

# OCAsional News

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Monthly Publication of the Ontario Camping Association

April 1994

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## **Bell Tones**

I hope that you took advantage of the once in a lifetime opportunity - KUMBAYAH 1994. From the calls, letters and faxes that we received, we know that camping people from around the world are aware of the OCA and our commitment to the "well-being" of all our campers. The sharing and networking begun here will continue and be of benefit for many years.

We had some wonderful partners in this venture: the CCA, the ACA and the ICF. They all contributed to the success of the event. However, I know that it was due to the vast volunteer contribution *counted primarily in hours* which created the welcoming atmosphere that was responsible for the camaraderie we all felt. I was proud to represent you as your spokesperson at Congress.

I would be remiss if I did not point out to you that it takes a very special leader to bring all aspects of an International event such as KUMBAYAH together. **Jane McCutcheon** was that leader. She gave untiringly of herself, travelled to every corner of the world, dealt with countless administrative frustrations, coped with changes, established policies, kept track of every detail and

monitored all the jobs of each of her steering committee. We owe much to you, Jane.

Now back to business. As I write this article, we are in the midst of Public Awareness Week. I hope it is at least as successful as last years. As you think about Public Awareness and advertising, I would once again ask you to consider helping yourself and all of us. Please include the OCA logo or the appropriate words in your ad. In fact, why not ask advertisers to group the ads of those camps who distinguish themselves as Accredited members together. You might also advise your advertisers that the use of the OCA banner over the ads of our group might entice other ads from accredited camps. If we really want the public to be aware of our camps, we must be consistent. In a recent camp supplement in which 25 accredited camps had an ad, more than half failed to include the logo or to refer to their OCA status!

On April 7th, your Advisory Council will meet to discuss mid to long range planning (three to five years). Last April we set some realistic goals and I believe we are headed in the right direction. We have expanded our scope and are doing many more things. The busy phone lines at the office are evidence of that. We will examine what we believe you want us to accomplish; however, we are always interested in your thoughts and comments. Please keep the letters coming.

April and May are busy months for educational events. Skills Weekends, the Health Care Workshop, Spring Training for Counsellors and Directors' Day are established to help you and your staff improve your abilities. All of the events are planned by volunteers who are willing to share their experiences and expertise with you and your staff. Please support their efforts and benefit from them. - *Larry*

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## **In this issue...**

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**METCOM AND OCA LONG DISTANCE PHONE DISCOUNTS**

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You may also offer these rates to the parents of your campers - or anybody else whom you know. Anyone signing up under the OCA program would be part of the overall OCA grouping and entitled to the above discounts.

**OCA BENEFITS - YOU BENEFIT**

In addition to the discounts already mentioned, OCA gets a 3% residual on all calls made from those in the program. As well, each camp gets a 3% residual on calls from all sources that they have signed up. This is a fantastic opportunity for all camps, parents and friends of OCA members. Individual members and their families are invited to join. If you have misplaced the information sent to you, call the OCA office for a full package. If you still have your applications, fill them out and send them to Metcom. Lots of OCA camps have already started the process.

The question is, why wouldn't you want to take part in this program? A number of camps are switching from the long distance companies they now use to Metcom, including myself. The advantage of Metcom over the others is significant. If you have any questions about the program, please call me.

-Ted Cole, Camp Walden: 416-635-0049 (for the OCA Fund Raising Task Force

**"THE VOICE OF PADDLING IN CANADA"**

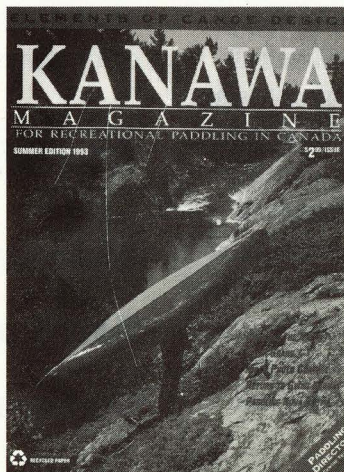
1 year \$12 (4 issues)\*     2 year \$24 (8 issues)\*

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Contact the Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association (CRCA) for a free colour "Paddling Catalogue" of books, maps, instructional guides, prints, videos and more. Also ask for our *Canada's Canoe Adventures* brochure outlining exciting canoeing and sea kayaking adventures from the Arctic Ocean, to the Bowron Lakes, to the coast of Labrador. Winter paddling trips also available. Proceeds from CRCA operations support the preservation of Canada's waterways.

