



JANUARY 1991

EDITOR: JANET ADAMSON

"Words can sometimes, in moments in grace, attain the quality of deeds." - Elie Wiesel

#### COLE'S NOTE

##### What Are Your Concerns - Let's Hear From You

A little while ago, I received a letter from an OCA Camp Director who voiced a number of concerns he felt OCA was not addressing. He touched on several areas, some of which your Board, Executive and Advisory Council have been working on, and other areas which we haven't as yet come to. At one of our Advisory Council meetings back in the fall, we spent a good deal of time trying to come to grips with what would be the important issues for OCA over the next five years or so, and where your organization should be at the end of that time. There were some items which received consensus and there were some differences. Hopefully all of you will be coming to the OCA Conference at the end of this month. I would like to hear the issues that you, the membership, would like addressed over the next few years. Put them

in a letter to the Board; come and talk to us about it; let's see if we can get some kind of consensus from you about the issues you want us to deal with. I have my own thoughts which I will be voicing at the Annual Meeting, but we need everybody's input if we are to know what's on your minds. Sometimes it's easy for the Executive, Board and Advisory Council to kind of cruise along doing everything the same way, even though we have made every effort to try and keep current. So it is important for you as members to keep us on our toes and keep throwing issues at us; this way we can respond to your needs. Let's see a huge turnout at the January Conference and let us know what's on your mind.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the end of the month!

TED COLE  
President

#### CROCODILES AND PIRANHA - OR, HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER HOLIDAY

This summer after touring 14 camps in Alberta as the CCA/ACC PARC Director in the first two weeks of July, I repacked my backpack with more bottles of Skin-So-Soft, sunscreen SPF 29 and anti-malarial tablets and boarded a plane to Guyana, South America.

No, PARC was not going international but rather I had a 3½ month leave of absence from work to participate in Youth Challenge International's (YCI) Project Guyana as a Volunteer Staff Leader. Without exaggeration, it was one of the most rewarding, challenging experiences of my life to date. Let me give you a glimpse of why.

You're in a remote Amerindian village screening for cataracts. Esau Henry, an 11 year old Arawak boy, is next in line. He has better than 20/20 vision in one eye, but in the other,

the pupil is white and he can't even make out a hand waving six inches from his face. At age 7, a woodchip had flown into his eye leaving him with a traumatic cataract in the course of a few hours and no sight in that eye. You give him an appointment to see a Canadian ophthalmologist in a town upstream. Three weeks later, following a simple 25-minute operation in which you assist as scrub nurse, he tugs on his mother's sleeve and exclaims that he can see again from that eye.

You're lying in a hammock beneath a mosquito net and groundsheet in the rainforest. As first light arrives, the gurgling of nearby rapids is drowned out by the roar of the waking howler monkeys. Suddenly, the roar stops as abruptly as it had begun. Today, you'll be hiking up Kaieteur Falls which stand three times higher than Niagara!

Twenty-five glum faces are staring at you from the back of a classroom in a school which is only half standing after a fire devastated it last year. Your project leader has just explained to them that the teacher was incorrect in saying that YCI has promised to rebuild their school. "YCI does not build schools for people. YCI helps people to rebuild their schools for themselves. The community must buy into the idea. The community must find sponsors. The community must come out in force to provide labour. The community must make a commitment to maintain the renovated

school after the project ends. YCI, for its part, will also seek sponsors. And most importantly, what it will offer is the energy and enthusiasm of twelve unskilled, international youth who have spent months fundraising \$3000 so that they can come and work for free for three months in Guyana. The formula works. The proof is next door at the neighbouring Kawall school where new toilets, new stairs and fresh paint speak of success."

That's how I spent my summer. For more information on participant (17 to 25) or staff (over 25) positions, contact YCI at (416) 971-9846. And the best part is that you don't even need to miss camp if you volunteer for an off-season project.

S. KATE MOORE  
CCA/ACC PARC Director  
Youth Challenge  
International Volunteer  
Staff

#### O C A O F F I C E N E W S

**Note to all members:** OCA has a fax now! Our number is (416) 781-7875. We hope that this will make life easier for you.

**And...** As we go to print, it looks like this will be necessary in the future: our G.S.T. registration number is R122423106.

