



# OCA'sional news

VOLUME 5

MAY 1987

EDITOR: CATHERINE ROSS

IT IS BETTER TO BURN OUT THAN RUST OUT.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

"FAR AWAY THERE IN THE SUNSHINE ARE MY HIGHEST ASPIRATIONS. I MAY NOT REACH THEM BUT I CAN LOOK UP AND SEE THEIR BEAUTY, BELIEVE IN THEM, AND TRY TO FOLLOW WHERE THEY LEAD."

As I write my first ever President's message for the OCA'sional News, I am happy to report that the sun is shining! The ice has gone from the lakes, the trees are budding, and grass is growing - could that mean the campers are coming? In less than 2 months, thousands of happy campers will be arriving at OCA Camps all over the province, ready and raring to begin a summer of fun and fellowship.

OCA, too, has a new beginning. Your newly elected Board faces many challenges and issues such as an organizational review of our Association, the creation of a lottery to raise funds for OCA, and the re-structuring of our fiscal year. Several Committees tackle the enormous task of conducting our annual Spring programs - the Workshop for Camp Nurses, the OCA Skills School, Aquatics Workshops and our 1987 Counsellor Conference. Our hats go off to these dedicated volunteer organizers.

My hat goes off to the OCA Board Members who retired from the Board as of our April 23, 1987 Annual Meeting - thank you, Joe Kronick, Mark Cote, Larry Bell, Judy Paul and Lisa Wilson for your untiring efforts.

Folks, OCA is your Association. Please participate. Please get involved. Please contact me directly with your concerns, questions, observations and comments about who we are and what we do. I love mail, I love phonecalls, I love challenges. Talk to me, talk to each other, talk to someone who can act on your behalf.

Could I leave you with a challenge (as if preparing for summer camp isn't a big enough one!)? Could you make a commitment to get involved, in some small way, with the OCA events that take place in the next two years of my Presidency? Could you agree to attend at least 1 Conference, or to contribute to at least one Committee, or to write at least one letter to tell me what you want OCA to do for you (or what you might do for OCA)? I challenge each of you to do your small part, and I'll bet that if we do:

We can make a difference, you and I  
We can make a difference, if we try.

JANE McCUTCHEON,  
President.

We would like to introduce to you your new  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 1987 - 1989.

JANE McCUTCHEON - President.  
FRED OKADA - Immediate Past President  
TED COLE - Vice-President  
LIZ GREENWAY - Vice-President  
F.B. (SKIP) CONNETT - Vice-President  
PATTI THOM - Recording Secretary  
BOB SMITH - Treasurer  
ROB HEMING - Government Representative

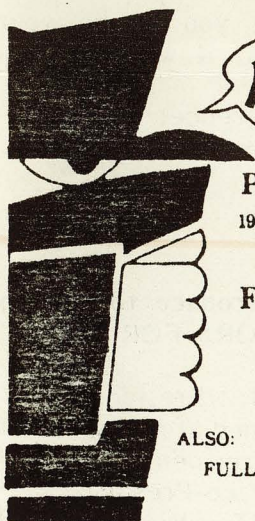
CATHERINE ROSS - Newsletter  
 JOANNE DWHYTIE - Aquatics  
 JOHN JORGENSON - Archives  
 DIANE BLAIR - Conference  
 MICHAEL GREENBLOOM - Day Camping  
 DON BOCKING - Education  
 JIM HOPKINS - Environmental Concerns  
 BRUCE WILSON - Membership  
 MICHAEL SOUTHAM - Public Relations  
 BARBARA GILBERT - Standards.

## EDITORIAL

Spring - that season in a camp director's life when we wish we had accomplished more in the Fall and Winter! It's a time when I seem to drown in details as I deal with all the nitty-gritty: ordering every last toothpick, tensor bandage and toilet roll, reviewing the standards booklet, registering for recertification courses or reminding the health inspector to return - the list is endless! All the work of camp with none of the fun. It is easy to forget the reason behind all the effort and planning - the campers.

But my memory was jogged the other evening when Robyn called. Mind you - Robyn's timing was lousy - 7:30 P.M. on a Saturday night as I was about to drain the vegetables prior to calling my guests to the dining room table. But I had to smile as I heard her cheery, ten-year old voice on the line, "Hi CR. I just wanted to call and chat about camp for a little while." Limp broccoli with hollandaise anyone?

CATHERINE ROSS,  
 Editor.