## Alternatives to Workers' Compensation

(Reprinted from the May 1993 OCA'sional News)

As stated previously in the OCA'sional News, camps now have a choice as to whether or not to carry Workers' Compensation. The choice presents us with many issues to consider. Each camp needs to decide what type of coverage is desired for its employees. After this is done, various types of plans may be evaluated.

As the cost of Workers' Compensation will more than double by 1994, many camps, ourselves included, have researched various alternatives which provide well-rounded coverage at a lower price.

The lowest-priced alternative would be to carry no additional coverage. If this route is chosen by a camp, then reliance on one's employers' liability to cover any incidents involving staff would likely be the camp's only

coverage. Each camp can discuss this type of coverage with its insurance broker.

Various health and accident plans are also available. I have not found a plan of this type that has as well-rounded coverage as WCB. Despite this, the prices may be much more reasonable and camps can insure specific individuals and not necessarily the entire payroll.

These plans may provide desired coverage on their own, or as a supplement to other coverage. If camps carry health and dental plans for their full time employees, it is worthwhile talking to their agent to see if WCB style coverage is available for those on the benefits plan. Some insurance companies are offering better coverage than WCB at the 1992 WCB price of \$1.57/\$100. This may provide an excellent solution for your full-time maintenance staff but does not affect your part-time summer staff.

Overall, each camp must decide what type of coverage is desired, and then compare different plans to ensure appropriate insurance. The most thorough coverages carry the higher costs. If camps decide to drop WCB, then they

need to find suitable coverage with which they are comfortable.

Adam Kronick

### In Memory

We are saddened to report the passing this spring of Rudy Lenters, of Camp Ke-Mon-Oya.

As of Feb. 25, the Camp was being run by "Young Life of Canada", with its head office in Toronto. Ke-Mon-Oya is a former member of the OCA and a current member of as Christian Camping International.



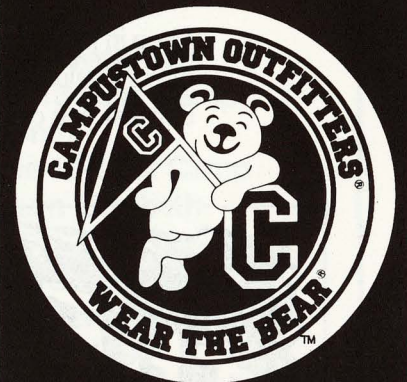
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## OCA offers a Spring-full of training programs

Training opportunities abound this season for all members of your camp family.

Registrations are already coming in for two exciting Skills Weekends offered by the OCA. Don't miss this opportunity to update your staff members' expertise in specialty areas.

