



O.C.A. sional news

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EDITOR: CATHERINE ROSS

Many who know the price of everything are ignorant of its value. - Khalil Gibran.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

QUESTION: What do you call a person who is tanned, tired, tremendously happy, relieved, relaxed (perhaps even vacationing right at this moment), and looking forward to July and August of 1989?

ANSWER: You!!

Congratulations, O.C.A. Camp Directors and Leaders. We did it! The summer of 1988 was safe, successful, and satisfying. Everyone I've spoken to both during and since the 1988 camping season was enthusiastic and excited about the great things accomplished at Camp. Those two summer months with those wonderful children give us the lift we need to get through another ten months of preparation so we can do it all again!

My goal for my last six months as O.C.A. President is to establish a path that gives the O.C.A. the limelight. We need to let the whole world (well, at least the province of Ontario) know of the great things we do. We need politicians, famous people, photographers, corporate giants and the media telling our story. No small task, you say! Well, it will be made easier if each of us does a little part. Please share your thoughts with me on how O.C.A. might best present itself to the doubting public. With the right approach, we can have the support of many great people representing many facets of life. And you know, our biggest contribution to society is the preparation we give to children in order that they may become good corporate citizens and contribute to the growth of others.

Ready...Set...Go - Help me put O.C.A. on our provincial map. Phone, write, fax, type, telex or courier your ideas to me today! Only six months to go!

JANE McCUTCHEON
President

EDITORIAL

Let me use my editorial space this month to commend Amici (translation: Friends). In 1966, this group of Kilcoo staff alumni decided to give purpose to their continuing association while giving something back to camping. They chose to fundraise to finance children who would benefit from a good camping experience, but whose economic circumstances prevented this.

I sought out Amici last May after a camp mother frankly admitted to me that she was unable to send the balance of fees for her daughter as her husband's business after a three-year struggle was closing. Several brief phone calls got the wheels in motion. Two things greatly impressed me in the process. Although my phone calls interrupted an undoubtedly busy business schedule of a family court judge and an insurance executive, they both listened intently and compassionately to the details of our camper's situation. Their tone indicated genuine interest and caring. Secondly, after nothing more than a brief letter from me, the balance of fees was received without delay. The parents had already paid the deposit, the camp made a contribution and Amici generously wrote the cheque for the remainder.

In this age of red tape, triplicate forms, delays, reminders and errors, dealing with Amici was a pleasant change - straight-forward, efficient and effective! Thank you, Amici, on behalf of our camper and the 39 others whom you supported this summer. These youngsters attended 14 different O.C.A. camps for a two to four week period having been referred by Amici alumni, friends or a camp director. As Jennifer's mother commented, "For Jennifer a summer without camp is unthinkable". Amici prevented that!

CATHERINE ROSS
Editor

OPERATION RALEIGH: A CAMP
DIRECTOR GETS A SUMMER OFF

One of my lifelong goals has always been to be a team member on an international wilderness expedition. This summer my dream came true. I was a group leader on Operation's Raleigh's Canadian Arctic Expedition down the Kazan River.

Operation Raleigh is a four-year around-the-world expedition in three month phases, that coincide with the 400th anniversary of Sir Walter Raleigh's circumnavigation of the globe. Based in England, this huge international initiative for science, adventure and community service had phases in approximately 40 different countries spanning the period October 1984 to April 1989.

Participants, or venturers, from 17 to 24, were chosen in each of the 40 member countries in a two-step process. First, written applications were completed, and from these short essays, people were short listed for Selection Weekends. Using a variety of physical and mental challenges, venturers were then chosen on their ability to persevere under trying conditions and on their willingness to support their groups.

The Canadian Arctic Expedition was a 7-week, 500km canoe expedition down the Kazan River, during which a variety of scientific projects was conducted, with an archeological survey of the river being of primary importance. Prior to the actual river portion of the expedition, venturers spent one month in intensive scientific orientation and survival training at Moorelands Camp and Trent University in Southern Ontario. While on the river, 24 venturers from 11 different countries, 4 scientists and 4 group leaders travelled in

four independent groups to minimize environmental impact and to maximize the amount and quality of scientific data collected.

I was honored to be offered a role on the Canadian Expedition as a group leader. After 15 summers at Moorelands the idea of a new challenge excited me very much, but I loved my position too much to leave. The perfect compromise was a summer off, but would anyone see the value for the Camp and for me personally? To my surprise and delight John Burke (The Boss!) and the Downtown Churchworkers Association Board of Directors were very supportive of the proposal and approved the idea.

The next years of preparation were busy indeed. We had to: order 6 tons of food, organize a training camp that would prepare people who had never paddled for an arctic canoe trip, find worthwhile and needed scientific projects and finally raise \$300,000 in goods and services from corporations and foundations. No easy task--it reminded me often of Camp Directing!

Once on the river our major scientific task was an archeological survey of the Kazan River. Our group alone discovered over 100 distinct archeological sites. Since the last Ice Age the area has been used by Inuit, Chypewyan, and paleo-Eskimo. Artifacts found by us included: stone tent rings, stone tools, birchbarks rolls, a soapstone pipe and bone refuse. It was incredible to walk in the "barren" lands. No matter where one went one would find evidence that native people had been there.

As a team leader and expedition photographer I was often challenged to keep the adventure component high but safe, and to ensure that we accomplished our various scientific work. To document photographically the expedition, I took 7,000 photographs. I also had to sort out various small interpersonal conflicts caused by different cultures and personalities in a challenging environment.

All in all Operation Raleigh has proven to be one of the most fulfilling and challenging undertakings I have ever attempted. At Camp I learned the values of volunteerism, conservation, community service and adventure and these values were reinforced and expressed in a new and exciting way with Operation Raleigh. It was the experience of a lifetime, and I am grateful for the opportunity but I am glad to be back Camp Directing.

