



VOLUME 7

MARCH

1983

EDITOR: Martin Hunt

"THE TIME TO RELAX IS WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE TIME FOR IT."

EDITORIAL

Busy? Things are really beginning to hop, aren't they!

This is an update just to keep you on top of "things". Nominations are in the process and elections are just around the corner (for your Board that is). Our Birthday Party on April 25 should be a grand affair and to commemorate our 50th there is a 36 page O.C.A. history book in the wings. Walter is "madly" working away on the Membership Drive - tell your friends! Watch for Eco-Skills in May or June and the Counsellor Conference on May 28 (thanks for all of you who volunteered your services). Up at camp, we made a decision, based on this year's rather balmy winter, to purchase snow removal equipment for the summer. It's gotta come sometime. And I'm off to the International Campference to see Beverley, Russ and the folks at Sault Ste. Marie, March 11 & 12. Keep your schedules dry!

M.G.H.

HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR CHOICE OF NOMINEE FOR THE COMING ELECTION?

You will find listed below those offices on your OCA Board now open for election - the term being two years, April 1, 1983 to April 1, 1985.

Beside the office we show, in brackets, the number of nominees received to date. If you have not as yet submitted your choice of candidate may we urge you to do so before the deadline date - March 15, 1983. Nomination forms are available at the OCA Office.

- President.....(1)
- One Vice President.....(1)
- Secretary.....(none)
- Aquatics Chairman.....(1)
- Environmental Concerns Chairman.....(1)
- Public Relations & Publicity
Chairman.....(1)
- Standards Chairman.....(none)

A LETTER FROM THE AMERICAN CAMPING ASSOCIATION

This letter was addressed to Mrs. Janet Adamson ---

"Dear Janet;

You and your colleagues in the Ontario Camping Association should feel a very rich sense of pride in the excellent job at the International Camping Congress. The major work of any Congress always falls on those closest to the host city, and your host province did an outstanding job.

An excellent model has been set for future International Camping Congresses. We will be hard pressed to match it in 1987."

Cordially,
Armand B. Ball
Executive Vice President

FROM OUR PAST RON PERRY-Honourary Member
Former Owner-Director Camp Kawabi
Author "The Canoe and You" and
"Canoe Trip Camping"

THE KAWABI STORY - I had always wanted a Summer Camp of my own. For thirty odd years I had been either a counsellor, a sectional director, a canoe instructor or a canoe trip director. The love of camping was in my system but I had been away from it for a very long time. I missed the cool bright days of early spring, before the new leaves have turned the trees green and the lake is clear and pure after the winter's ice. And I missed the noise and laughter of children in the summer and the reds and golds of the leaves when summer had gone. I missed the quiet beauty of the woods after winter's first fall of snow. Yes, I missed it all but I am now too old to be a counsellor again. I want a camp of my own!

And then! this notice appeared in a newspaper

FOR SALE: Summer Camp known as Kawabi in the Haliburton area. Buildings and equipment to accommodate 50 persons Reasonable price. Apply Niagara Falls N.Y. Y.M.C.A.

In 1955 I read this ad in the Globe and Mail. Was this my cherished Camp? I wasted no time finding out. A phone call to Niagara Falls and another to a friend with a request for a loan resulted in a cheque to cover the purchase. I was so eager I bought the property "Sight unseen"!

In the cold light of dawn I realized that I probably needed a psychologist, not a camp, but the deed was done and now I must go and see my purchase. In early spring of 1955, with a friend, we drove to Little Hawk Lake Landing, rented a decrepit and ancient outboard and a leaky boat, vintage unknown. After many stops and hesitations the boat rounded the point and there was revealed my recent purchase almost hidden from view.

My friend and I looked at one another not knowing whether to laugh or cry. Ahead of us was a shoreline crowded with tree stumps, rubbish and brush. Peeking through this jungle were several very old looking buildings. A skimpy dock extended several feet out from the tangled shore. We landed and fought our way through the maze to the cabins.

Cont'd. next column

The whole area was overgrown with sturdy young maples, looking as though they planned to be there forever. We inspected the cabins and lodge, crowded with beds, mattresses and worn out canoes. Every building, it seemed, had been headquarters for numerous mouse conferences. One encouraging feature was a beautiful stone fireplace in the lodge. I sat in front of the stonework outside and had my picture taken for posterity, a sad and dejected figure. This was in April....

Camp Kawabi 1955 opened its tent flaps in July with 19 campers and a dozen staff. We had a wonderful though hectic summer and the future looked bright. The enrolment doubled the next summer and continued to grow each year. Our swimming programme was top quality; sailing, canoeing and canoe trips were excellent. Everyone said our meals were very good. We had arrived!

