



OCAsional news

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Have a heart that never hardens
A temper that never tires
A touch that never hurts
-- Charles Dickens

COLE'S NOTES

I recently represented the OCA at a Camp Fair in an Oakville, Ontario, Public School. I had never been to one of these before, either as a visitor or representing my own camp. There were about 24 OCA camps on display for the assembled parents of the children in this particular school, and I opened the program with a short talk about OCA, how our standards work, and the kinds of things parents should look for and ask when they are searching out a camp.

The turnout was not huge - probably about 100 parents - but each appeared to be very interested and asked lots of questions of all the camp directors and representatives present. There was a variety of camps: everything from co-ed to boys', girls', specialized, scouting, etc.

The one camp that was not a member of OCA approached me and asked about membership and we have arranged to send them all the information.

I was impressed by the quality of the printed literature that was given to the parents and amazed at how far we have all come in our promotional work in the last few years. Everybody seemed to have four-colour brochures, very beautifully done; and I sensed a real pride in what was being distributed. This was a far cry from the days when we were handling out mimeographed materials about our respective camps. As well, a number of the slide shows and

videos, using the latest high-tech equipment, were also noteworthy. For many parents it will certainly not be easy selecting the camp that they wish their children to go to.

It struck me, as I walked through the rooms listening to the comments being made and the questions being asked, that there is, without a doubt, a certain amount of competition among us for the available number of children who will be going to camps, both resident and day; and yet, here we were all sharing space. Many of the camps in question had directors or representatives who are active in OCA. Even though there is this friendly competition, we share just about everything that we have at conferences and seminars in order to better the overall product that we represent: namely, camping.

We surely must be a unique organization in this way, for I can scarcely think of any other group in this position that so readily gives of themselves to each other, in order to better the final product.

By sharing we can only help each other, the children, and camping for the future. I hope that we can always maintain this ability to learn from each other.

See you in April!

TED COLE
President

LET'S INTEGRATE TOGETHER!

Real Programs for Real People

By: Rick Ireland
Outdoor Education Department
Edmonton YMCA

Submitted by:
Cathy Smart

A number of years ago, the term INTEGRATION probably meant things like bussing, equal rights and constitutional and moral difficulties incurred by our neighbour to the south.

Integration in the mid-eighties has a very different meaning for the camping community in that it has a focus upon the rights of the disabled individual rather than the rights of a particular race or the political power of a geographical region. For us, integration is the right of a disabled person to be included in a regular camp program and be viewed as a PERSON. With a little help and knowledge, we can provide those quality-of-life experiences to the disabled in a camp setting rather than routine, segregated "special camps". Perhaps the time has come for the camping community to become more involved in the integration process.

Undoubtedly, there are numerous camps which are many steps ahead of this "opinion". For those which lag behind, when was the last time they examined their "integration process"? As we have come to realize, integration is much more than simply mixing a few "disabled" campers with all of the "normal" campers during a given period. That process appears to do little but frustrate everyone from the camper to the camp director. Quite likely, everyone has an overall good time but with a little research and appropriate staffing, that "good time" can be elevated to encompass a positive learning experience by all in attendance, from camper to counsellor. Alberta Recreation and Parks provided a special grant in 1983 which enabled a variety of sponsors, including summer camps, to hire specialists to respond to the needs of the disabled camper. To their credit, this program has been extended into 1984.

The Edmonton YMCA's YoWoChAs Centre has been providing integrated programs for the disabled for a number of years. Hopefully, the programs have met the needs of the disabled camper in those often nebulous terms of quality of life socialization process. In those programs, we were offering activities and session based upon what we thought they needed rather than providing programs and support focusing upon their real needs. Through the Recreations for the Disabled Grant and the subsequent acquisition of a trained, dedicated and experienced staff specialist, we have increased the chances of meeting the real needs of the disabled camper mentally, emotionally and physically.