**PSST** ONTARIO  
 CAMPING  
 ASSOCIATION

### PRESENTS

1988 DIRECTORS' & SENIOR STAFF  
 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

### FEATURING:

OVER 50 WORKSHOPS  
 LEADERSHIP TRAINING  
 SITE MANAGEMENT  
 PROGRAM IDEAS

ALSO:

FULL DAY EXHIBIT HALL &  
 DEMONSTRATIONS

JANUARY 28-30, 1988 AT THE INN ON THE PARK  
 TORONTO

ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION SUITE 2 180 AVENUE ROAD TORONTO ONT M5M 2E1 (416) 521-1122



## CHAPEL TALK

During my years as a Camp Director, the weekly chapel services were very important to me. Firstly, it gave the children a chance to simmer down, enjoy a change of pace from the active program most were engaged in and spend a quieter time at a 'different' type of activity. Secondly, it brought to their attention that there were other important things in their world than baseball, canoeing, water skiing, etc. It brought to their notice that they should take time out from their active schedules to realize that God should be a part of their lives.

It also gave them an opportunity to see me, their Camp Director, in a roll other than the person who led singsongs, told them jokes, gave them details about their daily routines and made general camp announcements. Our Chapel was a small point, well secluded from the rest of the Camp, with water on 3 sides and surrounded by massive hemlock trees -- the only part of our camp property that had been spared the woodsman's axe, when Muskoka was logged over 100 years ago. I always like to think that God, with his all-seeing-eye, knew that someday the area would be populated by children and that they would need a beautiful, natural setting, unspoiled, so that they could communicate with Him. What a place to relax and pray to God. Here we were under the skies He created, canopied by the trees He created, overlooking the waters He created and with the chirping of His birds in the background. In this type of an atmosphere, how much closer to God could we be?

Camp Chapel Services are for the children. At our Camp, they were geared to children. They were planned and conducted by children--each week a different cabin group would help plan and would participate in services, with the guidance of a counsellor with some knowledge in that area. They were also short--seldom more than 30 minutes.

The children would always pick a 'theme' for their service--be it on "Friendship" "Brotherly Love" "Good Sportsmanship" "Sharing" "Understanding" and a myriad of other topics which prepares us to be better future Citizens of Canada.



## BETWEEN THE COVERS

When the children had concluded their portion of the service, I would then slowly rise from my place at the front of the 'congregation' and make my way up to the lectern. I would pay compliment to the group that participated in the service, following which I would read a short poem or reading that would carry a message. I also read the closing prayer and gave the benediction.

Upon the conclusion of the service, my wife (who was my co-director) and I would quietly make our way to the little foot bridge on which everyone had to cross to get to and from our Chapel. Here we would pause and as the children passed us by on their return to their cabins, we would shake the hand of each, wishing each other a "pleasant Sabbath".

This was the one time each week that I was certain to come face to face with every camper and staff member. It was the time that I would endeavour to call each child by his or her name or have them refresh my memory with their name. It usually took a couple of weeks until I would have gotten to know each child on sight--but I worked hard at it and usually succeeded.

Many children who, because of the neglect or carelessness of their family probably seldom entered a House of Worship from one end of the year to the other, were introduced to God and his creations through our weekly Chapel Services at Camp. If we influenced at least ONE child a summer to the wonders of God--it was reward for us alone.

I have a treasure of readings and poems that I have used at Chapel throughout the years, that I would be pleased to share with you. These are available through the OCA office.

BERT DANSON.

### HELP WANTED

Camp Ramah requires the following personnel.

1. Head of Waterfront.
2. Head of Swimming.
3. Head of Tripping.

Contact: Camp Ramah 801 Eglinton Avenue West, Ste. 406, Toronto, Ont., M5M 1E3, (416) 789-2193.

**THE PERFECT CAMP LIBRARY:** Do you have these books?

- Basic Camp Management - \$13.75
- Blue Lake & Rocky Shore - \$8.95
- Camp Counsellor's Handbook - \$9.95
- Camp Program Ideas - \$7.50
- Campfire Programs with Jack Pearse - \$7.00
- Cat's Cradle, Owl's Eyes: A Book of String Games - \$9.95
- Clouds on the Clothesline - \$8.25
- Come On..Let's Sing - \$4.50
- Cookout Manual - \$4.15
- Cooperative Sports & Games - \$13.50
- Counsellor In Training Inst. Manual - \$19.95
- Cow's Tails and Cobras - \$16.00
- Curriculum For Camp Directors - \$20.00
- Day Camp Program Book - \$19.45
- Emergency/Survival Handbook - \$4.95
- Fun Around the Parachute - \$11.65
- Handbook of Skits and Stunts - \$16.75
- High Above the Thundercloud - \$10.50
- Lead On...Counsellor - \$8.00
- (The) Nature Specialist - \$45.80
- New Games Book - \$10.95
- Nurse & the Health Program at Camp - \$7.50
- (The) One Minute Manager - \$11.25
- Raindrops Keep Falling on My Tent - \$6.10
- Sharing Nature with Children - \$10.65
- Silver Bullets - \$22.85
- Sing With Jack Pearse - \$6.50
- Singing Fun & Games - \$10.00
- Stories for the Campfire - \$12.25
- Thirty Indian Legends - \$8.95
- Tips & Tricks in Outdoor Ed. - \$13.70
- Wanapitei Tripper's Cookbook - \$6.95
- Where the Sidewalk Ends - \$17.95