I had my camp, made no money but enjoyed every season. Like all camp directors I found great satisfaction in knowing that our campers had happy summers, made lasting friendships and became part of the great company of those who lived and developed in Ontario's wonderful land of lakes, trees and beautiful sunsets.

Somewhat overloaded with other responsibilities, I had to part with my happy camp.... passing the torch to a young couple who have continued to operate Kawabi with great success and devotion.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: There will be a continuation of the Kawabi Story in this column in the April OCAasional News. H.E.S.)

* * * * *

JOKE OF THE MONTH Hal Hannaford
Director - Kilcoo Camp

Tired of corny, dull, uninteresting, unimaginative, weak, stupid, crude, unhumorous, dumb jokes?

Funny, so is everyone else around here so with all of that in mind how about a little thought provoker for this months joke?

QUESTION: How far can a dog run into the woods?

ANSWER: Halfway - from then on he is running out of the woods!!

Stay tuned for next months exciting joke.

* * * * *

DO TELL

JOHN JORGENSON - Camp Tawingo

TELL ME PLEASE!

WHAT CAN I DO THIS SPRING?

The sign posts of spring are all welcome ones: The arrival of the first robin, the longer days of warm sun and the appearance of the first wildflowers.

Wildflowers are perpetual sources of delight, for casual observers and for serious enthusiasts alike. All that is necessary are some basics of "wild flowerology".

Here are a few simple ideas with which to become wild flowerologists:

1. Develop a regular hiking route for your tour through your property. It does not need to be a long one but it should include a variety of terrain.
2. Hike frequently (every few days or so) to observe the new appearances, changes, and decline of various flower types.
3. Assemble a "calendar" and grid map of your property and compare it year to year for some fascinating flower trivia. Note any or all of first appearance - bloom - fruiting time - decline.
4. Note the differences in blooming times of identical plants in differing habitats (eg. south side vs. north side of the hill).
5. Arm yourself with a sketch pad and field guide. The field guide should be simple enough to use but detailed enough to be interesting.
6. If you are a camera bug you may enter seventh heaven with a small investment in a macro or close up lens to begin print or slide production.
7. Seed or plant harvest and transplant may produce dazzling affects closer to home if you can duplicate wildflower habitats and soil types.
8. The edible wild can be nutritious, interesting, and fun. There are two warnings, however: environmental consideration and those of personal health and safety. Both can be borne in mind making eating both educational and enjoyable.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS.

INTRODUCING WETLANDS

The Federation of Ontario Naturalists has put together an educational and activity-oriented resource on Wetlands for leaders of youth groups. Wetlands (Marshes, Swamps, Fens, and Bogs) are a valuable resource for many reasons:

1. they provide a vital habitat for hundreds of plants and animals, some of which are on the endangered species list.
2. they act as a natural filter to maintain downstream water quality
3. their ability to store water can reduce the frequency and severity of flooding as well as drought
4. they provide recreation and sport such as canoeing, fishing, hunting, hiking, birdwatching
5. they provide a source of income to many natives and other Canadians through trapping, fishing harvesting of wild rice, cranberries etc.
6. they are aesthetically important.

Despite these values, wetlands are being destroyed at a rate of 1-2% per year in Ontario. Eighty percent of the original southern Ontario wetlands are now farmland, harbours, roads and waste disposal areas.

The package comes in a duotang folder and includes:

- 8 brochures - Birds of Southern Ontario wetlands; How to Build a Marsh; Bird House Plans; Bird Menu (what to feed which birds); Guide to writing letters to authorities; Backyard Habitat; Wildlife Quiz for your Wetland; Wetland Preservation: Your Responsibility
- Ontario Naturalist magazine special issue; Why Wetlands
- doodle poster 25"X38" on wetland life
- F.O.N. 50th anniversary poster
- wetland button
- guide to wetland hikes, animal tracking
- games, crafts
- care and feeding of your pet (turtle, frog, toad, salamander, etc.)
- guide to building a terrarium, aquarium, cage

cont'd. next page



YEARS: 1933-1983
"Still Growing... TOGETHER!"

1983 COUNSELLOR CONFERENCE
Ontario Camping Association

WETLANDS cont'd.

- how to attract birds in the winter
- drama activities
- ideas for community involvement concerning wetlands.

The Federation of Ontario Naturalists is a non-profit organization dedicated to conservation. For this reason we are distributing this package at a price of \$5.00 to cover our expenses only. For more information, please contact: PAMELA HICKMAN, Federation of Ontario Naturalists, 355 Lesmill Rd., Don Mills, Ontario M3B 2W8

UNITED NATIONS ADOPTS WORLD CHARTER FOR NATURE

By Resolution of October 28, 1982, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the "World Charter for Nature" by a vote of 111 for, 1 against and 18 abstentions.

