



Vol. 1982 Issue 3

MARCH 1982

Editors: Ron & Mickey Johnstone

THE ASSOCIATION WILL BE CELEBRATING ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY
IN 1983

THERE WILL BE SPECIAL EVENTS ALL YEAR LONG, WHY NOT PLAN
A SPECIAL EVENT FOR YOUR CAMP. IT ALL STARTS WITH THE
1983 INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS TO BE HELD IN JANUARY.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*Janet Adamson
Camp Gay Venture*

After one of the coldest, snowiest winters in years, what fun it will be to bask in the anticipation of Summer.

HEBERTISM, FRENCH CANADIAN LEGENDS, AROUND THE CAMPFIRE, A WATERFRONT SMORGASBORD, WILDERNESS MEDICINE AND NEW GAMES.

Spring is -

almost here and our "annual rite of Spring", the O.C.A. Directors' Conference, is about to start.

Camping is alive and well in Ontario, and the Directors' Conference will be a celebration of that fact.

The Board of O.C.A. and the Conference Committee looks forward to seeing you at the Skyline Hotel on March 11.

Happy Conferencing!!

FROM THE BOOKSHELF

Helen Stewart

Two excellent books have been donated to our O.C.A. Library...

"Canoe Camping" and Canoeing Wilderness Waters" by B. Heberton Evans, III

Warmest thanks to Fred Reimers, Camp Keewaydin for his very thoughtful and rich contribution to the library.

PREPARING STAFF

Ron Johnstone - Consultant

The Risk Factor in Outdoor Pursuits:

...The medium of wilderness experience has gained acceptance as a very potent tool in human development.

At the same time, however, there has been a drastic rise in the number of accidents causing serious injury or death. A major reason for the increase in these accidents is that the number of inexperienced wilderness users has risen at a much faster rate than has the proportion of knowledgeable wilderness leaders. Lacking sufficient leadership, members of this ground swell of enthusiastic novices have stumbled headlong into hazardous situations of which they were completely unaware. Clearly, burgeoning interest in wilderness adventure has not been matched by a concomitant awareness of the risks involved.

Although there are many guidelines that can be followed to help reduce the risk factor, there are also a host of variables and unique situations that make the preparation of a "recipe book" for leaders ludicrous. As Eric Langmuir stated, "To say that we can establish a balance between challenge and safety is wishful thinking. The best we can hope for is an uneasy truce." Indeed few of us would like to eliminate all the variables.

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ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION

COUNSELLOR CONFERENCE MAY 8, 1982

Seneca College

Please visit the Counsellor Conference Information Booth at the Skyline Hotel, March 11 - 13, to pick up programs and Registration Forms.

The 1982 Counsellor Conference Committee

PREPARING STAFF cont'd.

That is what gives the wilderness some of its thrill, its appeal, its stimulating effect on group dynamics. But educators(Camp Directors) should stop and ask themselves, "In my efforts to challenge students (campers), how far should I go?"

Teachers may be involved as private citizens in recreation such as rock climbing, ski mountaineering, or white water canoeing where they are exposed to real danger. The ever-increasing graduates in outdoor pursuits are trained in assessing the objective dangers that are related to what the public considers to be high risk sports. However, there is a world of difference in volunteering to engage in activities involving real danger as a private individual, and organizing school (Camp) programs which go beyond apparent danger.

*These are excerpts from an article by Mike Budd of the Calgary Alberta School system, it is an excellent article and was published in its entirety in "Outdoor Pursuits", published by the University of Calgary.

COAST TO COAST

Marjorie Booth
CCA Executive Director

Recently I visited Vancouver and met with several members of the B.C.C.A. Executive. President Lorne Bowering and CCA/ACC Board Representative, Rick Ryan, co-ordinated the meeting. Their major project for now is the organization of a Counsellor Training event in early April. The Association is taking advantage of a new CCA/ACC Leadership Development Program project to pay for travel

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COAST TO COAST cont'd.

and accommodation for Ken Low, (Calgary Board of Education) to provide the major leadership. Workshop Planner, Dave Adair (former staff at Camp Tawingo) is working hard to ensure the success of this event.

Immediately following my visit to B.C., the Alberta Annual Directors' Conference took place in Red Deer. Several ACA members participated at this event with a wide variety of topics. Several day-long workshops were scheduled for the delegates to review skills and examine how these programs might be offered in their camps. Gary Gibson, gave the "Don Smith Address" at the banquet. (Don Smith was a fine camping leader in Alberta and was President of the CCA/ACC in 1963/65). In all, almost one hundred delegates "Shared in the Spirit of Camping" as the ACA Conference theme stated.

