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TO ALL CAMP DIRECTORS

Your O.C.A. has been very greatly favoured in many ways through actual assistance, kindly advice and "guidance on proper procedures" from the Ontario Government's sundry Departments. Recognized O.C.A. representatives have been appointed as spokesmen, and they know which Ears to Seek when a possible development, need or difficulty arises.

Through this Newsletter we would like to remind all members that the O.C.A. Board should be kept aware of any proposed developments, plans or ideas that relate to the welfare of the children's camping movement in Ontario. Our spokesmen know where to take such requests. They now have Government Departments working with, and seeking the advice of O.C.A. More effective and faster results will be gained by keeping our Legislative Committee on the alert. O.C.A. spokesmen welcome developmental ideas.

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CONFERENCE.....HOW! HOW!

"Congratulations" "Best yet" "Let's do it again at Ryerson" "Food great" "..and that Charlie Farquharson....!!!"

And so on from all parts of the Association came this kind of praise for the overall management, arrangements, atmosphere, tone and quality of sessions. In fact, a repeat is on the drawing boards. There were criticisms, constructive and aimed at an even better performance next year. For which the Committee says "Thank you. Get ready to work any time from now on, all you Volunteers."

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HONORARY PRESENTATIONS

One of the happiest events of the entire conference was the presenting of Life Associates Awards. O.C.A. gives such

recognition to those who are no longer in the camping field as camp directors but who have contributed much to the well-being of the Ontario Camping Association. This year the awards were presented to C.R. "Blackie" Blackstock, founder and director of Camp Mazinaw; and to W. Bertram Danson, for many years director of Camp Winnebago. Surprise, fun and pleasure surrounded the presentation and drew standing ovations from all delegates.

Those who have already been so honoured are: Margaret Govan, Cecil Irwin, Dr. Mary Northway, David Palter, Dr. Elsie Palter, Charles Plewman and Wyn Smith. May we long enjoy the pleasure of their company, seek their wisdom and benefit from their experience.

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HEY - HEY - HEY - We need your Money!

Our Secretary, Nodja Read, says: Many camps have not yet come through with Membership Fees. They were due on January first. How about that cheque today?

Nodja says: Many camp directors have not yet submitted their Health License Number. It is important that the office has it on file. So please send it in as soon as it is received.

Nodja says: Thank you for your co-operation, quickly.

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BACK TO SCHOOL

Now it's summer-course, counsellor-training and preparation time again. Each day brings its lists of Things to Learn. Witness:

May 4th - Counsellor Conference. Chairman Rob Heming says: "Don't forget Saturday May 4th, Counsellor Conference at Mohawk College, Corner of Fennell and West 5th Avenues in Hamilton. Registration is limited so don't be disappointed." Take heed!

From Claude Cousineau - notice of Leadership Training in Outdoor Education:

May 30 - The Canadian Camping Association  
June 8 i Canoeing Instructor School.  
This 10 day school is to form instructors who can utilize the many educational dimensions of canoeing in a camp set up or school outdoor education programme.

June 21 - Rock Climbing School of the Fédération  
June 29 Québécoise des Clubs de Montagne due Québec. This session is conducted in French by bilingual instructors.

June 21 - Sailing Instructor School of the  
June 29 Fédération des Clubs de Voile du Québec. This course is offered in French by bilingual instructors. The course is reserved to those with a fair deal of experience in sailing.

July 1 - Theory and Practice in Outdoor  
July 26 Education. This four week course is mostly for teachers or youth leaders wishing to study and experiment the pedagogical use of the out-of-door. The course is offered by the Department of Recreology in collaboration with the Continuing Education Service of the University of Ottawa. The students receive a total of six university credits.

For further information write to: Claude Cousineau, University of Ottawa Camp, Department of Recreology, University of Ottawa, 35 MacDougall Lane, Ottawa, K1N 6A5.

June 6, 7, 8, 9 - Ontario Camp Leadership Centre, Bark Lake, for Agency, Church, Organizational Social Welfare camp people. Theme: Paints, Planks, Plans, Programmes and People. It's all about planning, expanding, improving; a sharing of ideas during the whole week-end. Write to: Camp Director's Workshop, Sports and Recreation Bureau, Travellers Tower, 400 University Avenue, 23rd Floor, Toronto, M7A 1H9

May 24-26 ) Counsellor Leadership  
May 31-June 3) Sault Area Training Course.