MARK COTE
Moorelands Camp

THIS & THAT

THE 'BEAR' NEWS

"Bears have to put on weight just before they hibernate in mid-October", says Kenora District MNR Wildlife Manager Wayne Stack. "Without it, many will die". Unfortunately, bears foraging for food can mean problems for humans. "It's good to be a little nervous - it usually makes us more cautious. But really, only extremely rarely do bears become a threat to life or property".

Bears will often seek out oak trees, in search of acorns or go after apples and cranberries found late in the season. Roaming bears are an annual problem, but this year there have been more reports than usual because berry crops were exhausted much earlier. The Ministry suggests the following 'common sense' rules in dealing with wandering bears:

- * do not leave garbage out; get rid of it!
- * do not approach bears for any reason
- * bears should not be encouraged by leaving 'treats'
- * if bears become more aggressive, phone the Ministry of Natural Resources' office.

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Attention Camp Directors: Do you have any clothing from your Lost and Found or shelters (e.g. tents) that could be used for **Jamaican Relief**? Contact the Jamaican Canadian Association or the Jamaican Embassy to see how you can become involved.



PARKS AND RECREATION FEDERATION OF ONTARIO



1220 Sheppard Avenue East, North York, Ontario M2K 2X1
Telephone (416) 495-4088

ONTARIO INTRAMURAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION

The Ontario Intramural Recreation Association is committed to promoting intramural recreation and providing support assistance to the intramural recreation professionals in Ontario.

The objectives of the Association are to:

- develop and encourage professional growth in the field of intramurals and recreation
- collect and disseminate resource material to practitioners
- increase the body of knowledge in relation to intramural and recreation programs
- cooperate with and provide assistance to all allied organizations

Many services are provided for members with the intended result being fun, fitness, participation, social interaction and physical skills for students.

O.C.A. is one of the twelve member organizations of the Parks and Recreation Federation of Ontario.

MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to **Laura and Rob Heming** (O.C.L.C. - Bark Lake) on the birth of their son **Jesse Paul**, 9lbs 3oz, on August 10, 1988.

Bob Smith, O.C.A.'s Treasurer, is temporarily a gentleman of leisure as he explores future career possibilities. During the summer, Bob sold Haliburton Hockey Haven/Quanahar Ringette Camps to the Hamilton Y. The acquisition of Bob's property, adjacent to the Y's Camp Wanakita, will permit **Steve Heming** to expand his camp and program. Congratulations to Bob and Steve!

During the summer, **Dave Sands** of Illahee Northwoods Camp suffered a heart attack and **Bert Danson**, formerly of Camp Winnebago, had a stroke. We wish them both a continued and complete recovery.

HELP WANTED

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Program Director and/or Senior Staff Person for small, long established boys' camp. Experience and enthusiasm essential. Tel. (416) 261-4111; ask for Mr. Rhamey.



**ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION
PRESENTS**

1989 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

FOR DIRECTORS AND SENIOR STAFF

JANUARY 26 - 28, 1989

FOUR SEASONS Inn On The Park Toronto

FEATURES

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For More Information Please Contact:
ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION
1806 Avenue Road, Suite Two
Toronto, Ontario M5M 3Z1
(416) 781-0525

REGISTRATION FEATURES

The Registration Package features several options. Of course we encourage members to take advantage of the early discount rate with Thursday and Friday night accomodation included. If you register as a full-time delegate by December 15, you will receive a coupon for a **free** session tape.

Rates Per Person Before December 15, 1988:

	<u>With Hotel</u>	<u>No Hotel</u>
Member	\$299	\$215
Student	\$215	\$125
Non-Member	\$324	\$250

The Hospitality Committee has an informal reception on Thursday night, a Coffee House on Friday night, and the "Together Towards Tomorrow Times" newsletter. All are for YOU to make the 1989 Directors' Conference an event to remember!

Annual Meetings CAN be fun! Come and join us for our **Annual General Meeting** on Thursday, January 26, 1989 at the Inn on the Park Hotel in Toronto. Our Archives Committee is presenting "The Years Past, The Years Ahead" -- a look at O.C.A.'s past, present, and future. I really hope you will make every effort to be there, and be a part of our Association.

JANE McCUTCHEON
President

WHAT'S HAPPENING

"CALLING ALL CAMPERS"

Onondaga Camp, one of the oldest summer camps in the Canadian camping community, has invited over 1000 old campers, staff and friends to return to the camp in Minden, Ontario, and celebrate their 70th Anniversary. The reunion will bring together several generations of camp alumni from all over North America and beyond. Don't miss the commemorative dinner on October 8 in Toronto.

For more information on REUNION '88 contact Terence Cole at our Toronto office: 950 Yonge St., Ste. 200 Toronto, Ont. M4W 2J4 Tel. (416) 323-9090.

The Ontario Recreation Society's Annual Conference, Future Vision '89, will be held in Toronto from February 15 to 17, 1989. The "future vision" theme will be established by the keynote speaker, David Suzuki, and will be reinforced throughout the 3-day conference. Further details will be forthcoming!

FOR SALE

340 single beds; can be made into bunks. Used 5 days only. Price per set (2 beds, 2 box springs, 2 mattresses - colonial frame): \$400. To be sold preferably in lots of 25 and up. Contact the O.C.A. office for particulars.

The Fox 40 Whistle, in use at the 1988 Summer Olympics, is available through the Royal Life Saving Society of Canada. It has a totally new and distinctive sound and is not affected by water, dirt or cold. Ideal for the camp environment! Order through the RLSSC; tel. (416) 364-3881.