



VOLUME 1

SEPTEMBER

1982

EDITOR: MARTIN HUNT

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Janet Adams on
Camp Gay Venture

Dear Camp Members;

Another summer of camping is over, I hope that yours was happy and successful. The weather in August certainly wasn't the best but thank goodness for those long hot July days.

And now it's back to our winter work - we have several things to look forward to - the Directors' Weekend, November 6 promises to be stimulating and fun and, of course the big event of this year - the Congress in January. The Congress Committee is working hard and everything is progressing very well - let's pull behind them and do everything we can to make this event a gigantic success. Since this Conference replaces our usual Directors' Conference in March we are hoping that the attendance will be fantastic - encourage your staff and colleagues to attend - the quality of the program promises to be excellent and a landmark in camping history - drawing together camping people from all over the world.

As we begin our O.C.A. season we are very fortunate to have a new Editor for the Ocasional News. Mr. Martin Hunt - we thank Martin for taking on this task and I know the newsletter will continue to be a good method of communicating camping news.

Good luck with your September work, and I hope that you have time for a well deserved holiday, thousands of campers know you deserve it.

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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Martin Hunt
Director - Sparrow Lake Camp

As you know the Ocasional Newsletter is the lifeline of this Association. The maintenance of this letter as a dynamic and vital medium depends upon you. I invite you to submit articles, briefs, and notes of information for consideration. If you are interested in continuing or beginning a column, please send in your proposal. And if you feel moved about something please consider "Letter to the Editor"! The deadline for publication will be the 23rd of each month.

HAPPY CREATING!!

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STAFF PREPARATION

Barry Lowes
Camp Timberlane

It is September, your feet still hurt and the last thing you want to think about is next summer and least of all staff preparation. Take half an hour now with your feet up to reflect, evaluate and plan staff preparation for next summer.

- With your head counsellor, unit heads or whoever supervises staff, evaluate staff preparation for this summer just past.
- In what areas were staff weak?
- Could this have been predicted?
- What could we have done DURING camp to alleviate this situation?
- With great hind sight what could we have done differently during pre-camp to overcome these problems?
- Do we need to emphasize skill development more?
- Do staff need more help in understanding camper behaviour?

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Staff Preparation cont'd.

- Can we achieve this best by a series of bulletins or newsletters during the winter.
 - Can we lend them books or lead them to articles worth reading over the winter.
 - Are there courses, seminars, Counsellor Conference, to which we can send staff to gain knowledge and skills.
 - What clues did we get from the evaluation forms filled out by staff at the end of the season. You could send out a questionnaire to staff when you send a letter of thanks, asking them for suggestions on how you could have helped them more during pre-camp and during the camp season.
 - What were our major problems at camp this summer -- in any area of camp?
 - Do any of these reflect upon staff preparation or lack of it?
 - Camp is like a theatre production. The summer is the time of the performance but its real success will depend upon the preparation and planning which is analogous to a rehearsal.
 - Staff are the most important single factor determining the success of any camp operation.
 - The key is sound preparation and strong supervision.
 - Don't wait for Spring, plan now!
- * A session on Staff Supervision will be conducted at the International Camping Congress in January '83

BETTER BUSINESS, BETTER CAMPING Al Goodman
Camp New Moon

This is the time of year most of us are closing down for the winter months. It is therefore very important to organize ourselves regarding storage and inventory. Storage is terribly important as many supplies can be ruined due to severe cold or dampness. Some items are perishable or will deteriorate regardless of care. It is vital that as many of these items as possible are returned to suppliers for credit, if possible.

It may be good business to take the trouble to store some items even though they require special care. If you are sure their value will increase substantially over the next year it may pay to store rather than return

Cont'd. next column

for credit. Basically, careful storage will reap dividends next spring. Careless storage can be terribly costly.

Accurate inventory is also a very important business too. It is vital in case of a serious loss due to theft, fire, or disaster of any sort as insurance companies require accurate information regarding losses. Above all, a well organized and indexed inventory is an excellent aid to setting up accurate orders of goods and supplies for the coming year.

An accurate, workable, inventory allows you to deal quickly and efficiently with salesmen and suppliers when order time arrives next spring. A simple count of last year's order added to last year's inventory, minus this year's inventory, and you have your requirements for next year. This can be done right now as the inventory is taken.

For example - "we had 3 cases of napkins on inventory last Fall. We ordered 20 cases this year. We have 6 cases left. Simple calculation tells us we should order about 17 cases next year". Setting up your inventory book with the correct indexing and appropriate columns and you're in business!

Careful ordering of supplies will save you money by tying up a minimum amount of cash, preventing waste due to deterioration during storage and saving storage space. The saving of time required to set up orders is also worth considering.

If you haven't already set up a tidy system of inventory and storage, why not do it now before the snow flies. Once its done the routine each year is a simple one. It's good business!!

CHAPEL TALK K. Grant Kerr
United Church Camps - Vice President O.C.A.

GOD -
Again I find myself talking to you.
I'm still not sure if you are really there.
But, some important things have happened
this summer, so here goes..

GOD -
There were times this summer when I felt the presence of a Spirit greater than my own. It was in the awe of a child, the sense of wonder,
The inner joy of surprise, the creative moment of imagination.
Were you a prt of all of that?

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Chapel Talk cont'd.

GOD -

There were also moments of frustration and disappointment.

The Staff person whom I fired, the camper who was sent home, the parent who was disappointed at our program. But, I really can't help everyone can I?