It's always enjoyable to renew friendships and make new ones. I know that the CCA/ACC members attending the OCA Conference from the rest of Canada will enjoy the same warm welcome. Take time to meet these folks - they're terrific!

NEWS FROM THE CONSERVATION COUNCIL

Those Camps who trip in the Temagami area should be writing to their MPP supporting the concept of the Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Park. It is in danger of being set aside and is an important issue for tripping programs. Dr. Bruce Hodgins, Camp Wanapeiti and John Marsden our Chairman of Environmental Concerns Committee have all the details. Get in touch and write...don't wait until it is too late!!

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CHARLES F. PLEWMAN

*Wilbur K. Howard - Former Moderator
United Church of Canada*

Most of us knew him as Charlie.

When you think of Charlie you think of busy, active words such as dynamic, drive, steam, sparks, fire, - Let's go!

He was Mr. Enthusiasm under high pressure. It didn't matter whether he was at a Board Meeting or on a baseball diamond.

He stirred up a couple of generations of youth and their leaders and his influence goes marching on. Charlie's philosophy of life might be summed up by the scripture: Jesus said, "I am come that you might have life....in all its fulness".

Charlie was a devoted family man - a loving husband and a good father and proud of his roots.

He was part of that ferment which re-awakened people to lay power in the Church. He was one of the pioneers and humble heroes of youth work. His leadership was reflected in C.S.E.T. (Tuxis, Trail Rangers, Boys' Parliament).

Charlie was a leader of leaders and was much in demand at leadership camps and conferences.

His dynamic personality made an impact in the field of Canadian camping as an administrator, a camp director and as the owner of his private camp, Kilcoo. As a member and officer of the Ontario Camping Association he worked hard to raise camp standards of health, safety and program.

He cared about youth and many were inspired by leadership and personal concern.

Charlie's family and his many friends will go on remembering him as the enthusiastic one who strived after and helped others strive after the fulness of life.

CHAPEL TALK

At Camp, we are not only teaching activities ...we are teaching values, and attitudes. (And perhaps these are even more significant than the activities!).

Every Counsellor...every Director...every staff member should be endeavouring to help

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our campers have a stronger belief in themselves...which in turn will help them believe more strongly in others.

Example: During the 1976 Olympics, a Phys. Ed. teacher from Calgary had two teen-age children who were competing in the swimming events. The Father, Don Smith, was dying of cancer...but he had a strong faith and a deep belief in his children. A newspaper article said this about him; "He is a special man, and when you've said that about Don Smith, you can say nothing more...his specialness shows most obviously in his courage... in the dignity he brings to a disease that has none. He is special, and in ways that none of us understand until we are faced with the knowledge that he has accepted.

"But because he is this way, the fineness shines best in his children...the two sturdy kids who will swim for Canada in the Olympics.

"There are pressures...the pressure of being a Canadian, and an amateur athlete. There is pressure of winning... and then there is the fear and pressure that Becky and Graham have known for a few months...since they found out that Pop was very sick. Now when they swim, it is with a stone in the gut...the picture of that now thin face flashing in their head before they can grind it out. And at the trials in Etobicoke they did just that... they swam their hearts out...for Pop, their special person...because they dared not let him down.

"A Man's kids are his greatest test...the only lasting and important thing in this world... and these particular kids are doing right by their Father. They believe in him...He believes in them. He (against Doctor's orders) came to Toronto, and by the side of the pool this thin, pale guy watched those kids. He was being a Dad...and in this case, that's the very nicest thing you can say...especially in light of the fact that during those trials, Becky and Graham both broke Canadian records. Don knew they'd try their hardest ...and believed in them, and that's really all that counts."

Don loved swimming...Don loved his family ...Don loved Camping. At one time Don was the President of the Canadian Camping Association.

FROM OUR PAST

Dr. Bruno Morawetz
Director - Camp Ponacka

L.K. Bergey - Founder of Camp Ponacka in 1932 -

It is interesting to note that some of the early founders of Ontario camps were American teachers. On lake Baptiste near Bancroft in the late 1920's a camp was established for teenage boys, known as "The Rangers". The founder of the camp, Mr. Snodgrass, operated a scouting-type camp for teenage boys and he described the program in great detail stressing the traditional American virtues of clean living, thrift and self-discipline.

Visiting him was a young Physical Education teacher from Havertown, Pennsylvania, Lester K. Bergey. Mr. Bergey liked the Baptiste Lake area so much that he scouted around for a point of land on which he could establish his own camp and in 1932 he purchased a small piece of land jutting into Lake Baptiste and started to build there, three main buildings an ice house and two outhouses. One building was the cookery, one building was the cabin of his associate, Mr. Rice, and the main building housed the boys in an attic and the downstairs was used as office and for program.