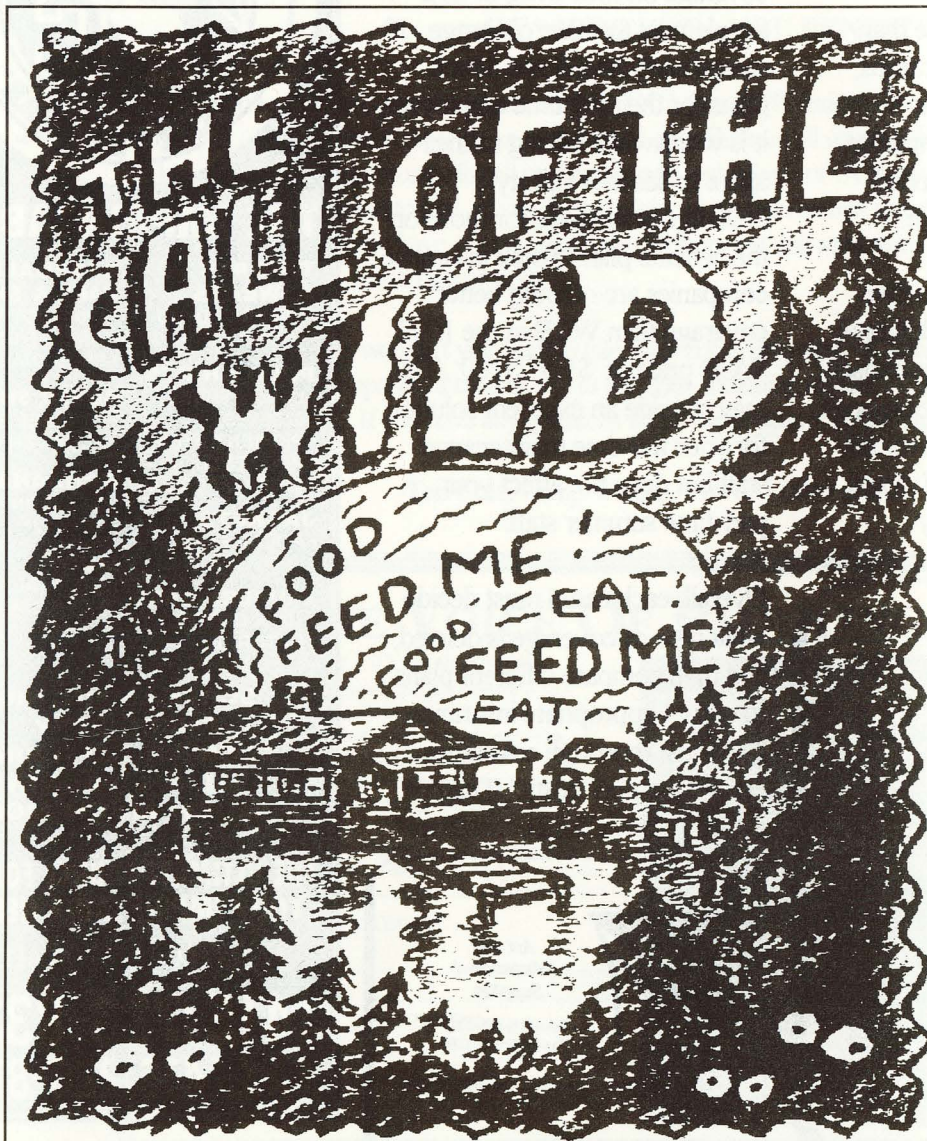
Keep in mind that Spring Training offers a valuable, action-packed day that you can offer to your

whose staff as part of your pre-camp program. Filled with seminars, round tables, the CCA bookstore and an exciting keynote address, you won't want to miss it!

Directors and health care staff will also want to attend the Health Care Workshop at a new location - St. John's Church in Willowdale. Included in the all-day session is a First-Aid

update, sex education and information for new nurses.

Included in this mailing are registration forms for these events. As with all OCA event forms, please feel free to duplicate them and pass them along to interested friends and colleagues. Please register early to help us organize terrific events for the benefit of you, our members!



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## Moving in new directions

March marks the start of the new term for the Board of Directors. At this time, these committed volunteers choose their portfolios for the upcoming year. Below are the new responsibilities:

**Jim Blake:** Current issues, Integration Task Force, Skills Weekends.

**Marjorie Booth:** Annual Conference, Spring Training, Newsletter

**Jeff Bradshaw:** Public Awareness, The Camping Guide, Environment.

**Brian Edey:** Standards, Fundraising.

**Barb Gilbert:** Membership

**Patti Thom:** Human Resources, Health Care Workshop.

## Calendar of Events

**Directors' Day**  
Saturday April 16  
Havergal College  
8:30-4:30

**Standards Meeting**  
for Visitors/Camps to be visited this summer  
April 28 7: 00 p.m.  
Metro School Board  
45 York Mills Rd.

