



BULLETIN ISSUE No.: 62

November 1974

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HAVE YOU DONE YOUR HOMEWORK?

Remember? Last time we wrote we asked that you underline, circle or otherwise jog your memory about February 27, 28 and March 1 and 2....on your noticeboard, calendar, shirt cuff, palm of your hand or whatever.

THOSE ARE THE DATES OF THE ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

All sorts of ideas are being brewed, sifted and sorted by our very active Conference Committee which has been meeting regularly since the night after last year's Conference. More news will appear shortly, many innovations put into effect. It will be one of the best. Keep tuned in, same station, next OCA'sional News.

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NEW VICE-PRESIDENT

Congratulations are in order. Though we regret that Al Goodman is obliged to resign this position due to extra responsibilities he must assume, we are pleased to welcome Jocelyn Palm who will take his place as Vice-President. Jocelyn is currently the Executive Director of the R.L.S.S. Canada. Prior to this, she was Executive Secretary of the Ontario R.L.S.S. from 1968-72. She held senior positions at Glen Bernard Camp and later at Bark Lake Leadership Camp. She is Chairman of the Canadian Council for Co-operation in Aquatics and a member of the National Aquatics Committee of the YMCA. She is now the Managing Director of the Canadian Camping Magazine.

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SUMMER DRAMA PROGRAMME

While Robert Morgan, director of the Drama-in-Camping Summer Programme, reported some success in the group's

exploratory work, he said that in 1975 he would like to expand and change the project. This to include Winter and Day Camps, to have publicity circulated much earlier in the season, and possibly meet and plan in advance with Drama Counsellors from the various camps. He felt that the Drama Leadership Group could conduct workshops at the O.C.A. Conference, the Counsellor Conference and at member camps' pre-camp staff training sessions.

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TRAINING FOR WINTER OUTDOOR EDUCATION

The Muskoka Board of Education is co-operating with the Ontario Teachers' Federation in sponsoring a Winter Certification Workshop December 13-15, 1974, at the Leslie M. Frost Natural Resources Center near Dorset, Ontario.

Participants may become certified in such areas as cross-country skiing, emergency first aid, snowshoeing and winter camping.

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Training for Winter Outdoor Education(contd.)

Although the workshop is primarily for Northern Ontario teachers involved in Winter Outdoor Education, camping people involved in winter outdoor programmes are also able to attend. For further information write to Morley Lee, Ontario Pioneer Camps, Port Sydney, Ont., POB 110.

The Council for Outdoor Educators of Ontario Pioneer Camps and Camp Tawingo are tri-sponsoring a winter workshop from January 24-26, 1975 at the Tawingo Outdoor Center near Huntsville. Cross-country ski certification, snowshoeing, and other winter oriented skills will be emphasized. For more information write to Stan Talesnick, Tawingo Outdoor Center, Huntsville, Ontario.

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NEW MEMBERS

Two new camps have been given full membership status:

CAMP EKON, R.R.1, Rosseau, Ontario, under the auspices of the Jesuit Seminary, Toronto.

CAMP BLUE HERON at Port Loring, Ontario, directed by Robert S. Fisk, Williamsville, New York.

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WANTED - CAMPS FOR RENTAL

The Sacred Heart Children's Village wishes to rent a resident camp or lodge, 90 to 100 miles from Toronto with safe swimming, playing area and main building with kitchen and dining room. For July and August, if accommodation is suitable for a total of 25, staff and children; or four weeks (July or August) if accommodation is suitable for a total of 60, staff and children. Write to the Executive Director, Sacred Heart Village, 3275 St. Clair Avenue East, Scarborough, MIL 1W2.

Mr. Tony Lea, Chairman, Ontario Camping Association Day Camp Committee, has asked

for proposals (including costs) for resident camp sites within driving distance of Toronto, for a week-end in May (NOT the 7th) for approximately 80 Day Camp senior staff. Anyone wishing to rent their site should make submissions to Mr. Lea, c/o O.C.A. office, 102 Eglinton Avenue East. He would appreciate hearing from camp directors as soon as possible for an early decision. Time moves a-pace.

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REPORT FROM CCA CONFERENCE

The Canadian Camping Association conference at St. Agathe-des-Monts focussed on camping and outdoor education, and camping and "nature awareness". For those involved in the two day seminar on nature awareness, what premised all thinking was that camping can and should do more to instil awareness of man's role in the natural environment and to shape a "reverence for life".