#### M A R C H B R E A K P R O G R A M S

Would all camps who are planning March Break programs please contact the OCA office with particulars. We can then pass this information on to interested parents.

#### W E L C O M E N E W M E M B E R S

##### **Commercial Members:**

HARPUR'S CUSTOM SPORTSWEAR  
2501 Yonge St., Toronto,  
Ont. M4P 2H6  
(416) 488-8897  
Personalized all cotton  
sportswear

ZZYX MICRO MANAGEMENT  
SOLUTIONS  
Sheridan Postal Centre,  
P.O. Box 47021, 2225 Erin  
Mills Parkway, Mississauga,  
Ont. L5K 2P0  
(416) 855-5151  
Fax (416) 822-1280  
Campground administration  
systems; personal computers

CAMPUSTOWN OUTFITTERS  
5334 Yonge St., Suite 1524  
Willowdale, Ont. M2N 6M2  
(416) 733-8337  
Fax (416) 225-8103  
Custom imprinted sportswear  
and accessories

CONCEPTS IN LEARNING LTD.  
302 Broadway Ave., Toronto,  
Ont. M4P 1W3  
(416) 486-3391  
Fax (416) 444-4485  
Educational materials with  
an environmental focus

**We welcome all new members!**

**WHAT'S  
HAPPENING**

Camp Fairs

**New Central Public School's  
Parent Association -**

Tuesday, January 29, 1991  
at 7:30 p.m. Participation  
fee \$60.00. Interested  
camps can get involved by  
writing the school at: 133  
Balsam Dr., Oakville, Ont.  
L6J 3X4, or contacting  
Patti Hnatiw at (416) 842-  
0806.

**Keswick Branch Library** will  
be presenting a program for  
parents entitled "How to  
Choose A Children's Camp",  
on Saturday, March 9, 1991  
between 11:00 a.m. and 3  
p.m. Audio-visual equip-  
ment is available. Contact  
Mrs. J. Green, (416) 476-  
5762.

**THIS 'N' THAT**

The "Christian Community  
Camping Manual" is now  
available. It covers  
elements of philosophy,  
organization and manage-  
ment, leadership, program,  
education and worship, and  
camping resources. Cost:  
\$10.00 per copy, plus 6%  
handling charges = \$10.60.  
Order from:  
The Presbyterian Church in  
Canada,  
Resource Distribution  
Centre,  
50 Wynford Drive,  
Don Mills, Ontario  
M3C 1J7

**SOLID  
FOUNDATIONS**

George C. Connolly, an OCA  
Honourary Life Member  
(1976), recently wrote to  
us:

"My participation in cam-  
ping is now just a lot of  
pleasant memories. I am  
still happy to keep infor-  
med of what is happening in  
OCA and to know that camps  
are still making their very  
significant contribution to  
the development of the  
current crop of young  
people. Healthy minds in  
healthy bodies, appre-  
ciation of the degree to  
which we are dependent upon  
the world of nature for our  
very survival on this  
planet, and an under-  
standing of the spiritual  
values which underlie the  
entire world of human  
relationships: these are  
the things which good  
camping has always stressed  
and which have produced  
some of the finest citizens  
in our country.

"One of things I remember  
best about OCA is the  
strong feeling of commit-  
ment to the values of  
camping that one experi-  
enced every time we met.  
It was a great fellowship  
of concerned and dedicated  
people, and I will always  
cherish the privilege that  
was mine to be a part of  
it.

"I am currently involved  
with an inter-generational  
programs in the public  
schools of East York. We  
recruit seniors in the  
community and for three  
terms each school year  
(fall, winter, spring) the

seniors go into the schools  
one afternoon a week for  
seven weeks and teach  
crafts of various kinds to  
children in grades 4-6.  
The purpose of the program  
is to give seniors an  
opportunity to share their  
skills, and to give  
children the chance to  
relate in a meaningful way  
to seniors. We started  
seven years ago in one  
school and is now serving  
in eight schools. I also  
serve on the Board of  
Directors of Community Care  
East York."

Rev. Connolly has been  
active with United Church  
camps, and was on the  
Inter-Church Committee on  
Camping.

**FOR RENT**

**Affiliated Member Camp** for  
rent. Please contact Gary  
Faulkner, Club Whitesands,  
45 Wynford Heights Cres.,  
#2201, Don Mills, Ont. M3C  
1L3; Tel. (416) 449-6029.