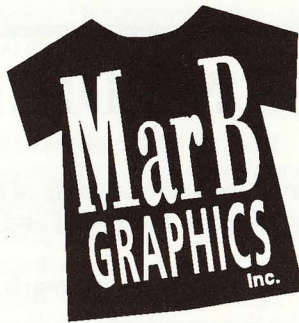
**Skills Weekends**  
May 13-15 at Camp Oconto  
June 10-12 at Camp Queen Elizabeth

**OCA Counsellor Conference**  
May 28, 1994  
Lawrence Park Collegiate

**OCA Health Care Workshop**  
May 28, 1994  
St. John's Anglican Church  
(Yonge/York Mills)

**Ontario Camp Leadership Workshop**  
June 2-5, 1994 at  
Bark Lake Leadership Centre  
Keynote: Mark Cote

**OCA Conference '95**  
"Camping in Motion"  
January 26-28, 1995  
Sheraton Centre, Toronto



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## Ontario Cystic Fibrosis Camp Closing

A decision was reached March 22 to close the Ontario Cystic Fibrosis Camp (OCFC) at Camp Couchiching, after a recent report published by the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation deemed camping a medically unsafe experience.

Based on the Foundation's report, there was no denying the very real risks that are known and unknown in operating the camp. In fact, every CF camp in the U.S. has closed. This year all other CF camps and related programs in Canada have been

discontinued because of the same issue. There is no way we can run a CF camp in light of the Foundation's endorsement of the report which states that, until controls are found for various CF related bacteria, camping is unsafe. The very last thing we want to do, no matter how much we cherish these experiences, is to put campers at risk.

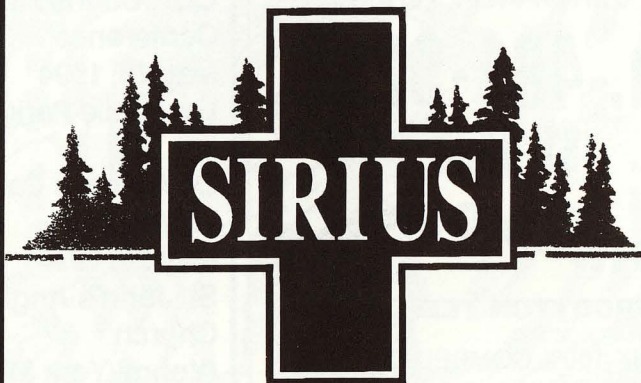
Each camp within the OCA must also realize the very real dangers now known to occur when those with CF are brought together. It is the wish of

the Foundation and of the medical community that no CF child should attend camp with other CF children. If you know that you have more than one CF child attending your camp, please call me (416) 769-2233. It's essential that you be aware of this information and this situation. Please act today.

Jeff Bradshaw  
Director

Camp Couchiching/OCFC

## SIRIUS WILDERNESS MEDICINE



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This course will provide camp leaders with the skill and confidence to deal with medical emergencies in an outdoor environment.

Course duration : 16 hours  
Course cost: \$125.00

### ADVANCED WILDERNESS FIRST AID FOR OUTDOOR LEADERS

Designed for camp leaders and trippers who work in a wilderness setting. Special emphasis is placed on prevention of injuries, long term care and leader responsibility.

Course duration: 36 hours  
Course cost: \$220.00

*Cost may vary due to location and numbers.*

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## Classified Ads

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 Recertification/Leadership Programs. Are your staff and CIT's current in their aquatic awards? Are they interested in learning new skills and increasing qualifications? Register now for recertification and crash courses in Bronze medallion/cross, Red Cross Instructors, National Lifeguard (NLS), Aquatic Emergency care (AEC), CPR. (Basic Rescuer). Shendy's also offers the following courses, call (416) 784-0900. for details: Advanced Instructors, Examiner Standard Clinics, A.E.C. Instructor Clinics. Detailed list on the way to you now.

