experienced camp person seeking administrative position or combination of admin. with programming responsibilities.

- Please contact: B. Reisman (B.PhE) 789-9430.

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Experienced camp director is seeking employment. Presently employed as a high school teacher and in the process of completing an M.A. degree in Recreation. Possesses many innovative ideas and strong management skills.

FOR INFORMATION:-

380 Waterloo Avenue, #806
Guelph, Ontario, N1H 7H8
(519) 836-7331.

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CAMP KAWARTHA JOB LISTING - SEPT. '85

CHILDREN'S RESIDENT CAMP DIRECTOR REQUIRED - Full Time Position.

The Board of Directors of Camp Kawartha Incorporated seeks a experienced and multi-talented individual to oversee and direct the re-opening of Camp Kawartha, a resident childrens camp and outdoor education centre located in the Peterborough area. The successful applicant will have had extensive resident childrens camp experience and a good deal of outdoor education training.

The individual will be able to:-

1. Work effectively with a volunteer Board of Directors.
2. Hire and supervise a young camp staff.
3. Market a resident camp program to a community that has not used the camp in 3 years.
4. Participate in an ongoing fund raising program.
5. Supervise a major reconstruction and renovation of the camp facility.

The salary range for this position is between \$18,000 to \$21,000 annually and includes year round use of a house on the property. A university degree in Recreation or Physical Education would be an asset.

Applicants should send complete resumes to Mr. Steve Ambler, c/o Swish Maintenance Ltd., 309 Lansdowne St. East, P.O. Box 778, Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 7A2.

Applications to be received by November 15, 1985.

Employment to commence by January 1986.

THIS & THAT

FOR CALENDARS, POSTERS AND INFORMATION ABOUT THE BRIGANTINE

Send request to:-

TORONTO BRIGANTINE
283 Queen's Quay West
Toronto, Ontario
M5V 1A2

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List of Books Missing from Library.

A Workbook for Camp Counsellors.
Camp: The Child's World.
Counselling Your Friends.
Working with the Handicapped-Leaders Guide.
The Concise Book of Winter Camping.
Council Fires.
Games for Girl Scouts.
Kids in Trouble.
Discoveries in God's World.
The Holy Bible.

If anyone has any of the above titles in their possession we would appreciate having them returned as soon as possible.

The copy of the Bible that we had in the library was in such poor condition that we had to dispose of it. We would appreciate a donation of another if anyone has an extra copy they would not mind parting with.

FRAN BOOTH,
Librarian.



Courtesy of C.C.A.