For the eight years that Mr. Bergey ran the camp, he drove his ten high school students in two station wagons from Havertown to the village of Baptiste and then crossing by boat to the site of the camp, which he named Ponacka. The Royal Ontario Museum gave him that name as the translation in the Algonquin tongue of the English "Still Waters".

When gasoline became rationed during the second World War, and after Mr. Bergey became married and had a son, the idea of coaching in the winter and running a camp in summer no longer appealed to him. Consequently he and his friends used the site as a summer retreat and Camp Ponacka ceased to be a camp for boys until it was purchased by the present owner in 1946 and started to operate with twelve boys in 1947.

After selling the camp, Mr. Bergey retired to a cottage on Lake Baptiste which he later sold. He now is in his middle 80's, still going strong and still living in Havertown. He and his wife Esther are proud of their son and grandson who take the loneliness out of their old age.

THOUGHT FOR FOOD

Philomena Lowes
Co-Director - Camp Timberlane

YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR - Having used a food management service for 14 years in our camp kitchen, I would make the following comments.

It is important to know why you want to have the services of a catering or food service company. If it's to save money, forget it. If it's to serve better food, you get what you are willing to pay. The amount of food and quality will be up to you and what you are willing to spend.

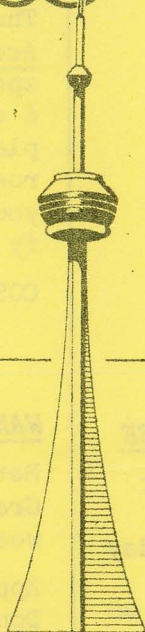
My reasons for using a food service company are perhaps selfish ones. I do not want the headaches of having to hire a kitchen staff with the fear that perhaps the chef will not work out and then where do I find a replacement in the middle of the summer. Nor do I want the pressures of dealing with suppliers, shopping for best buys, worrying about the deliveries, etc. These management services must be paid for in addition to the cost of raw food and kitchen staff wages. These factors must be weighed and only you can determine whether the benefits are worth the price.

Your initial arrangements with any company must be clearly understood and stated in writing. Get a contract. Such things as: Will they change the chef if you are unhappy? Will camp policies apply to the kitchen staff? What happens if they don't? I find it important to control menu planning, to be able to make changes, to add or delete, to keep a daily contact with the chef. Keep in mind that any changes may change the cost. No changes are made in the menu without my knowledge. This must be made clear in the beginning. Have you allowed for special meals or functions such as banquets, special staff snacks, etc.

On the other hand do you have adequate living accommodations for the kitchen staff? What about recreation facilities? Do they know the rules and regulations in using the camp facilities? We require all kitchen staff to take the camp swim test before allowing use of waterfront activities. Remember they, too, are human beings who need recreational outlets when not at work. They should be treated as any other staff member. We find a happier relationship when the kitchen staff are invited to join camp staff functions.

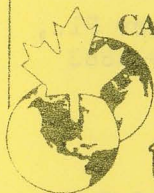
Welcome to Toronto

for our first international camping congress



Share your camping skills and experience with international colleagues in an exciting international setting • **January 26 to 29, 1983**, at the Sheraton Centre, Toronto • Full registration fee only \$160 (\$125 if you book before Dec.20,1982) • For full details, contact

CANADIAN CAMPING ASSOCIATION
Suite 2, 1806 Avenue Road, Toronto,
Ontario M5M 3Z1 Telephone (416) 781-4717



together we're stronger.

Planning for the Congress is moving along very nicely. At this point in time we need you to spread the word around to all the camping community in Ontario and anywhere else in the world. We, the O.C.A., are hosting this International Camping Congress and as they say across Lake Ontario: it's time for us to be "Talking Proud"!! A brochure and additional information about the Congress should be available through the Canadian Camping Association's Office and you may call during regular office hours at.

(416) 781-4717

Thank you very much.

Henri Audet
Chairman - Advertising & Promotion Committee

GORP

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE PRESENTS:

ECO-SKILLS '82: A workshop for Leaders of Nature and Environment Programs at your Camp.

When: May 14, 8 p.m. to May, 15, 8 p.m. 1982

Where; Hockley Valley Camp & Outdoor Centre

What: Program highlights will be: site management, organic fun, personal values and environmental issues, nite activities, teaching tips and resources.

How: You can register at the Annual OCA Directors' Conference or directly with the OCA office.

Cost: \$15.00 per person (subsidized by the O.C.A.).

Catherine Fletcher at (416) 469-1910 has more details.