**Residential Camp for Sale:** a prominent Ontario residential camp, fully operational and profitable, is for sale by the owner. Good growth potential exists. Large tract of land, mixed forest, good buildings, excellent water supply and sewage treatment, along with all other aspects of an accredited OCA camp are in place. This is an excellent opportunity for a younger couple or partnership to enter a rewarding business. Written inquiries only can be made to: VanByrde & Copeland, 79 Windermere Dr., Woodstock, Ont. N4S 6T3.

**T-shirt printing set-up:** Great idea! 4-colour HARCO Printer with base, and a HIX mini-dryer with conveyer belt. Silkscreen your own camp shirts and sweat shirts at a fraction of the cost. Cost \$3800. Call Claudia at Madawaska Kanu Centre, (613) 594-5268.

**Senior position wanted** in programming and or marketing at year-round camp or outdoor recreation centre. Professional with public relations experience, YMCA programming, special events, community development, Phys.Ed. teacher. Contact Shirley at 416 762-3608

**RWC-Kidpaws Participatory Weekend Workshop.** June 10-12, 1994. Practical ideas, playful approach with music, games, storytelling, drama & dance for your programs. \$188 all expenses (\$168 if paid by April 30) call 416-487-0924.

**Lewiscraft Camp Day** Saturday April 16, 11-5. Continuous demonstrations featuring inexpensive craft ideas. Present ad for 25% coupon. Location 401 & Weston Rd. Toronto. 416-614-8804

**Army Beds!!!** Brand new, green metal, legs fold down. 25" high, 3' wide, 6.4' long. \$30 each, over 100 \$25 each. Call Tristine at WW Medical (905) 660-1858 (905) 660-1860

**Sailboats** - new and used. New Byte and Optimist from stock. Many refurbished boats with warranty - CL14, CL16, Laser, Invitation etc.

### HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS FOR SALE

Camp on a large lake. 50-acre parcel with 1,700' shoreline, numerous cabins and cottages, large rec. hall & kitchen area with lots of room for expansion.

For details & inspection, call Lawrence VanLieshout (705) 457-2414 or 754-2071.

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#### WANTED

##### Computer Specialists:

- . must have knowledge of software and hardware operations and maintenance, teaching ability and resourcefulness and ability to improvise
- . 1 position each at Collingwood, Perth, Kirkland Lake and London

##### Out-Tripping/Canoeing Specialists:

- . min. 18 years of age by 23 Jun 94
- . must have current Bronze Cross or NLS, current CPR and First Aid certificates, experience in outdoor camping skills, solid teaching ability, appropriate canoeing skills
- . Out-Tripping: 1 position each at Collingwood, Port Colborne, Perth
- . Canoeing: 1 position each at Port Colborne, Perth and Kirkland Lake

**Camp Nurses:** RNs with current Ontario Certificate of Competence, min. 1 yr experience

**Fax resumes to:**  
 The Easter Seal Society  
 Camping Department  
 (416) 696-1035



## KUMBAYAH - WE WELCOMED THE WORLD!

At this time of writing, it has been less than 21 days since KUMBAYAH '94 celebrated the biggest international camping party ever! After seven full days of kindred programs, hospitality, registration, exhibits, international receptions, Jane Goodall, Bruce Kidd, Michael Brandwein, the Grand Rendezvous, clowns and circus, kormer store and book store, pool club, association business, amazing seminars and speakers, Peter, Paul & Jack, Silent Auctions, The Boy's Club Band, Native Dancers, the Musical Ride, International Videos and slideshows, camp centre tours, daily editions of the Echo, juggling, jumping, running, dancing, thousands of volunteer hours, late nights and early morning pizzas, and much much

more, you would think that this would be a perfect prescription for a major hangover.

Well, it turned out to be just what the the "doctor" ordered for making us really feel great about who we are and what we do in the wild world of camping. More information about KUMBAYAH '94 and its "Echo" will follow over the next few months in the *OCAisional News*. But on the next page are a few comments from some of the delegates who represented 37 countries in which camping is now a little better than it was before March 3, 1994.