This decision marks the culmination of a 7-year effort by IUCA (the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) based in Gland/Switzerland to gain world acceptance to a code of conduct for managing nature and natural resources.

The World Charter for Nature now adopted lays down universal principle of conservation by which all human conduct affecting nature is to be guided and judged. It thus provides an important complement to the 1980 World Conservation Strategy, also developed by IUCN with the advice, cooperation and financial assistance of UNEP and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). The functions and res-

Cont'd. next column

possibilities of states, corporations and individuals are stated and shall be reflected in the law and practice of each State.

Ultimately, the Charter warns, "failure to conserve natural systems leads to the breakdown of the economic, social and political framework of civilization".

The Director General of IUCN, Dr. Lee M. Talbot, welcomed the official adoption of the Charter which, he said, "finally raises the international recognition of environmental principles to the same level as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It reflects a global consensus on the responsibility of Man to maintain, for his own survival, the essential ecological processes and life support system of our Planet."

WHAT'S HAPPENING

NOTICE TO ALL READERS

PLAN EARLY! PLAN NOW!
MARK THESE DATES IN YOUR CALENDAR!
NOTIFY YOUR STAFF!

JUNE 9 - 12

OCA will again be conducting its much acclaimed Spring Canoe School.

A difference in 1983 - the school is sanctioned to offer (in addition to OCA Certificate of Attendance) Red Cross Small Craft Safety Instructor (canoe), ORCA Awards and RLSS Boat Rescue. Location and fees to be announced later - book your spaces now - call OCA for application forms.

WHAT'S HAPPENING cont'd.

THE CAMP NURSE

"The Camp Nurse", a one day conference to be held Saturday, May 14, 1983. MARK IT ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW! More details to follow in the April Newsletter.

CAMP KITCHEN MANAGEMENT

Conducted by JANE FORBES

To be held at University of Guelph, April 30, and May 1, 1983.

Emphasis will be placed on the concept - 'More with Less'; that is, maximizing the use of limited resources of time, money and equipment available to an individual camp.

CONTENT: Menu Design; Purchasing; Safety and Sanitation; Off Site Cooking; Composting and Recycling; Resources.

Jane Forbes, a graduate of the University of Guelph in Hotel and Food Administration, was a camp cook for one of the Kitchener-Waterloo Y camps, Camp Ki-Wa-Y. Presently she is teaching at Seneca College.

The workshop fee of \$68.00 includes written materials, four meals and one night double accommodation. ENROLLMENT WILL BE LIMITED.

For information write: Ms. Jane Forbes, 19 Carr Street, Apt. 313, Toronto, Ontario M5T 2V8

FROM GEORGIAN COLLEGE

Georgian College offers training weekends in May and June at Project D.A.R.E. which are designed for everyone working with young people in Outdoor Adventure Programmes. At a recent American Camping Association National Convention, Project D.A.R.E. received the Ellis Award for program excellence. "For providing sensitive and thoughtful leadership which resulted in enrichment of human growth through the outdoor experience."

For more information write:

Georgian College, 50 Seguin Street, Parry Sound, Ontario P2A 1B4 (705) 746-9222

FROM THE BOOK SHELF

Marilee Tisdall

Director-Camp Queen Elizabeth, London YM/YW

Jocelyn Palm's book Legacy to a Camper recently published by the Canadian Camping Association is full of humour and warmth. The author paints a realistic picture of Mary S. Edgar, a person admired and respected by her peers, staff and campers.

Mary S. Edgar was one of the pioneers in the Canadian Camping movement, a fact which Jocelyn Palm makes known to her readers. Mary Edgar was also author of numerous published works. Jocelyn took advantage of this and included various poems and verses in her text. Ideas of successful programs Mary Edgar incorporated into her summer camp come alive as the reader envisions being a part of the Glen Bernard Indian Council Ring. Jocelyn devotes an entire chapter to themes applicable to quiet times, campfires and chapel services. Legacy to a Camper provides light reading and when finished the book the reader has gained insight into the personality of Mary S. Edgar, a person who "indeed left a wonderful legacy".

THIS AND THAT

WE WELCOME TO O.C.A. THE FOLLOWING NEW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS.

William Keen David Newham
Diana Tisdall (Mrs.)