**OCA CALENDAR  
OF EVENTS**

- Annual Conference for  
Directors and Senior Staff.**  
.....January 24-26, 1991
- Counsellor Conference.....**  
.....May 25, 1991
- Nurses' Workshop.....**  
.....May 25, 1991

## HELP WANTED

Position Available: An experienced **Camp Director** for Cave Springs Camp, a United Church Camp near Beamsville. This is a resident coed camp for children aged 6-12. Applicant needs to possess interpersonal skills and feel competent to work with a staff of 20 and a volunteer support group. Please send resume by 15th January, 1991, to: Mrs. Madeleine Hoxie  
71 Sovereign Dr.  
St. Catharines, Ont.  
L2T 1Z6  
(416) 684-5320

Wanted: Diocese of Ontario seeks **Coordinator** for Children and Youth Ministries with seasonal residence at Diocesan Camp.

Qualifications: university degree or equivalent; some background in theology; involvement within the Anglican community; skills in leadership, management and personnel.  
Job description available.  
Contract position beginning at \$28,800.  
Applications with resume by February 28, 1991 to:  
Program Office  
90 Johnson St.  
Kingston, Ont. K7L 1X7

Position Available: CNIB Lake Joseph Centre requires an **Office Manager** from May to September 1991. Responsibilities include planning, monitoring and evaluation of the Centre's Administration, overseeing the operation of the reception desk and snack bar. Please send resume to:  
CNIB Lake Joseph Centre  
1929 Bayview Ave.  
Toronto, Ont. M4G 3E8

## HELP WANTED (Continued)

Position Available: CNIB Lake Joseph Centre requires an innovative and creative individual to assume the role of **Program Supervisor** from May to September 1991. Responsibilities include planning, implementing and evaluation of recreation/rehabilitation programs at the Centre. Please send resume to:  
CNIB Lake Joseph Centre  
1929 Bayview Ave.  
Toronto, Ont. M4G 3E8

**Note:** Other positions are available for senior counsellors.

## POSITION WANTED

Experienced **Camp Director** (13 years) seeks summer position at either day or residential camp. Available during the year part-time and full-time for summer. Experience includes owning and operating his own camp. Qualified in all phases of program and administration. 14 years teaching experience; resume upon request. Please call (416) 483-8353 (home).

## WANTED

Used **Voyageur Canoe** wanted; if anyone has one for sale, please call Karen Blayney, Guelph YMCA-YWCA, (519) 824-5150.



## LAST - MINUTE CONFERENCE REMINDERS

1. Send the Hospitality Committee a few of your camp brochures for posting at the Hospitality Booth. Promote your camp!
2. Looking for a particular position to fill in summer of 1991? Post the opportunity on the Job Board. Pre-arrange an interview at the Hospitality Area.
3. Applications for the OCA Staff Placement Bureau will be distributed to all seeking summer employment. Remember, bi-monthly listings of candidates are sent to OCA camp directors during February, March, April, May and part of June.

A Grand Piano awaits your camp's favourite pianists. If you would like to volunteer to play, please call me at Camp Wabikon, (416) 483-3172 to arrange your time.

And... Bring your skates for a rendez-vous at the City Hall rink. Bring your bathing suit for a Sheraton swim. Bring your "walkers" for miles of indoor walking!

Like to be a Conference volunteer for part of your day? Drop by the Hospitality Area. We'd be delighted to hear from you!

MARGARET BERNARDO  
Conference Committee

# SHARE-A-TON NEWS

## NEWS THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

### CAMPING PROFESSIONALS CALLED TO ATTENTION BY CONFERENCE CHAIR ROSS

The latest Royal Bank Letter titled "The Soul of Professionalism" tells us, *'If there is one characteristic of the established professions which sets them apart from other employment, it is the continual renewal of knowledge and expertise through publications, conferences, seminars and so forth.'*

#### HAVE WE GOT A DEAL FOR YOU!

You can meet a full quota for professional development for 1991 by registering TODAY for the OCA Annual Conference, January 24-26 1991 at the Sheraton Centre in Toronto.