In concluding this lengthy statement of opinion, one important fact jumps out: the move from "normal" to integrated camping is a major step in the overall development of a camp. Such a step requires certain capital as well as a special attitude amongst all levels of the camp structure from director to camper to grounds keeper. What we (the administration) think they want and what they actually need and/or want can be miles apart. Specialists, consultants and government can play vital parts in moving a camp along the continuum to provide the camping experience to all. For the camps that are already involved in the integration process, more power to them. For those that are not yet there, maybe it's time for some serious thought on the matter.

IN TUNE WITH HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Camp Nurse Committee has been busy planning the 9th O.C.A. Workshop for Health Care Staff. It will be held May 27 at noon until May 28 at noon -- this format worked well last year. The setting is at the Bolton Conference Centre. All Health Care Staff are welcome, especially those new to camping. There will be information about AIDS, the role of the nurse, the record system, manuals and much more. Directors! If money is a problem, the nurse might pay part or even all the registration. Just let her/him know. Additional registration forms are available at the O.C.A. Office.

MARY CASEY

BETWEEN THE COVERS

They are easy to read, to the point and CHEAP! A series of leadership booklets that will give you quick tips, answers and results.

Complement your reference material with the following NEW booklets:

ABCs of Public Relations

About Self-Esteem

Child Development Series: For Ages 3-6

Child Development Series: For Ages 6-9

Child Development Series: For Ages 9-12

Understanding Adolescence

What Young People Should Know About AIDS

Your Imagination

You may be planning a staff training session of any one of these topics, or like the idea of being able to reach over to your shelf and pulling from it just the right information for a questioning staff member.

Save yourself some time and have the key points at your fingertips!

Channing L. Bete Co., Inc. 16p.

Cost: \$1.75 each (member)

\$2.10 each (non-member)

A L S O . . .

Blue Lake and Rocky Shore: a history of the first 50 years of children's camping in Ontario.

This valuable book can be a special gift from you to your staff:

- o a unique idea to include in your staff orientation;
- o a marvellous gift to thank them at the end of the season.

Cost: \$5.00 (member)/\$6.00 (non-member)

Books listed in "Between the Covers" are available from the C.C.A. Bookstore.

Orders that are \$20.00 or less must be prepaid with \$3.00 added for shipping. Contact the C.C.A. Office by mail or phone:

Canadian Camping Association
1806 Avenue Road, Suite 2
Toronto, Ontario M5M 3Z1
(416) 781-4717

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE - C.C.A.

O. C. A. LIBRARY

Congratulations to our members for the increased use of our library. We are continuing to add books to enhance the resources available.

HOWEVER, there are books which have been borrowed and not returned. Can you believe it?

If you have any of the following in your possession, borrowed over the past months and years from the O.C.A. library, please RETURN them or REPLACE them. NO FINES! Thank you.

Camp: The Child's World - American Camping Association

Canada's Greatest Women Athletes - Wiley

The Canoe and You - Ronald Perry

The Canoeists' Manual - Omer Stringer

The Concise Book of Winter Camping - Brown and Hunter

Council Fires - Ellsworth Jaeger

Counselling Your Friends - Cantoni & Cantoni

Discoveries in God's World - Mildred Grater

Ideas for Environmental Education - Russel Bachert Jr.

From 6 to 12 - Mutual Life

Games for Girl Scouts - Gibson

Good Times Around the Campfire - La Rue Thurston

Hockey Tips - Punch Imlach

Indian Crafts for Campers - Oscar Norbeck

Kids in Trouble - Campbell Loughmiller

Nature-Oriented Activities - Van der Smissen & Goering

Organized Resident Camping in the 1980's - Ministry of Tourism and Recreation

Raindrops Keep Falling on my Tent - Joy MacKay

Tricks and Games for Children - R. Dittrick

Working with the Handicapped- Leader's Guide - American Camping Association

A Workbook for Camp Counsellors - Mary Northway

The library would also appreciate a donation of a copy of the Bible to replace the tired, worn copy which we had to withdraw from circulation. If you have an extra copy and are willing to part with it, we will be grateful.