I need to know myself; I need to know others; I need to know my situation - then act.

I sense that's what You do, God.

Are you listening really?

GOD -

I've grown as a person, a caring person over the summer.

It was good to be a part of the camping community.

It was good to be part of other persons lives.

It was good to be part of rather than more than...

That's what You talk about isn't it...being part of life; part of a movement that cares for each person recognizing their uniqueness and their potential.

Yes, that's what You are about.

Do you really hear me?

God - really?

Do you?

THIS AND THAT

CONTROVERSIAL AREAS IN CAMPING OUT.

To pile wood or not to pile! Some campers believe that the piling of dry wood for the next camper is a thoughtful tradition that should be carried on. It is argued by people who favour this that it is a practice that helps to enhance the experience of all involved. First, when you come into a campsite and the firewood is ready, you can get a fire going immediately and then gather wood later at your leisure. Under very special circumstances this could even have safety implications. Besides this, you feel good when you leave because you have done something for someone you will never know.

Those who oppose the piling of wood for the next camper also have valid points. They point out that they come to wilderness for a wilderness experience and finding a pile of wood is akin to finding an outhouse on the site. The piling of wood encourages the use of fires rather than small stoves and the burning up of larger quantities of wood because it is so readily available.

Both groups have logical arguments and the final decision will be up to you. Maybe those who decide to leave wood for the next camper could leave small amounts next to the fire pit (which will be there if there is an established site) and some other wood scattered inconspicuously around the campsite. What do you think?

O.C.A., FALL WEEKEND

for

Directors and Senior Staff
November 5,6,7, 1982
Bolton Outdoor Education Centre

CAMP LEADERSHIP FOR THE NEXT DECADE

Workshop Leader: Dr. Mary Keyes
Director of School of Physical Education and Athletics,
MacMaster University
Fellow of the Canadian Society of Camp Directors

With her many years of varied experience in camping and education, Mary will be a valuable and relevant resource person for this workshop.

APPLICATION FORM ENCLOSED WITH CAMP MAILINGS ONLY

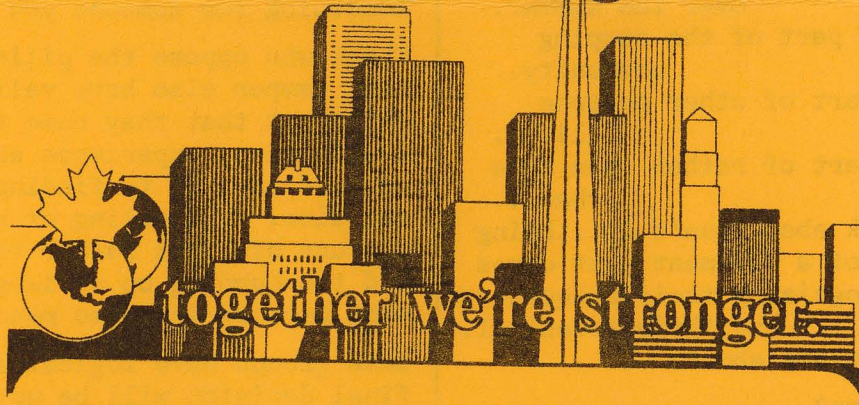
SINGLE DAY RATES - THURSDAY OR FRIDAY
(INCLUDES ONE BREAKFAST)

REGULAR	EARLY	STUDENT	EARLY
\$55.00	\$45.00	\$30.00	\$25.00
(Early Registration BEFORE Dec. 20/82)			

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

PETER MOFFAT - A new O.C.A. Member was the
FIRST to register for the
1983 International Congress!

Let's all head to Toronto for the C.C.A.'s 1st International Camping Congress



JANUARY 26-29, 1983 at the SHERATON CENTRE, TORONTO, ONT.

OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKERS: Sir Edmund Hillary, Dr. Alec Dickson and Dr. Leo Buscaglia.
80 informative, educational and entertaining sessions to choose from.

"Canada Welcomes You To Ontario" breakfast featuring music by: Sharon, Lois & Bram
Visit sights IN and AROUND Toronto...Enjoy Toronto's fabulous restaurants and 1st,
class entertainment...MAKE IT A HOLIDAY AND PLAN TO STAY AT THE SHERATON WHERE IT'S
HAPPENING!!

"AN EVENT TO BE SHARED BY ALL IN THE CAMPING MOVEMENT!!!"

canadian camping association  association des camps du canada

SUITE 2, 1806 AVENUE ROAD • TORONTO, ONTARIO M5M 3Z1 TELEPHONE: (416) 781-4717

NOTE: Congress programme and registration information will be sent to all O.C.A.
members in September.

FULL REGISTRATION FEE ONLY \$160. (\$125. if you book before DEC. 20, 1982)

HUSBAND - WIFE TEAM AVAILABLE

A husband and wife team are seeking a year
round position in Christian Camping. Jim
has a Masters in Theology and a Commerce
degree in hotel & food administration. He
has worked the past 2 years with G.B.
Catering as divisional coordinator. Donna
has had 3 yrs. at Pioneer Camp as section-
al director & ISCF staff worker. Resumes
can be obtained by writing - Jim Fraser
512 Millwood. Rd. Toronto M4S 1K5

AVAILABLE - DIRECTOR-PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Qualified in administrative and supervisory
skills, staff training skills, knowledge of
& experience in camping activities/programs.
Please contact. Anne Goodings, 294 Douglas
Drive, Toronto, Ont. M4W 2C2
(416) 922-5738