Expect to benefit from the expertise of dozens of speakers from camping and related professions (i.e. law, accountancy, recreation and management consulting). Visit the exhibit hall where our commercial members are prepared to show you the latest in camp supplies and equipment. They are prepared to take your orders at the Conference to minimize your time delays

and maximize your value. Learn more about your field with fellows from across the province, the country and, this year, the world!

Between sessions you can take a fitness break to swim, skate or stroll. The Eaton Centre, City Hall, CN Tower, Skydome and dozens of restaurants are only minutes away.

The list goes on: Buy book resources at the CCA Bookstore. Bid for fabulous auction items at the CCA Benefit. Chat with OCA Committee Chairs about the activities of your Association. Attend the OCA Annual Meeting and International Camping Fellowship presentation. Enjoy three more issues of the Share-A-Ton News.....Be a part of Three Days of Education and Entertainment!

Together WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE to the Camping profession, but you need to be there! Send in your application today and we will meet you at the registration desk, Concourse Level of the Sheraton Centre where we can 'share a ton'!

### INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES CREATE A CONFERENCE WITH A 'DIFFERENCE'

Representatives of the Steering Committee of the International Camping Fellowship, as well as the Steering Committee of the 1994 International Camping Congress will be present at this year's Annual Conference. We can expect to see, meet, hear and share time with these delegates. Step forward as a host delegate and you will be surprised at the open congeniality of our special guests. They want to talk about camping, both in their countries and in ours.

ICF Representatives currently confirmed are:

Valery Kostin - USSR  
Philippe Bertolais - Europe  
Bill Bowker - Australia  
Don McDowall - Australia  
Richard Chamberlain - United States/Caribbean  
Armand Ball - United States  
Jack Pearse - Canada  
Terry Lucas - South & Central America

## THREE CONFERENCE DAYS BEGIN WITH A *DIFFERENCE*

The Annual Conference Committee knows the value of a good start to the conference day and so they have planned three great beginnings for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. It would be easy (and incorrect) to think that value for your conference dollar begins with the first workshop or seminar of the day but members of the Conference Committee are loud and clear when they 'say it ain't so'.

These sessions are entertaining (fun, musical, and interesting). These sessions are healthful (some serve breakfast). These sessions are educational (ideas and programs which you can transfer into your own camp setting). These sessions are underwritten by you (we would like to thank you in person).

Here is what you can expect to see:

### Day One - Thursday - 7:30-9:00

Breakfast is served-Continental Style! Register right away and then come to the Civic Ballroom.

Jim Penner and his staff at Silver Lake Mennonite Camp brought their love for music alive last summer with the production of a wonderful cassette album. The Kitchen Khorus gathered late one night and proved that music is magic. Jim is prepared to re-enact the scene with us and guide us through some great choral and folk music.

Listen for announcements for the day.

## KINDRED KIDS' KAMPS KONVENE AT KONFERENCE

The Annual Conference is a great place and way to meet new friends in Camping. The Conference Committee has provided for your meeting a few old friends as well. Kindred groups consist of people who are doing the same 'camping thing' as you. You can expect that people in these groups can discuss the same problems you thought were unique to your camp experience - and the same rewards. Watch for these Kindred Group Meeting Opportunities:

PRIVATE INDEPENDENT CAMPS  
RELIGIOUSLY AFFILIATED CAMPS  
'ISLAND' CAMPS      AGENCY CAMPS  
DAY CAMPS      YM/YWCA CAMPS

If you would like to assemble another type of kindred group, then contact the OCA Office at 416 781 0525 before the Conference.

### Day Two - Friday - 7:30-9:00

Breakfast is served-Full Service Style! Show up with your coffee and powder and come on down to the Civic Ballroom.

Charlie Hogg, a long time staff member of Camp Wanakita, is also a staff member and music director of the Elizabeth Bagshaw Middle School in Hamilton. His hands will conduct the hands of his student Hand Bell Choir handsomely. You will be amazed at the musicality and musicianship of this group. Youthful harmony and charming melody start the day off wonderfully. Give them a hand.

Listen for announcements for the day.

### Day Three - Saturday - 8:00-9:00

(Breakfast is not served-in any style. Eat on your own or in small groups and then come on down to the Civic Ballroom.)

