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1978

EDITOR: Eanswythe Flynn

THE PRES. SAYS.

What a great camping summer! I loved it. And I'm trying to store some of those happy, sunny days for the moments when I need them this winter.

"A Tear and a Smile" is one of Gibran's books. It's appropriate. Thousands of campers canoe tripped thousands of miles this summer, many probably from your camp. Bruce Hodgins writes:

" Yet in the latter half of the summer we suffered two tragic accidents which sadden us as I am sure they sadden you.

On July 31 Malcolm Thomas, the senior leader of our full summer Voyageur trip on the Nahanni River, disappeared while out on a short hike along the canyon wall, just below Virginia Falls. To date, no trace of him has been found, despite a massive search first undertaken by the group led by the second leader, Mary Ellen Ripley, and then by rangers from the Nahanni National Park and members of the R.C.M.P. The search included extensive ground work, a tracking dog, helicopters and jet boats. Members of the group were flown out to Watson Lake where they were joined by Marcus Bruce, the Assistant Director, who flew out immediately from the camp. Later he led them on a week long canoe trip on the Churchill River in Northern Saskatchewan. All reports indicate that the Nahanni River portion of the trip had been efficiently and dynamically run up until the time of the disappearance. Malcolm had been with Wanapitei for eleven years, in his third year as a staff member and had participated in the first Wanapitei Nahanni in 1975.

On August 22, Marc Allodi, a pioneer camper, on the 18th day of a trip down the Rupert River in Northern Quebec, slipped into the water off a small rock slope while helping his trip leader, Joe de Pencier (our Programme Director) to track his canoe past a small chute. He was carried into the main current and over a falls about 150 yards downstream from the point where he entered the water. While Joe raced over a bay and along the shore in an attempt to rescue Marc, Joe was unable to catch up with him. The assistant Leader, Hilary Heath, led all but three of the more senior campers two miles back along the river to where the new James Bay Highway crosses the river. Joe and the three remaining campers spent

the evening searching the next two miles of the river in vain for any sign of the camper, returning to the rest of the group after dark. The following morning, the James Bay Police, with Joe, continued and extended the search, but to no avail. In the meantime the camp had been contacted and I left for the scene, helped with the search activities and met with Dr. Allodi, Marc's father, who had flown up as quickly as possible. "

These words are extracted with Bruce's permission and are only a part of his report to Wanapitei parents dated September 1978.

The O.C.A. Executive extend to Bruce and his staff at Wanapitei our support, our understanding and our prayers. As O.C.A. President, I am giving you this information in an effort to dispell any misunderstandings of these incidents. You are already aware of some of the comments which have appeared recently in the press.

The Executive are taking the following steps as a result of their discussion on September 26, this meeting included Marcus Bruce, Assistant Director and Joe de Pensier Program Director of Wanapitei.

- (a) It is recommended that the Standards Committee include in the Standards of good Camping Practices that each member camp adopt as policy a written procedure listing the actions to be taken by all personnel in the event of a tragedy;
- (b) That the Standards Committee recommend a requirement in the Standards relating to emergency controls;
- (c) That the O.C.A. Board be recommended to adopt the "Standards for Summer Wilderness Travel Programs for Children in Canoe Tripping" which have been drafted and discussed at length for the past several years;
- (d) That O.C.A. Executive have approved the following policy statement as the procedure for reporting to the O.C.A. on traumatic incidents involving campers, staff, facilities or sites.

"As soon as possible, but within twenty (20) days the report marked Confidential should be forwarded to the Association office. The President should be alerted by telephone, telegram or whatever means necessary that such a report has been prepared and delivered. The contents of the report should reveal the nature of the incident and the steps undertaken to deal with the consequences of it."

It should be understood by all members of the Association that members are always willing to assist in every way possible if and when such emergencies arise.

- (e) The President is writing to Dr. and Mrs. Allodi expressing our sympathy in this unfortunate accident and indicating the steps outlined above as actions to be taken by the Association.

On the heels of the Lake Tamiskaming disaster, the public outcry concerning wilderness risks becomes more vehement. The myth is to assume that legislation can eliminate these risks. Still, we need to seriously evaluate; how much risk versus how much adventure?? We should all do some soul searching in this regard to ensure that our philosophies are consistent with our objectives and programs.

The students who worked with O.C.A. this summer did a superb job. Brenda Gray, Coordinator of the "Skills Across Camping" project reports that of 65 scheduled visits, 56 were carried out. 37 camps were very positive about the experience and no fault was found with the personality and flexibility of the team members. Well done. . . .

COORDINATOR - Brenda Gray	Geraldine Davies
SECRETARY - Louise Barbe (Eha Eljas)	Clifford Hall
Linda Wiggins	R. Graham Boyle
Ellen Hyman	Carol Benson
Brian Sentance	Nancy Luton
Jane MacLachlan	Margaret Reid
Michael Studd	Janet Nicholson

Thanks also to Rob Roy, our researcher who developed a bibliography of all the current materials available on camping and camping skills. Rob also spent time on the CARDIC project, providing research data for this group at Camp Wa-Sa-Ah-Bun. You may expect to hear further concerning Rob's findings. Rob was employed by O.C.A. as were the "Skills Across Camping" people through the Experience '78 Program of the Ministry of Culture and Recreation. I wrote to you of these projects in the June Newsletter.