*-Rob Heming*

### **Captured memories**

The Society of Camp Directors is pleased to announce the winners of the International Photo contest. Over one hundred entries were received, reflecting the many faceted aspects of the camping movement. To coin an old phrase, a picture is worth a thousand words. The entries beautifully portrayed the diversity of the camps at Congress. We consider everyone a winner, judging by the number of delegates caught smiling at the photo display as they enjoyed your terrific memories of summers past. The winners, in their respective categories:

#### **Smiles and Chuckles**

Antoine Voorhouse (Camp Narniam - B.C.)  
David Neal (Reach for the Rainbow)  
John Brook (Camp Rockmount - U.S.A)

#### **Your Environment**

Cam Finlayson (Kilcoo)  
Jason Ranson (Circle R. Ranch)  
Ted Cole (Camp Walden)

#### **Relationships**

Gary Gray (John Island)  
David Latimer (Kilcoo)  
Mike Adamson (Kilcoo)



Jane Goodall chats with a news reporter following her press conference at Congress.





Lakehead University students, as part of the Mackenzie Brigade, kicked off the Grand Rendezvous.

**Rebate offered**

As earlier outlined, the OCA Board is offering financial support to OCA members or delegates sponsored by OCA camps who attended KUMBAYAH. To be eligible for this \$100 rebate you must have paid full time delegate fees for KUMBAYAH, stayed in the Sheraton Hotel for a minimum of three nights, not received any subsidy from the Congress and have been an OCA member in good standing on Dec. 31, 1993. If you are eligible for this Congress rebate, please call, fax or write to the OCA office and ask for a "Congress Rebate Form".

**What a wonderful time it was!**

"We all had an absolutely wonderful experience...every detail had been attended to and the quality of the entire event was certainly world class."

*Cynthia L. Findley  
Iowa Section President  
American Camping Association*

KUMBAYAH '94 was the best Congress ever hosted!

*ACA Board of Directors*

"..please accept our heartfelt gratitude for a magnificent job - Kumbayah '94 will never be forgotten."

*Jack Weiner  
ACA - Wisconsin Section*

"Thank you to everyone for such a well-organized and enjoyable Congress."

*Lindsay Ashworth  
Whipple Tree Recreational  
Camp*

"Incredible! Fantastic!  
Unbelievable! Wonderful!  
You outdid yourselves!!!

The camping world is richer for what you ( and all your volunteers) have done - years of hard work have culminated in a superb conference! Thank you."

*Madelene Allen  
Camp Oureau*

"The Congress was very educational and fun! You did a great job!"

*Linda Gibson  
Cave Springs Camp*

"Congratulations on a job well done! Kumbayah seemed to run like clock work."

*Barb Weeden  
King Day Camp*

"Many thanks for all the hard work that you and your staff did to make Kumbayah 1994 such a success, and for the warm hospitality that you so generously extended to everyone!"

*Curtis Evans  
The Tennessee delegation*



Following their fabulous concert, Noel Paul Stookey(left) and Peter Yarrow (right) celebrate with Congress treasurer Robert Lebby.

## Conferences and Camps - the benefits

It seems to me that delegates attend conferences for many of the same reasons that campers attend our camps.

- Friends. We come to meet old friends, catch up on news, enjoy activities with our peers and make new friends - just like campers.
- Learn new skills. While campers arrive eager to learn to canoe or play baseball or swim, we come to learn about marketing strategies, risk management, and new program ideas.

Everyone expects to return home with new skills, ideas and enthusiasm.

- Fun. We come to have a good time, to feel good about ourselves and our work and to re-affirm the value of camping.
- New activities. As directors, we plan to give our campers something new and exciting every summer. Your conference committee similarly is committed to planning a unique and challenging event.

activities at the OCA Annual Conference for Directors and Senior Staff, January 26-28, 1995, The Sheraton Centre, Toronto.

*-Barb Gilbert*

### Camping in Motion

#### What's New for '95

- ◆ Risk Management Symposium
- ◆ Day Camp Conference within the Conference
- ◆ Media Room - camp videos, brochures, forms, slides and much more!

#### Call for Presenters

Volunteers and professionals in camping and related fields who wish to share their experiences and knowledge with others are invited to submit a "Call for Presenters". Call the OCA office and ask for a form today. Deadline for submission is April 22, 1994.