Buskers will fill the hall to the Civic Ballroom. You can expect to see and participate in all manner of 'street entertainment' - puppet shows, juggling, magic acts, music activities, story tellers, string artists and more. Every activity you see has some origin in Ontario Camps and belongs in your Camp. Bill Russell from KIDSFEST will draw you into the Ballroom for a full welcome and morning greeting.

Listen for announcements for the day.

## SMART SHOPPING TIPS FOR THE CONFERENCE EXHIBIT HALL

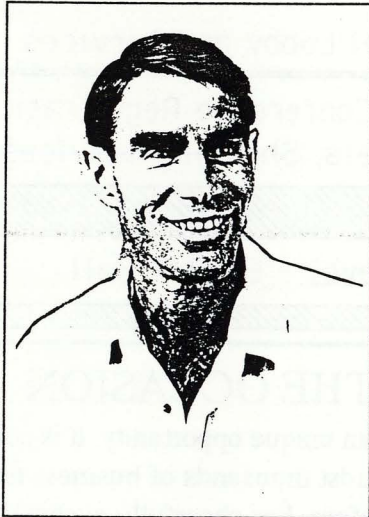
We are looking forward to a full Exhibit Hall at the Annual Conference - full of exhibitors (our commercial partners in good camping) and full of conference delegates. Not only will we be able to see the latest additions in equipment and supplies but we will be able to talk with the manufacturers and suppliers. Camp buyers can prepare for a productive visit to the Exhibit Hall on Friday.

- 1 Bring business cards for callbacks or requests
- 2 Plan your purchasing needs ahead of time.
- 3 Decide on quantities.
- 4 Ask questions of suppliers.
- 5 Investigate, inspect, introduce.

Commercial members want you to be informed about the product/service. Step forward and introduce yourself. Place orders if you can. Be informed. The Exhibit Hall time is as important as session time, seminar time, even meal time.

## General Session of the Month

Spotlight on  
**SKID CREASE**  
Global Perspectives  
The Periwinkle Project



Skid Crease is a teacher at Mono Cliffs Outdoor Education Centre (North York Board of Education) and has a strong background both in Camping (Kilcoo and OCLC Bark Lake) and Outdoor Education (COEO and ORCA). Skid's passionate concern for a concerted and urgent personal commitment to the global challenges of this decade comes through by his very presence in the Banquet Hall. His message and presentation surrounding the Periwinkle Project provide us with the inspiration and the instruction we need to 'Think Globally, Act Locally and Care Personally.'

## 20 CONFERENCE DELEGATES FROM 20 CAMPS REGISTER

If there were ever any doubt that the 1991 OCA Annual Conference was destined to be a success, then stop the presses and read this list. A purely random but representative sample of the people registered for the Conference demonstrate the range of camps served. We bid welcome to these and all the other delegates registered for the Conference. We hope to greet you and many more Camp representatives at the Sheraton Centre.

Tapawingo  
Moorelands  
Opemikon  
YMCA Day Camps  
New Moon  
Wabana  
Glenbrook Day  
Robin Hood  
Scott Mission Camp  
Timberlane  
Trillium  
Celtic Sports & Arts Centre  
Northland B'nai Brith  
Huron Church Camp  
London YM/YWCA  
Big Canoe  
Minwassin  
Taylor Statten Camps  
Oconto  
Arrowhead  
Kahquah

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## COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

A HELPFUL ADVICE COLUMN FOR THE CAMPING CONFERENCE GOER

Dear Couns;

