



OCAsional news

VOLUME 2

MARCH 1984

EDITOR: MARTIN HUNT

"AN OPTIMIST IS WRONG JUST ABOUT AS OFTEN AS A PESSIMIST IS, BUT THE BIG DIFFERENCE IS THAT HE HAS A LOT MORE FUN"

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's Sunday morning and my wife and I are sitting in an empty OCA Suite at Inn on the Park. The Conference is over; it's been great! Fred Okada and the Conference Planning team are to be congratulated. The Conference was well planned and delegates participated enthusiastically. The Commercial Displays provided new and helpful information for us all. Dr. Volpe and Dr. Keyes and others have inspired us. We've been challenged to know our position and move on, together, into the future.

The OCA Conference is an important occasion in the camping life of many in Ontario and beyond. The issues presented, the questions raised, the plans made - all contribute to the coming summer. There's a feeling in the air, a 'spirit' in our midst that nudges us into the future with hope and confidence.

The new history - Blue Lake and Rocky Shore was launched. Take time to read it. It's a marvellous collection of memories and stories that continue to affect us all.

The strength of the OCA is found in each of us. Organizationally we make an impact in the Province; individually we make an impact on persons. We can shape the future as we live in the present.

K. GRANT KERR,
President.

EDITORIAL

Where did the snow go to?! Here in the valley we almost had to issue P.F.D.s to our cross-country ski students! Spring has sprung and with the annual conference having kicked off the new season, (a good time was had by all!) our focus begins to zoom in on the fast approaching summer. There are other signs telling us that it's time to dust off plans for staff training and to clean out the cobwebs accumulated during the winter (and to have a look in the mirror too, a la left over winter inner-tube!).

National Camping Day is just around the corner, March 21st, (remember to wear your staff shirts); and it's election time once again, so get a plethora of nominations into the office.

Finally, the sweet fragrance of spring is a pleasant reminder that once again it is time to gear up our own kid's heart in preparation for yet another enchanting summer.

P.S. - A heartfelt thank you to June Bonvivere who deserves the credit for the layout of this newsletter!

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- THE FUNNYBONE -

And this just in from an anonymous environmental concerns committee member:-

Why do bees buzz?
They don't know how to whistle!
My horny toads! that was funny!
If you have any equally or more hilarious bits of humour, send them along to THE FUNNYBONE
c/o O.C.A. Office!

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Life

Our environmental topsoil, the top layer of a soil profile, is a very valuable resource. We depend upon it for life. It is more valuable than oil. It is more valuable than the automobile, T.V., or the computer. More valuable than gold, it has been called "Black Gold". Why? It is an essential link in the chain that sustains us.

Energy to snap your fingers, walk, run, jog, skate, take your dog for a walk, etc., primarily comes from the sun. The sun shines on the leaves of plants. Through a process called photosynthesis in the leaves of plants food is manufactured. Good fertile soil is essential for quality plants. Hence, we depend upon soil for food, for life. What is soil? The basic bulk ingredient of all soil is ground or powdered rock. The coarse material is sand; the fine is clay. A mixture of these gives us loam. None of these are true soil until organic matter, the humus which feeds and supports "soil life" has been added. We often speak about Mother Earth as the source of all fertility but we overlook the fact it is Father Humus who feeds the dormant life of the soil and starts the endless chain of fertility potential which lies within the womb of earth.

The term "soil life" applies to all the inhabitants of soil which live on or under its surface. In particular, it means the small burrowing animals, insects, earthworms, and the myriad of microscopic forms of life that spend all or some major part of their lives under the soil surface. e.g. bacteria, insects, the ant, termites, earthworms, insect-Cinderella, the cicada, mites, spring-tails, nematodes, moulds, fungi, and milli-pedes.

The Allsaw Composter is a facility that provides an attractive habitat for "soil life". It demonstrates a method of producing the organic content that is essential for adding to sand or clay to produce a fertile loam soil.

Today, the quantity and quality of our foodland topsoil is threatened. There is much competition for good land that is suitable for food production.

a) Much topsoil is being lost by water and wind erosion,

b) Much good foodland with fertile topsoil is being used for:

- i) commercial development, factories, warehouses, etc.
- ii) residential development, houses, apartments, etc.
- iii) highways, roads, streets, and avenues.

Good topsoil food production land is being covered up with tarvia and cement.

Fertile soil with a spongy forest-duff texture not only grows good plants, it absorbs and stores water. The rain, snow and other forms of precipitation soak into and fill up the underground water reservoirs. This water emerges as spring water. It provides good clean pure water for drinking, swimming, canoeing, kayaking and sailing.

Hence, it makes good sense for health and leisure to conserve a most valuable resource, the soil.

S. G. HAMBLY,
Director, Owner, Camp Allsaw
Member, Environmental Concerns Committee.

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DO TELL

"SMITTENS" By Dave Lyon.

If you have ever had snow on your wrist, you'll love this idea. It has been a 'hit' in our school. We simply call this piece of clothing, "Smittens", a cross between a sock and a mitten.