This course is a programme for the residential camp section dealing with the principles of leadership, skills, knowledge, instruction and camp-out experiences. For information write to: Sault College, Continuing Education Division, 443 Northern Ave., P.O. Box 60, Saulte Ste. Marie, Ont.

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### DRAMA IN CAMPING

This is one of the summer programmes for camps being initiated by the Province of Ontario under the title "Experience '74". The O.C.A. was asked to suggest programmes which would be of assistance to our camps and, at the same time, would give employment opportunities to young people. "Drama in Camping" was one of four suggestions. A Co-ordinator and eight assistants will be hired and then work on a programme which can be presented to camps during the summer. Applications for the positions are available to the deadline date, April 15th.

A committee from O.C.A. will screen and interview applicants; programme will be co-ordinated from Miss Dorothy Walter's office, Sports and Recreation Bureau. She has asked that if any camp directors or a staff person is interested in the interviewing committee, please let her know, at 965-5665.

O.C.A. will be advised as soon as the co-ordinator has been hired. Directors will be asked to indicate whether or not they wish one of the Drama in Camping teams to visit camp this summer for a demonstration. Programme will run from mid-June to mid-August, and is funded through the Sports and Recreation Bureau, Ministry of Community and Social Services.

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### NEW MEMBERS

Standards Chairman, Al Goodman, announced the Re-instatement of Camp Wyoka (Girl Guides, White Oaks Area) at Clifford, Ont. As of this date O.C.A. welcomes three new Associate Members:

Keswick Youth Camp - Port Carling, Ont.  
Camp Marygrove - Penetang, Ontario.  
Camp Bil-o-Wood - Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

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### ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Clare Magee, Chairman of this important and

new committee, will have more to report after their next meeting on April 18th. It's objective, a new one, has been added to the O.C.A., "to develop an awareness of, and an appreciation for, our natural environment, and to encourage activities which are harmonious with it".

Twelve related associations active in environmental matters have been contacted to initiate mutual awareness and co-operation. Chief of which, at the moment, is the Maple Mountain situation to which O.C.A. should voice strong opposition if we are to preserve canoe routes and camp sites in a natural wilderness. All who are concerned about Maple Mountain and preservation of its area, write to Save Maple Mountain Committee, Box 195, Temagami, Ontario. Join the committee, write letters, shout from the rooftops and fight, fight, fight.

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### WEEK-END MEETING OF THE BOARD

There is much to be told about progress and decisions made at this important conference at Gulliver's Travels Motel, Stoney Creek. Space does not permit details, but the next News will bring readers up to date.

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LOU HANDLER

It was with regret that we heard of the sudden passing of Lou Handler, for many years an active member of the Ontario Camping Association as Director of Camp Tamakwa in Algonquin Park. He will be missed by many of us who have known him for so many years, and send our sympathy to his family.

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CECIL & JEAN IRWIN

A card from the Irwins, Cecil and Jean, Founders and former directors of Sherwood Forest Camp for Boys. We missed hearing their cheery greetings at the Conference -

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because they were travelling as usual at this time of year. "We have just returned to the tip of South America from a most rugged, interesting and enlightening voyage below the Antarctic Circle". What enthusiasm and love of life after their camping years. Our good wishes go with them.

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Also - Heartiest congratulations to the Bruce Harris's, Camp Kawabi, on the birth of their son, Jay Carter, on March 5th.

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NOTE FROM LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

The enclosed letter from Mr. R.A.Girard, Departmental Assistant, Office of the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, is self-explanatory. For Directors desiring copies of this letter for their staff, these will be available at a cost of 5¢ each from the O.C.A. Office (plus 50¢ handling for mail orders).

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NOTE TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT YET PAID 1974 FEES

Only paid-up Members will be entitled to bring in non-immigrant counsellors without certification by Canada Manpower.

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## ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RECEIVED FOR NEWSLETTER

Things ..... meaning progress, changes, improvements, time-savers, new innovations ..... have been suggested lately at Board Meetings as being necessary to the survival of the Association; this, through greater involvement of a larger number of members in committee work. President Jack Pearse took the initiative and arranged a week-end Joint Meeting of the Advisory Board and Directors to tackle some of the areas under question, to bring them into the open, make recommendations after discussion and take action after approval.