**!!!!PURCHASE 5 OR MORE OF THESE BOOKS AND GET 10% OFF!!!**

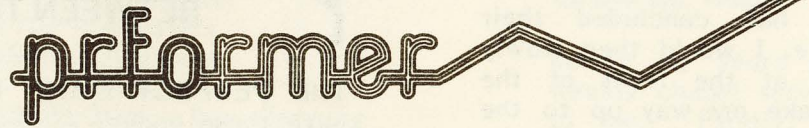
Offer expires June 5, 1987.

Books listed in "Between the Covers" are available from the Canadian Camping Association Bookstore.

Orders that are \$20.00 or less must be prepaid with \$2.00 added for shipping. Contact the C.C.A. office by mail or phone:

Canadian Camping Association  
1806 Avenue Road, Suite 2  
TORONTO, Ontario, M5M 3Z1  
(416) 781-4717

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE - C.C.A.



**ARE YOU CERTIFIED?**

If so, you are a leader! Currently one of 993 PROFESSIONAL recreationists in Ontario contribute to their profession, to their member organizations and to their employers and clientele by personal commitment to professional development. Everyone wins!

To the estimated 5,000 recreationists who are not certified, why not make the choice to join the ranks of the leaders, the professionals, the committed?

**YOU GAIN:**

- \* province-wide professional recognition
- \* recognition of a standard of competence
- \* on-going professional development
- \* portability in recreation and parks and fields

**ARE YOU AWARE:**

- \* that more and more employers are requiring certification or eligibility of certification for employment
- \* that you gain the combined efforts of ten member organizations of the Parks and Recreation Federation of Ontario on recreation issues

**CERTIFYING ORGANIZATIONS:**

- \* Association of Aquatic Personnel of Ontario
- \* Older Adult Centres' Association of Ontario
- \* Ontario Arenas Association
- \* Ontario Intramural Recreation Association
- \* Ontario Parks Association
- \* Ontario Recreation Society
- \* Society of Directors of Municipal Recreation of Ontario

**DON'T DELAY.** The Federation's certification program is making an important contribution to the development and quality of recreation personnel in Ontario. To find out more about the program, or about other Federation activities, contact your member organization or:

PARKS AND RECREATION FEDERATION OF ONTARIO  
1220 Sheppard Avenue East  
North York, Ontario M2K 2X1  
Telephone (416) 495-4088

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**PARKS AND RECREATION FEDERATION OF ONTARIO**

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

**WHAT'S HAPPENING**

**THE ONTARIO CAMP DIRECTORS' WORKSHOP 1987.**

Theme: "Changing Needs - Lasting Values"

Date: Thursday, June 4 - Sunday, June 7, 1987.

Place: The Ontario Camp Leadership Centre, Bark Lake, Ont.

Fee: \$70.00 which covers all meals, accommodation, resources.

The 1987 Camp Directors' Workshop focuses on the PROGRAM aspects of camp. Its purpose is to offer professional development for directors and senior staff of agency, church and other non profit camps. Board and committee members are encouraged to attend also.

For more information: Contact the OCA Office (416) 781-0525 or Ms. Kathleen Wilson, 704-810 Pinecrest Road, Ottawa, Ont., K2B 5W6.

We would like to welcome the following new Honorary Life Members.

- Bruno Morawetz
- Anne Prewitt-Eaton
- Dorothy Walter

**MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

It was during my 9 week stay in hospital over the entire Christmas & New Year Season that I realized that I would not be able to send out this year's cards. All of which makes me more grateful than I can say for the many greetings which arrived from so many friends in O.C.A. They helped time go by happily so my wish to everyone, everywhere is good health & good camping in the best of fine weather this summer & always. I have missed seeing everyone and shall get out to one or two events before this season's camp gates open. Cheers!

EANSWYTHE FLYNN.