Watch for a new format, a mini conference within the conference dedicated to day camps, exciting entertainment - in fact, an event that you can look forward to, just as campers look forward to returning to camp.

Join with friends (old and new), learn new skills, have fun with camping folk and enjoy new

### Media/Marketing Showcase

for  
Camping in Motion

To assist with this new feature, please plan to send camp forms, contracts, brochures and staff manuals to the OCA office in January, c/o Allan Nelson.



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**Shendy's Swim School.** 1 Markdale Ave. Unit 1, Toronto, Ont. M6C 1S8. (416) 784-0900. Aquatic Red Cross and Royal Life Saving programs for all levels and ages.

**Vectra Marketing Group.** 105 West Beaver Creek Road, Unit 9-10, Richmond Hill, Ont. L4B 1C6. (905) 886-5788. fax (416) 221-3564. Sales promotion/marketing agency developing trade incentive programs to the camp marketplace.

## **Water Ski Instructors' Course**

The Ontario Water Ski Association has announced the dates for the annual instructors' course which has certified camp and resort water ski staff for more than 30 years. The course takes place June 18-23 at Hockey Opportunity Camp, near Sundridge. New this year, the course shifts to a Saturday to Thursday format. Fees are \$411 plus GST. Call 416-495-4201 for information.

## **New camps join OCA**

We are pleased to say hello to three new provisional camp members. Now on board with us is Camp Banting, a residential camp for children with diabetes, located in Maberly. Also new is Trails Youth Initiative, a residential program in Kettleby for inner-city youth. We also have a new day camp, Seneca College King Day Camp in King City.

## **Advanced training for camp nurses**

George Brown College Nursing faculty will offer a Post R.N. Camp Nursing Certificate in late Spring, 1994.

George Brown is working closely with the OCA Health Care Committee in the planning of this course. If you are interested in applying for this program, or if your camp is interested in having students (R.N.s) for a two week placement, please contact Sally Quan at George Brown College (416) 867-2900 ext. 3126.

## **Directory improvements**

### **continue for next season**

In the midst of a very busy pre-camp season, we would appreciate it if you could keep an eye on the mail for a very important package which will be sent to camp members in April

Thanks to the work of the Public Awareness Committee, the planning is underway for the second stage of continuing improvements to the directory of member camps.

In this mailing you will receive information which will help you prepare your submission for next year's book, a questionnaire and a proposed chart of activities.

It is our hope that together we can produce an even better tool to aid parents in their efforts to find suitable camp experiences for their children.

## Breakfast Club a sizzling success

Thanks to the Human Resources committee for hosting several successful Breakfast Club meetings this winter. All were well attended and found to be an informative means of helping one another.

The recent session on forms was, according to those present, **awesome!** Since there was so much material to cover, another session is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27, from 8-10 a.m. It will cover evaluations, manuals, surveys and supervision. Please drop in and bring your samples! Hosted by Human Resource committee members Sari Grossinger and Patti Thom.

The Feb. 16 session on camper enrollment was also very helpful

to those who attended. Janet Adamson and Keith Publicover provided plenty of ideas and hints which facilitated a useful discussion. Participants discussed the importance of providing campers with a fantastic summer experience so they will return the next season, and bring their friends! The group also discussed the importance of keeping in touch with campers over the winter via newsletters and birthday cards.

Try to attend our next meeting! The coffee is good, the muffins are better and the sharing of ideas is the best.



**ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS** - Spotted in the middle of a hug in the OCA Library are Board member Patti Thom, Ted Cole, who has been busy with fund raising activities and Standards Chair Ellen Nash.

### A new service



- ▶ OCA'sional News now offers you a variety of ways to promote products and services within the association with the choice of paid display or classified advertising. **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 OCA'sional



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- ▶ Editor, Janet Adamson  
1806 Avenue Road, Suite 2  
Toronto, Ontario M5M 3Z1  
Telephone: (416) 781-0525  
Fax: (416) 781-7875