Take an old sock that has lost its partner (or is worn out) and cut a small hole in the heel. Cut off the toe near the end and voila...a Smitten! Repeat with another lonely sock. (Smittens should never match!) Choose a dress sock if possible since the snow doesn't stick to the material.

Pull the Smitten over your hand putting Tom Thumb through the heel hole. The cuff is pulled over your sweater sleeve before putting on your coat.

You now have a wrist protector and warmer, a mitt liner, and a conversation piece. The extra warmth these Smittens give you is fantastic. Try just one and compare how your arms and hands feel.

For a Rolls Royce version, cut a small opening for your watch face to poke through.

DAVE LYON.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Date: Saturday, March 10, 1984

To: Children's Summer Camp Directors, operators and senior staff in the London Region.

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Place: London Central YM-YWCA, Room A, 320 Waterloo St., London.

Who: We encourage camp directors, senior staff and interested camp people to attend.

Agenda: To explain the O.C.A. Regional Development Committee made possible with the support of the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation. To discuss needs of the area camps and regional priorities that will help us plan an area workshop. In attendance will be Sally Moore, Regional Development Committee Chairperson and Cathy Russell, the London Regional Representative.

R.S.V.P. Cathy Russell, Box 85, Delaware, Ont., NOL 1E0 (519) 471-3799.

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Date: March 29 - 30, 1984

There will be an "Environment Conference" entitled "Conservation for Wise Land Use" at the Kortright Centre March 29 & 30, 1984. This conference is targeted to teachers of outdoor education, science, geography and would be beneficial to Nature/Environment specialists. This program is offered by the Conservation Council of Ontario, please contact them if interested at 362-2218.

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Swim Courses - start week of April 6th end no later than June 18.

Bronze - City of Mississauga - Cawthra, Tues. 7 P.M., Sat. 9 A.M.; Clarkson - Wed. 8:30 P.M.; Glenforest - Thurs. 7:30 P.M., Sat. 9 A.M.; Huron Park - Tues. 6:15 P.M., Sat. 8:45 A.M.; Meadowvale - Wed. 8:30 P.M.; Terry Fox - Sat. 8:45 A.M.; Westwood - Sat. 9 A.M. Cost. \$38.50 (does not include manual) Cost for manual \$15.00. Each lesson 1 hour & 15 min. once per week for 10 weeks. Contact Dan Wood 279-7600 Ext. 272. Bronze bars may be tested on test days of courses listed above.

Scarborough Parks & Recreation - Bronze Bar ^{3.} during May - Pool undetermined call 438-6872.

Bronze Cross & Medallion - Community Centre at Pape & O'Connor week of April 3 to June 12. Tues. 6-8 P.M. Call 461-9451 ext. 325.

Gus Ryder Pool - Lakeshore & Kipling registration starts March 5.

Bronze Cross - Monday 5-7 P.M., April 2 - June 11.

Leaders - Monday 6:30-10:00 P.M., April 2 - June 11. Contact 251-6937.

Instructors. March 12-16, 8:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. Cawthra Pool. Cost \$72.00. Register in evenings at pool. 278-2030. Perry Smith.

March 12-16, Bendale Pool (Scarborough) Call 438-6872.

March 9-18, North York. Carol Robson 224-6270.

April 6-15, North York. Carol Robson 224-6270.

Red Cross Instructors. Wed., Mar. 14, 9 A.M. - 5 P.M. Contact Gerry Lago 742-0842.

Examiners Clinic. Sun., Mar. 4, 6-10 P.M. - Flemington Park Pool. Contact Barb Tracey 225-4183.

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Date: June 3 - 9, 1984.

Canadian Environment Week.

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Date: June 6, 1984.

World Environment Day. Groups interested in planning projects for this celebration can contact Environment Canada for a 'planning kit' at (416) 966-5840.

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ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS

The 1984 Counsellor Conference, Saturday, May 12th, Seneca College, Toronto.

Theme - COUNSELLING - WHAT A SENSATION!!!

Sessions will be offered on many aspects of counselling and camping.

Special Event - An attempt at the North American Camping lap sit record.

MAKE SURE YOUR CAMP IS PART OF THE SENSATION.

ANNUAL MEETING - MAY 12, 1984.

The 1984 Annual Meeting of the O.C.A. will be held on Saturday, May 12 at Seneca College in co-operation with the Counsellors' Conference. There are several advantages to combining these two events. At a time in our yearly calendar when camping people are increasingly busy much can be accomplished on this one day.

- Share some time with your camp staff.
- Contact Steve Heming of Wanakita and volunteer part of your day to lead a session for the counsellors' conference.
- Participate in the Annual Meeting and be aware of the current affairs of your association.
- Eat lunch with your camp staff or register for a relaxed lunch in the Faculty Dining Room.
- Enjoy a stimulating after - lunch speaker.
- Plan to be part of this sensational event!

Further details and registration forms will appear in the April OCA'sional News.

CATHERINE ROSS,
Chairperson, Education Committee.

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Date: May 12 - 13.

Camp Kitchen Management, at the University of Guelph. Menu Design, Purchasing, Safety and Sanitation, Off Site Cooking, Composting and recycling.