INTERNATIONAL CAMP COUNSELLOR PROGRAM

NEWS RELEASE - Information is now available on how day and resident camps can have a counsellor from Sweden, Nigeria, or Hong Kong on staff this summer. The International Camp Counsellor Program of the YMCA has well-screened applications of highly qualified counsellors from all over the world. A wide range of programmatic skills are available. The costs are approximately the same as the salary that most camps would pay for a local counsellor with similar skills and experience.

To receive counsellor dossiers call or write International Camp Counsellor Program, 225 Park Ave., South, Rm. 730, New York, N.Y. 10003, (212) 460-5804

THIS AND THAT cont'd.

ONTARIO RECREATIONAL CANOEING AFFILIATION

The Ontario Recreational Canoeing Affiliation (ORCA) is the affiliation of Canoe Ontario dedicated to promote the development of safe, competent, and knowledgeable recreational canoeists.

The ORCA promotes programs of instruction for Lake Water paddlers, Moving Water paddlers and Canoe Trippers. From beginner to expert instructor ORCA has set canoeing standards which are now provincially recognized by many clubs, camps, schools and other organizations (including O.C.A.)

In addition to providing programs of instruction for recreational open canoeists, each year ORCA accredits new organizations to use its logical progressions of lessons to certify many new canoeists as ORCA quality paddlers. Whether it be Level I or II Basic canoeing or Level I, II or III (instructor) in Lake Water, Moving Water or Canoe Tripping, many people are now paddling more safely, more competently, and more knowledgeably.

Cont'd. next column

For camps to be accredited under the ORCA program they must have an ORCA qualified instructor with a current ORCA membership.

Accreditation forms and ORCA membership information and brochures are available by writing to Canoe Ontario, 1220 Sheppard Ave., East, Willowdale, M2K 2X1. (416) 495-4180

* * * * *

WANTED

Music Program Specialist for Day Camp operated by North York Parks & Rec'n. Dept. Applicants must be able to play guitar, lead singsongs, be resource for staff, communicate well and be enthusiastic. Salary range: \$145-\$165 per week. Contact: Larry Himel, (416) 224-6256

* * * * *

FOR SALE

International Camping Congress vinyl binders with lined pad included - \$2.00.

Please phone ahead to C.C.A. office at - (416) 781-4717 to arrange pick up.

These are ideal for precamp, special days, prizes.

* * * * *

DIRECTORS - MAKE USE OF THE COUNSELLOR PLACEMENT SERVICE.

Many Camp Directors have noted that students are looking very hard this season at finding jobs in camps for the summer.

It would help both Directors and Students if they were aware of and used the Counsellor Placement Service.

For students who have already called several directors and been politely told that there are no staff openings at those camps, it often comes as a surprise to hear that the O.C.A. offers a Counsellor Placement Service. By using the placement service a student can get his/her name circulated to all Camp Directors. It saves a lot of frustrating phone calls for students and directors alike.

Please help them out - help yourself out! If you don't have positions for students calling you, tell them about the Placement Service. The system will work if we all use it.

L.G.

ATTENTION

NEW DIRECTORS and ASSISTANT DIRECTORS

THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE IS PROVIDING ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO LEARN FROM AN EXPERIENCED AND KNOWLEDGEABLE CAMP DIRECTOR IN AN INFORMAL SETTING WHERE ALL YOUR QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS CAN BE ANSWERED.

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 1983

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

TOPIC: CAMPER BEHAVIOUR PROBLEMS AND DISCIPLINE

Each child is unique and a constant challenge.
Come and share your problems and solutions.

LEADER: BARRY LOWES, Camp Timberlane

LOCATION: 15 Wychwood Park
Toronto, Ontario
(416) 651-5198

R.S.V.P.

O.C.A.'s 50TH ANNIVERSARY
BIRTHDAY PARTY!!!

MONDAY, APRIL 25, 1983

6:30 P.M.

COLUMBUS CENTRE 901 LAWRENCE AVE., W.
at Dufferin St.- ample parking available

PROGRAMME:

6:30 P.M. Annual Meeting

7:45 P.M. Reception
hors d'oeuvres and cash bar

8:45 P.M. A fun-filled programme followed by
birthday cake and coffee

COST: \$13.00 per person

Each guest will receive a memento of
this historical occasion.

Join us on this special evening to -
celebrate and reminisce with -
CAMPING FRIENDS BOTH OLD & NEW!!

*** PLEASE REPLY BY APRIL 11, 1983 ***

DETACH AND MAIL WITH YOUR CHEQUE TO:

ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION
1806 Avenue Road, Suite 2
Toronto, Ontario M5M 3Z1

I (WE) will be attending the 50th Anniversary Party and Annual Meeting

NAME (s)

ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

Cheque for \$(\$13.00 per person) enclosed - payable to Ontario Camping
Association.