No week-end of rest and relaxation, this! Sessions commenced at 8.30 a.m., coffee breaks at the conference table, minimum time for meals, sessions again from 7.30 p.m. to name-the-hour. Work we did. But it was necessary in order to prepare for acceptance at the next regular Board Meeting.

### BOARD STRUCTURE

Priority was given to our Board Structure and the number of meetings held each year. Recommendations: that the Board of Directors will now be made up of thirteen people, seven of whom are to be elected members; the two ex-officio members will be a representative from the Provincial Government and the Editor of OCAcasual News. Members-at-Large will be entitled to a vote and will be members of the Executive. This group is to meet as often as necessary to carry out the policies of the O.C.A. Also, the Advisory Board will hold one two-day meeting for the orientation of new members, with at least two additional meetings during the year for matters of business.

### BE PREPARED ..... TO WORK FOR OCA

Ours is known as a working Association rather than one for Joiners Only. A condition of membership requires a membership fee. An additional condition of membership now calls for a personal commitment of time, energy and talent as well as the existing financial commitment. Every committee Chairman is in need of assistance, and there are enough fields of interest to meet the choice of all members. So take a look at the first page of your Directory. Select the committees on which you would like to work, and drop a personal note to the Chairman, c/o O.C.A. office, stating that you want to work with him (or her). Our responsibility lies in giving on-going community service to parents. It can only be successful and far-reaching when we all consider the Association to be bigger than ourselves through voluntary service with co-operation and trust. If we do not hear from you, someone will be in touch with you to put you in the line-up. Choose your own committee today, or accept your calling when it comes. See you!

### ARCHIVES

We are pleased to report that Elizabeth Raymer has graciously accepted the position as Chairman of the Archives Committee, an absorbing area of Association work. Elizabeth will gladly accept any material, information, records or other memorabilia connected with camp history from its beginning to the present time. Actions become history tomorrow. So set down the details today.

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Archives (contd.)

Our thanks go out, at the same time, to Adele Ebbs, the retiring Chairman, who has contributed immeasurably to the development of the collection which is now housed in Trent University. Adele is assuming the Chairmanship of the C.C.A. Archives Committee and will be establishing all that material at Trent University, also.

#### FUNDS - HOUSEKEEPING - ACCOUNTING

A major portion of the Conference became, in reality, a Think Tank, with all members pooling ideas for the ultimate growth of this Association. The general consensus was that money must be raised in one way or another; with alternate choices of decreasing services or charging for them. It was agreed that, a) we attempt to become independent of Government funds to insure continued growth; b) that sources of outside funds must be investigated. To this end it was suggested, and has now been approved, that a sub-group be formed to investigate such sources of funding for the Association, i.e. through foundations, insurance companies, banks, industrial institutions, suppliers, etc. Suggestions will be welcome.

#### TWO ELECTIONS

First: that Ron Johnstone be supported by Ontario in the vote for CCA Vice-President at the CCA Annual Meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland (postponed due to the airstrike until Fall).

Second: that Kirk Wipper be the Ontario Representative to attend the CCA Board of Directors Meeting in St. Johns on April 24th to 27th.

#### OUTDOOR EDUCATION - NATURE SCHOOL

Another reminder to all members that these two Conferences will be held in Quebec, October 3 to 6. John Russell and the Outdoor Education Committee were asked to select seven Ontario delegates who will conduct Provincial Conferences following the Conference in Quebec.

Note from John Russell on the above:

The Canadian Camping Association will host a national Outdoor Education and Nature School Conference beginning at noon on Thursday, October 3 and running to noon on Sunday, October 6, 1974. The conference will be held at a resort by the name of "LA CALECHE" in the Laurentians under the chairmanship of Bob Cameron (N.B.) and Lorne Brown (B.C.) and Paul Dampier (B.C.).

The number of delegates has been limited by provinces and, under the rules set out by C.C.A., Ontario is able to have seven representatives attend. We would like to have our delegates selected by May 20 so that if you are interested in attending this conference please let us know right away.

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Outdoor Education, etc. (contd.)

The delegates to this conference will be obliged to return to their respective provinces and assume leadership in setting up similar Outdoor Education and Nature School Conferences at a Provincial or Regional level.

Please immediately submit your name or the name of someone on your staff as potential candidates for this conference to John Russell at P.O. Box 85, Delaware, Ontario.

We have been advised that the registration fee for the conference will be no less than \$50.00. As more information becomes available from C.C.A. we will pass it along to you via OCAsional News.