DOROTHY WALTER

Library Project for the President



O. C. A. PHOTO CONTEST RESULTS

Category

Activity 1st - Harvey Elmhirst - Kilcoo
2nd - Jocelyn Palm - Glen Bernard
3rd - Wally Davison - Ponacka

Emotion 1st - David Latimer - Kilcoo
2nd - Tara Blakely - Onondaga
3rd - Sandy Eathorne - Etobicoke Day Camp

Humour 1st - Sandy Eathorne - Etobicoke Day Camp
2nd - Lindsay Thompson - Glen Bernard
3rd - Antoinette Krusto - Lakewood

Nature 1st - Victoria Tait - Glen Bernard
2nd - Wally Davison - Ponacka
3rd - Madelene Allen - Ouareau

Scrapbook - 1st - Marygrove

Special mention to Megan Gilbert of Ouareau for being the only camper to submit pictures.

Thanks to all who participated: over 140 photographs were entered and enjoyed by all at the Conference.

A special reminder to those who submitted photographs and still have not picked them up: they are being held at the O.C.A. office. Please make arrangements to collect them!

MICHAEL MOORE
Chair
Photo Contest



PLEASE WELCOME... YOUR NEW O. C. A. BOARD

Here is the group of hard-working O.C.A. individuals that will give you in the year ahead.

EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT: Ted Cole, Camp Walden
VICE PRESIDENT: Diane Blair, Camp Gay Venture
SECRETARY-TREASURER: Brit Lowes, Camp Timberlane
PAST PRESIDENT: Jane McCutcheon, Camp Tawingo

DIRECTORS

Patti Thom, Camp Tanamakoon
Mykl Greenbloom, Camp Robin Hood
Catherine Ross, Camp Mi-A-Kon-Da
Joanne Dwhyte, Camp Tapawingo
Jim Blake, Camp Queen Elizabeth
Jessica Breski, Camp Cherith Ontario

ADVISORY COUNCIL

ARCHIVES: John Jorgenson, Camp Tawingo
AQUATICS: Wendell White, Camp Quin-Mo-Lac
EDUCATION: Pauline Marston, Camp Hurontario
DAY CAMPING: John Harder, Glenbrook Day Camp
MEMBERSHIP: Sally Moore, Individual Member
STANDARDS: Barb Gilbert, Individual Member
ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS: Dave Newnham, Camp Wanakita
CONFERENCE: Marjorie Booth, Mooredale Day Camp
PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PROMOTION: Michael Moore, Camp Kandelore

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CALLING ALL COUNSELLORS

Come to the 1989 O.C.A. Counsellor Conference! This year our Conference is being held at Lawrence Park Collegiate Institute, on Chatsworth Drive near the southeast corner of Lawrence Avenue and Avenue Road in Toronto.

The date is Saturday, May 27, 1989.

The price is \$15.00 for member camps
\$16.00 for non-O.C.A. delegates
\$18.00 at the door (if there is room!!)

Watch for your registration forms arriving soon in the mail. We are encouraging group registrations from camps again this year. Please note that no advance registrations can be made without accompanying payment.

Call your counsellors and invite them to join us for a GREAT day of leadership and fellowship.

39TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ALBERTA CAMPING ASSOCIATION

Held March 10-12, 1989 at Camp He Ho Ha. The focus will be on Standards, Personnel and Programs.

To obtain an application or more information please contact:

ACA Conference
c/o Camp He Ho Ha
Box 97
Seba Beach, Alberta
T0E 2B0

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL EARTH EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Program Development sessions; practical applications of environmental understandings; guest speakers.

May 3-7, 1989 - Yamnuska Centre, Seebe, Alberta.

For more information and an application, please contact: Dave Wampler, (509) 395-2529.



ONTARIO CAMP LEADERSHIP CENTRE
BARK LAKE, ONTARIO
JUNE 9-12, 1989

Specific and specialized staff
training in four key areas of
Camp programming:

CANOEING SKILLS/LEADERSHIP
ECO-SKILLS/NATURE PROGRAMMING
FIRST AID/SAFETY WORKSHOP
ARTS/CRAFTS LEADERSHIP

Contact O.C.A. Office (781 0525)

C'MON DOWN

TORONTO SPORTSMEN'S SHOW
EXHIBITION PLACE • MARCH 10-MARCH 19