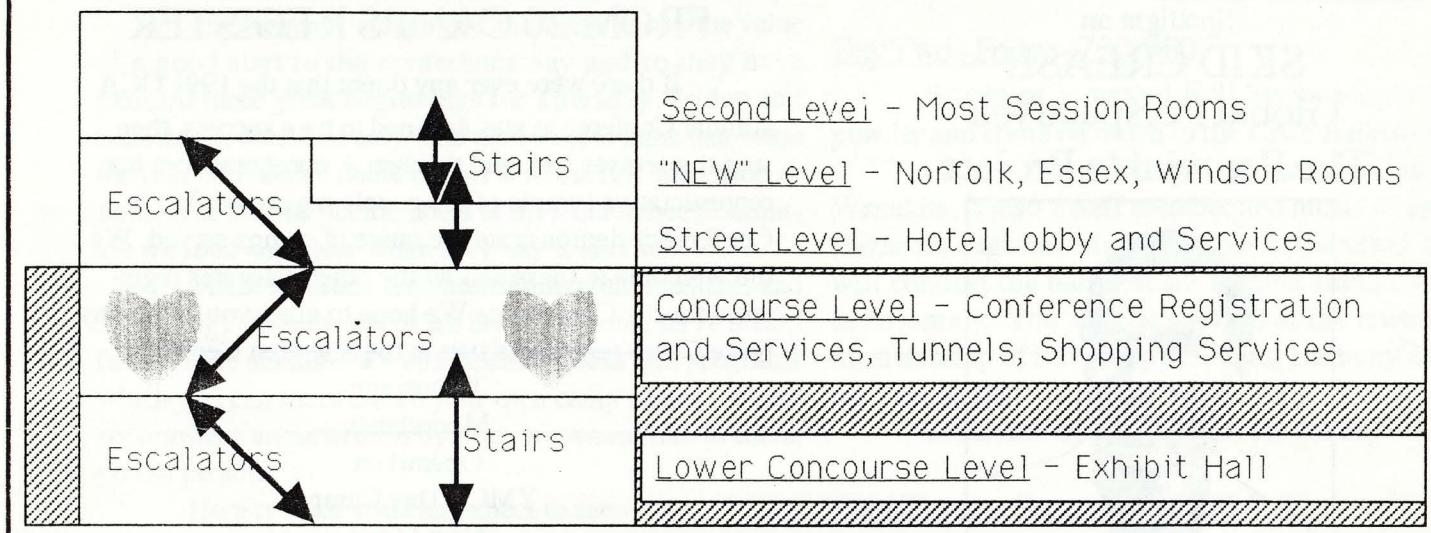
I am brand new to the whole Conference Scene and I am not quite sure about protocol and dress. I am a humble country camp director. Is my striped tie OK with my plaid jacket? Is the size of the briefcase a clear indication of rank? How do I address old King Cole? Are the privies well stocked or do I bring my own catalogue?

Signed Awed One

*Dear Awed,*

*The only formal thing about the Annual Conference is the opportunity for some formal exchange on camping issues. It takes place at the Sheraton Centre but you should feel as at home as in mid-season at camp. Dress comfortably, use first names (e.g. King Ted) and remember that the best exchange can take place in halls, meals and informal times. Meet people, talk it up and ask questions if you are not sure about anything. Some people dress up for the final Banquet (your plaid jacket is fine) but know that, although We are all Making a Difference, no one is Odd.*

## Sheraton Centre Survival Guide



## HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE RISES TO THE OCCASION

For the first time in years the Conference Committee and the OCA has an unique opportunity. It is conducting it's Annual Conference in the heart of downtown Toronto in front of and amidst thousands of business travellers, hotel guests, tourists and Toronto citizens. The Hospitality Committee, therefore, has cheerfully accepted it's two main purposes: Host the Conference for its participants (you) and Explain organized children's camping to the rest of the world!

You can help promote Ontario Camping and you can help your Camp at the same time:

- 1 Send or Bring a few of your Camp Brochures to the Hospitality Desk
- 2 Use the Job Mart. Employers can post job opportunities at a special Job Mart Board. People in the camp job market and not aligned with a particular camp can post their particulars on the same board. The Hospitality Matchmakers are happy to help!
- 3 The Job Directory is an on-going Job Mart. By applying for the Directory (\$10.00 fee) you can receive up-to-date lists of available staff right through to Camp time.
- 4 Watch for and read the Share-a-Ton News for daily information on Hospitality Events.

### WANTED

#### Conference Volunteers

This is a special request for your benefit as much as for the Conference. If being an OCA volunteer has ever occurred to you, then here is a painless way to try it out. We provide clear direction and tremendous opportunities for advancement. Job satisfaction guaranteed! Contact the Hospitality Desk at the Conference or Margaret Bernardo at 487-9993/483-3172

### WANTED

#### Conference Pianists (Conference - not Concert)

Contributing pianists are needed at various sessions of the Conference. They can expect free admission to those sessions and on-going praise for their efforts from participants. This is a great opportunity for you and your staff to share in the Conference experience. Contact the Hospitality Desk at the Conference or Margaret Bernardo at 487-9993/483-3172