Our stalwart Nodja Read, sent me her resignation as O.C.A. Secretary in August. After many years of solid effort on our behalf, it seems ridiculous to say that we'll miss her. We will. Nodja developed a very comprehensive manual which details all aspects of the O.C.A. office - - - this will help! Nora Robinson continues her good work from 10 - 4 P.M. each day. She says she can't accept further duties so we are seeking a replacement for Nodja. Your Executive accepts this assignment and invites suggestions concerning a suitable individual. Phone me if you have a prospect in mind.

More. . . More. . . More. . . The O.C.A. were advised last week that 102 Eglinton East has been sold and our lease will not be renewed. Effective March 31, 1979 we'll have a new address. Effective immediately, we are seeking new quarters. Any member with a suggestion, of where and at what cost should call me at O.C.A. with your input. Please!

Promotion: "United We Stand" Stan Talesnick spearheaded last year's campaign and its time again. As always, the piper must be paid; we cannot utilize Association funds. Each Camp Member is invited to contribute and you'll receive notice of the requirements. Stan is developing a suggested scheme and will write each camp outlining the details.

Thanks Janet Adamson for getting the 1979 Directory rolling. Yes, we want it out by January 1. Please send in your information as soon as possible but by October 31 at the latest. We won't wait for late information.

Should you have items you wish Stan Talesnick to bring forward at the C.C.A. Meeting in St. John's Newfoundland, October 26 - 28, please drop Stan a note at the O.C.A.; he is our delegate to this meeting.

I will be writing to each camp member very soon requesting your statistical information. Much of this is needed to seek continued exemption from the federal immigration requirements. This data is essential so watch for the letter and form and regard it as a TOP PRIORITY please!

As we begin this fall season, it is evident that we have much to accomplish. I urge each of you to make a commitment to participate meaningfully in the affairs of our Association. OK?

CHEERS,

JOCELYN PALM

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O.C.A. CONFERENCE 1979

OUR 37th YEAR

MARCH 1, 2, 3

ROYAL YORK HOTEL - TORONTO

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Professional Development</i> | <i>Outdoor Education</i> |
| <i>Leadership Training</i> | <i>Photo Contest</i> |
| <i>Trends in Camping</i> | <i>Wine & Cheese Party</i> |
| <i>Evaluation Techniques</i> | <i>Exhibits</i> |
| <i>Research into Camping</i> | <i>Nostalgia Night</i> |
| <i>Banquet</i> | |

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February 21-24, 1979

John Latimer - Co-Chairman

INFORMATION - CCA Office - 488-7345

R E M E M B E R

CAMP DIRECTORS' WEEKEND

Bolton Camp
November, 3, 4, 5, 1978
"A Great Staff, A Great Camp"
Co-Ordinator - John Latimer

T H E M E

Building a Staff "team"
Building a CIT "team"
Building a Camper "team"
Building a Parent "team"

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

This is the season of the year that many of us have time to re-produce the summer's photos (which are being mailed to you in abundant quantities from campers and staff). Please return the original to the owners. Then, either file the copies for your brochure or have the Staff and Directors' entries enlarged - (between 5" X 7" to 11" X 14") and mount them on colored paper, cardboard, bristol board or mounting board for the Conference Contest. Remember the 3 categories: -

- (1) BEAUTY OF NATURE
- (2) ACTIVITY
- (3) EMOTION

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F I R S T A I D C O U R S E

St. John Ambulance has a new safety oriented First Aid course that is taught in one two and a half hour session, using film, demonstrations and practice session.

It teaches First Aid to use in life threatening situations, dealing with mouth to mouth resuscitation, what to do when someone is unconscious, is choking, or is bleeding severely. It also deals with poisons, with priorities in First Aid, what to do first or what victim to treat first in a multiple accident.

Like all St. John Ambulance First Aid courses, it is taught with an emphasis on safety and accident prevention.

More on this overpage ..6

First Aid Course cont'd.

For more information, get in touch with:-

St. John Ambulance - Ontario Council
46 Wellesley Street East
Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1G5
Phone: (416)923-8411

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INTRODUCTORY WINTER CAMPING WORKSHOP

Friday, October 27 - Sunday, October 29, 1978

*CAMP WA-SA-AH-BUN
Port Severn, Ontario*

This is an introductory Workshop for Teachers, Camp Staff and other interested individuals who are thinking of involving themselves in Winter Camping this year.

TOPIC AREAS will include, Snowshoeing, Cross Country Skiing, Basic Technique, Food Preparation in Winter, Shelter Construction, Hypothermia and Winter First Aid.

CONTACT PERSON IS:

Mr. Curtis Eastmure
St. Catharines YMCA
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* * * * *

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