Results of a questionnaire circulated across Canada before the conference revealed that only 8 of almost 100 camps returning had a specific nature programme. (Ontario is well above this figure). Expectations of this seminar, then, were to produce some model programmes in nature from which camps across Canada could select and adapt to initiate a nature programme. However, no ideal model programmes evolved. The variety in geography, size, and philosophy of camps across the nation made it impossible to recommend one or two pat programmes.

What did result for all were recommendations on improving camps' "environmental maintenance" practices, i.e. eliminating contrary pollution, cutting back on waste, utilizing recyclables, improving out-tripping practices. It was also felt that camping is a total nature awareness experience and that in all camps, all programme areas could place more emphasis on developing "natural activity", i.e.

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Report from CCA Conference (contd.)

paddling to the beaver lodge or heron nest in a canoeing session rather than only emphasizing skills, taking a silent hike at night and discussing it rather than endlessly playing Capture the Flag. It was felt that the attitude of the director is the key to implementing sounder environmental practices and in guiding staff toward developing better nature awareness activities.

Although direction and recommendations were very general, the feeling was very specific - Let's GO.

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ENVIRONMENT - LEGISLATION

In co-operation with the Canadian Environmental Law Association and through the Environmental Concerns Committee, our Association recently commended several ministers in the Ontario government preparing environmental impact assessment legislation. Then recommended strongly that this legislation be truly effective and democratic. If properly constituted, such legislation would necessitate careful environmental study before such proposed projects as the Pickering Airport or Maple Mountain with public access to all information concerning it and public input into any decisions on it via an independent, powerful review board.

The Canadian Environmental Law Association, One Spadina Crescent, Toronto, encourage us to encourage individuals to express their concern to the Premier, Minister of the Environment or their M.P.P.

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Camping has long been a leading movement in offering opportunity for realizations about life and for developing an environmental conscience in youth. With increased knowledge and realization of the finiteness of the earth and its resources, with the increase in visibility

of solid, stable organizations and people sincerely touting the cause of the natural environment, with the forward-looking thinkers in camping already urging us, it seems that the time has come for a more active role. Camps should be presenting more opportunity for natural discovery and more actively shaping a concern for all aspects of our natural environment.

Some Ontario camps are already leaders in this field. But camps differ in philosophy and programme emphasis and not all of us can safely rush out and become immediate total nature crusaders. This was one realization of the C.C.A. Conference. However, Mother Nature made our camp site. We owe her a lot and should become more active in repaying our debt to her.

As a spin-off from the C.C.A. Conference on Nature Awareness, the O.C.A. hopes to include more practical sessions on active, fun, proven nature programmes and on the environment at both the annual conference and the counsellor conference so that we can better "acclimatize" and mobilize our staff for this task.

We are also planning a one day conference/workshop on environmental management practices and on nature programmes and nature awareness for camping staff for March 1975. Stay tuned.

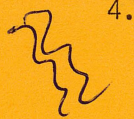
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THE TIME HAD TO COME.....

.....when some kind of increase in fees was inevitable, but don't be too down-hearted. The news is as cheerful as it can be under the circumstances. Members will be asked to pay only an additional \$10.00 per camp, above the 1974 fee, in all categories; and this will cover both OCA and CCA fees. So.....an extra \$10.00 it is, for 1975.

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The most glowing reports come to us from all sides, in praise of our first Woodsmanship School held at Camp Kandalore under the leadership of Kirk Wipper. Delegates from camps, schools, Government Departments and other outside groups have repeated that they were able to make immediate use of the Curriculum Content, and will be able to offer more in the teaching of these skills as the year rolls on. Enthusiasm ran so high that there will most certainly be a repeat performance in 1975, and a distinct possibility of similar schools being organized in other Provincial Associations. Committee Chairman for 1975, working with Kirk Wipper, is Andrea Dillon.

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THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

You will be hearing about Committee Work from now on, and will come to realize that your Ontario Camping Association is a very active organization. Fifteen Committees, on-going from year to year, are chaired by volunteers. Their assistants are volunteers; which goes to prove that the success of any venture is possible only through the strength of those who offer their time and talents to the projects. Our next issue will go into this topic more deeply, will include names of committee chairmen, and offer you a form to complete and return to OCA. THEN YOU WILL HEAR FROM US! In the meantime, we are very pleased to tell you of these new chairmen who have risen to the cause:

Barbara Gilchrist (Glen Bernard) -
Education

Andrea Dillon (Kandalore) -
Woodsmanship School, working
with Kirk Wipper

Don Pringle (Pinecrest) -
Public Relations

Committee Chairmen (contd.)

Pat Pearse (Tawingo) -
Counsellor Conference

Lynda Geale (Royal Life Saving
Society) - Aquatics

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