- Fee: \$68.00 (includes materials, four meals, and one night double accommodation).
- Conducted by: Jane Forbes,
19 Carr St, Apt. #313
TORONTO, Ont.
M5T 2V7
- Applications due April 11, 1984.

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WORKSHOP FOR CAMP NURSES

Bolton Outdoor Education Centre - May 25-26, 1984. New and experienced nurses from residential and day camps, doctors, directors and interested others are welcome. The main speaker is Dr. J.C. Fallis, long-time camp doctor and Director of Emergency Medical Services at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. Get a new insight into the role

of the nurse and the aims of the health program. Come to share and learn. Registration forms available from the O.C.A. office.

MARY CASEY.

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THIS & THAT

The Federation of Ontario Naturalists (F.O.N.) have a very high quality 'Wetlands Kit' available to O.C.A. camps to assist in the education of our campers on wetlands and their importance to the environment. For information on price and availability call (416) 444-8419.

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CONSIDER THIS.....

CANADIAN CAMPING - A valuable resource for camp counsellors and staff.

Bulk orders are now being accepted for Spring and Summer issues.

ONLY 95¢ each 5 - 25 copies
ONLY 70¢ each more than 25

TO ORDER: CALL CCA OFFICE (416) 781-4717

ISSUE	BULK ORDER PLACE BY	BULK ORDER MAILED FROM CCA TO CAMP BY
Spring	March 7th	April 10th
Summer	April 30th	June 11th

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DO YOU REQUIRE QUALIFIED WINDSURFING STAFF/ INSTRUCTION?

If you require qualified windsurfing instructors contact the C.Y.A. or the Ontario Sailing Association and they will compile a list of available jobs for instructors.

There are three Instructor Seminars in the Spring in order to certify your Windsurfing Staff.

Dates: May 25 - May 27) Toronto
 June 1 - June 3) Toronto
 June 10 - June 15 Geneva Park, Orillia
 June 17 - June 22 Lakefield College School

The Mobile Boardsailing School travels throughout Ontario providing certified Boardsailing Instruction. The Instruction, is given for

See us at

THE

TORONTO

SPORTSMEN'S

SHOW

COLISEUM BUILDING

EXHIBITION PLACE

TORONTO

MARCH 16 - MARCH 25, 1984

A Canadian National Sportsmen's Show
Produced in aid of conservation

THIS & THAT (cont'd)

five days at a cost of \$1,595. - (\$40.00/camper if 40 attend).

For information regarding these three means of providing certified boardsailing lessons contact:-

Christine Masson
Recreation Co-ordinator
Ontario Sailing Association
1220 Sheppard Avenue East
WILLOWDALE, Ontario
M2K 2X1
(416) 495-4240

The Nomination forms for the OCA Board have now been mailed to the membership and are

due by March 15, 1984. Please do nominate candidates for the various positions on the Board, our Association will only continue to be effective and strong if good leadership is in place.

Potential Nominees sometimes ask at what time of day are the meetings held. Please be assured that Meeting times can be scheduled to start at 4:00 P.M. to allow people to attend at the end of the working day.

JANET ADAMSON.

FOR SALE

2 Freighter Canoes 20' long red fibreglass
One Flat Stern - other pointed both ends -
\$800.00 each.

Call Camp Wahanowin (416) 789-2181 (days) or
write 825 Eglinton Ave. W. #209, Toronto, M5N1E7.

THIS & THAT (cont'd.)

CAMP KEE-CHI-HA - RICHMOND HILL, ONTARIO
REQUIRES A "CAMP DIRECTOR".

PREREQUISITES

- Minimum age 25
- At least one year residential leadership experience
- Sound management and administrative skills

TERM OF EMPLOYMENT

June 4, 1984 - August 31, 1984

SALARY Competitive

Camp Kee-Chi-Ha is a small multi-faceted residential camp serving under-privileged children, special needs children and the general community. It is owned and operated by the Loyal True Blue & Orange Home in Richmond Hill, which is a non-profit charitable organization.

Interested applicants, please send resume to:-

Nancy Cameron
Director of Programs
P.O. Box 209
RICHMOND HILL, Ontario
L4C 4Y2
(416) 889-5421

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FOR SALE

Glen Mhor Camp - Available for sale - 6 fibreglass canoes, 4 cedar strip canoes with fibreglass, 11 cedar strip canoes (in various states of repair - including some chestnut and Langfords)

Wanted: 5 Grumman and 5 Royalex canoes - secondhand.

Please contact: Mrs. Ruth Millar
401 Edgehill Dr., R.R. #2
BARRIE, Ontario
L4M 4S4
Tel. (705) 726-9785

**THE OCA WELCOMES
THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS**

Commercial

All-Way Transportation Corporation
Wayne S. Roberts Communications

Individual

Wilma Duggan
Janet A. Elliott
Brenda Manfredi
Dorothy McLaren
Howard E. McLeod
Rhonda Mitchell
Ron D. Parry
Sharron Elizabeth Patterson
Kevin Gordon Paul
James Edward Sanderson
Patrick White
Phera White
Sarah Jane Witty