COLD WATER SAFETY

The RLSS book on their "Cold Water Symposium" held in Toronto in 1976 is a must for anyone who is taking children camping during the Spring. It is available from the RLSS in Toronto. Hypothermia is a very real danger. The first crisis is the very real shock when cold water hits the warm skin. This can cause hyperventilation, cardiac arrest and difficulty in muscle movement. Death can be immediate

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If the camper survives this shock, he can survive for one hour in 0 degree cold water, for six hours in 15 degree water and indefinitely in 20 degree water. Because of 85% loss in muscle strength, some kind of floatation is even more important in cold water than in warm water.

Prevention is still the most important aspect of camping or tripping during the cold water period...be knowledgeable, the RLSS has the information. BE PREPARED!!

FROM THE MANITOBA CAMPING SCENE:

"If your feet are cold, put on your hat"... as a general rule, the body gives off heat in the following manner...

- ...40% from the head and neck
- ...30% from body core and legs
- ...20% from hands and wrists
- ...10% from the feet

it is important to keep the body temperature in balance, this is the time of year(Ontario Spring) when we can make many very uncomfortable mistakes in how we dress for the changing season. Make sure that your Spring campers understand how to stay warm and enjoy the beautiful Spring out-of-doors experiences.

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

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| John Carruthers | Gordon Moon |
| Tim Ernst | Sally Moore |
| Jane Gibson | Andy Muir |
| Sheila Greason | Wally Oakes |
| Aileen Hadden | Yvonne Philpott |
| Pat Haraldsen | Beverley Robinson |
| Bruce Lacey | Catherine Shand |
| Vincent Lawrence | Michael Silverman |
| David Mack | Joan Smith (Mrs.) |
| Susan McDiarmid | Richard Warnholtz |

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ONTARIO WILDERNESS LEADERS' SCHOOL COMMITTEE

is inviting tender for a site/camp to host the 1982 Wilderness Leaders' School This 6-day O.C.A. Course will be held from Sunday June 13 (evening) until Friday, June 18, (evening), and will include approximately 40 participants. Please include the following information on your application:

- a) Accommodation - type/numbers
 - 3 meeting areas
- b) Meals
 - cook available?
 - types/snacks?
 - out-trip foods
- c) Wilderness Area - Describe briefly
- d) Out-trip equipment - tents
 - cook sets/pots
 - utensils
- e) Support Staff on site
- f) cost

We thank you for your application. Please send by March 10, 1982 to: Wendy Grater c/o Camp Kandalore, R.R. #2, Minden, Ont. KOM 2K0.

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WORKSHOP

The Ontario Camp Directors' Workshop (Bark Lake) June 3 - 6, 1982.

THEME: The focus of this year's workshop is Leadership. People who will find this workshop interesting are Directors, Senior Staff, Board and Committee Members of Agency, Church and Organizational Camps.

LOCATION: Ontario Camp Leadership Centre (Bark Lake) near Irondale Ontario.

REGISTRATION & INFORMATION from - Kathleen Wilson, 6 - 2570 South Vale Cres., Ottawa, Ont. K1B 5B6 (613) 523-9115.

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O.C.A. ROAD & BUILDING SIGNS

The O.C.A. has available for purchase by Accredited Members of the Association special Road & Building signs made on strong & durable white plastic. The sign may be placed on your Camp's front gates, on Camp road signs, or on buildings, to advertise your accreditation in O.C.A. and to identify you as operating a children's camp.

COST PER SIGN: \$24.95 (includes tax & cost of mailing)

* * * * *

WANTED: CARETAKER-HANDYMAN

Mature, self-starter for CGIT Camp near Gravenhurst for July, August and some Spring weekends. Remuneration negotiable.

Apply to: Mrs. Elda Telford, 5 Malabar Pl., Don Mills, Ont. M3B 1A4. (416) 444-0883

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PROGRAM DIRECTOR WANTED:

Camp of 168 girls between the ages of 7-13. A tremendous opportunity for a person with the appropriate experience. Interested persons may inquire at -

Bolton Camp, 22 Wellesley St., E., Toronto Ont. M4Y 1G3. (416) 922-3126

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OPENINGS

Girl Guide Camp near Goderich requires the following summer staff: Director, Nurse, Waterfront Director & Assistants, General Camp Assistants. Please contact: Box 651, Port Elgin, Ont. NOH 2C0

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SURPLUS EQUIPMENT SALE

Stainless steel Hobart LM dishwasher, complete with racks and instruction manual. Ideal for up to 150 persons.

Single phase 230 volt heater. In good working order. \$500.00 firm. Located at Dorset. Tel: Toronto (416) 690-2000

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HOW ABOUT THAT!!

Ability is useless unless it is used!

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