

Jorg's Journal

Dear Journal:

April, 1995

During my time with the Archives Committee and since, I have marvelled at the contributions, vision and leadership of past OCA greats- many of whom are our Honourary Life Members. They set such a high standard of commitment and service beyond the running of their own successful camp operations that it is exhilarating to maintain the momentum they have created.

Bruno Morawetz said it very well (in 1962) when he spoke of Camp as "a little cosmos which springs to life suddenly in June and ends abruptly at the end of August. If this universe is a living reality, its vibrations will be felt throughout the intervening months and even through generations to come."

The OCA volunteer work is an interesting variation on that theme - a bigger cosmos springs to life in September and winding down in June with long-lasting vibrations and impact throughout the summer in Ontario and beyond (in the very camps which Bruno described.)

The OCA Action Plan defines this cosmos of Camping. It consists of our Mission Statement - "to enhance the quality of organized camping throughout Ontario"; our Goals - in Promotion, Professional Development, Advocacy, Standards and Operations; 41 specific Objectives and 113 clear, concrete action steps. It is these action steps (most of which we are already undertaking in some form) that provide signposts along a path leading to better camping in the next two years. The steps are distinct, project-based tasks perfectly suited for short term, and "in/out" participation by a team of volunteers.

I can hardly wait, Journal, to publish the results of the April Advisory Council's final look at the Action Plan. With the action steps set out for us, the volunteers can begin their work. The vibrations will be felt for generations to come...

In the meantime, I have a few things to do:

Jorg's To-Do List

Thank Patti for her Packing Party People, Pizza and Pop

Patti Thom has had a hand in everything - this time she rounded up all the volunteers needed to box an Association and move it 100 metres (including the down one and up one and a half flights of stairs.)

Check on Caryl's Collation of Council Comments

Caryl Colton's agreed to assemble the notes around the Advisory Council comments on the Action Plan. It will serve for an excellent starting point to our Advisory Council Meeting in April.

Announce April Advisory Agenda

Send out the notice of meeting for the Advisory Council Meeting on April 12 at the North York YMCA. Touch base with out of town representatives concerning their travel and accommodation.

Word a Wise Workers Weport (OOPS)

Jim Blake's progress on navigating through the regulations and rulings in relation to Workers Compensation are almost to a point that we can let our membership know about some strategies they can follow to reduce their costs while providing adequate coverage for themselves and their staff. There are some things which individual camps can do and some things we can do as an Association.

Make Mention of Marvellous Media Memory Book

It was a brainstorm idea by a volunteer and it's half full already! Everywhere we get our name in print, in all its forms, shapes and styles, we clip, snip and file in the new OCA Media File. With it, we can not only monitor all of the initiatives we have explored to date but we can build on them for similar development elsewhere. I must remember to mention this to the membership and get them to send in any material or advertising they see (articles, headlines, camp advertising and OCA mentions.)

Avoid All Alliteration Attempts Assiduously

Jorgi named 8th recipient of Dorothy Walter Award

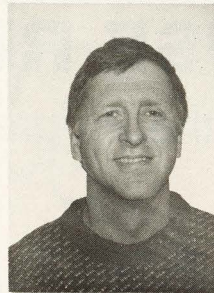
The Dorothy Walter Award is given annually to a member of the OCA who has achieved excellence. Congratulations to the 1995 winner, John "Jorgi" Jorgenson.

Jorgi is a Director of Camp Tawingo. Throughout his 25 years of leadership in camping, he has been involved with many organizations and has had a variety of responsibilities within the OCA.

Jorgi has been an instructor at the National Woodsmanship School

and National Instructor Canoe Schools. He has served on the OCA Archives Committee (Chair),

Education Committee, Public Awareness Committee (Chair) and Environmental Concerns Committee. He is presently the President of the OCA. He also helped develop and directed the



OCA Skills Weekend for more than eight years.

As chair of the 1994 Association of Independent Camps Council Kindred Meeting and General Sessions Chair for the Third International Camping Congress, Jorgi sat on the Steering Committee for this event. At the 1995 Director's Conference, he organized and ran a most successful day on Risk Management.

We all know that anything Jorgi undertakes is well organized and done to perfection. Congratulations on this well-deserved award from all your OCA friends.

OCA honours special contributions

Each year the Human Resources Committee recognizes members of the Ontario Camping Association for their exceptional contribution to the OCA.

Congratulations to the 1995 Volunteer Recognition Award Winners: Marj Booth, Jill Dundas, Mykl Greenbloom, Joe Pavla, Andy Rodford and Catherine Ross for all the extra work and energy that you put into our organization.

This year the Human Resources Committee also recognized three Commercial members who have contributed a great deal to the OCA. Congratulations to Scadco Designs Inc., Serca Foodservice Inc. and Tandy Leather Company.



Award winners (1 to r): Marj Booth, Mykl Greenbloom, Catherine Ross, Andy Rodford and Jill Dundas.

Long-standing members honoured

The following Commercial Members were given plaques for their years of involvement with the OCA:

(10 Years) G.B. Catering Ltd., Grumco Limited, L&E Paper Ltd.

(5 years) Alexander Battery Corp., Algonquin Outfitters/Canoe Store, Canadian Ropes Course Co. Inc., Custom Paddles by Ray Kettlewell, Dale Intermediaries, Gibbons Foods, Serca Foodservice Inc., J&J Craft & Industrial Sales, Scadco Designs Inc., Tandy Leather Co. and The Bow Shop Inc.

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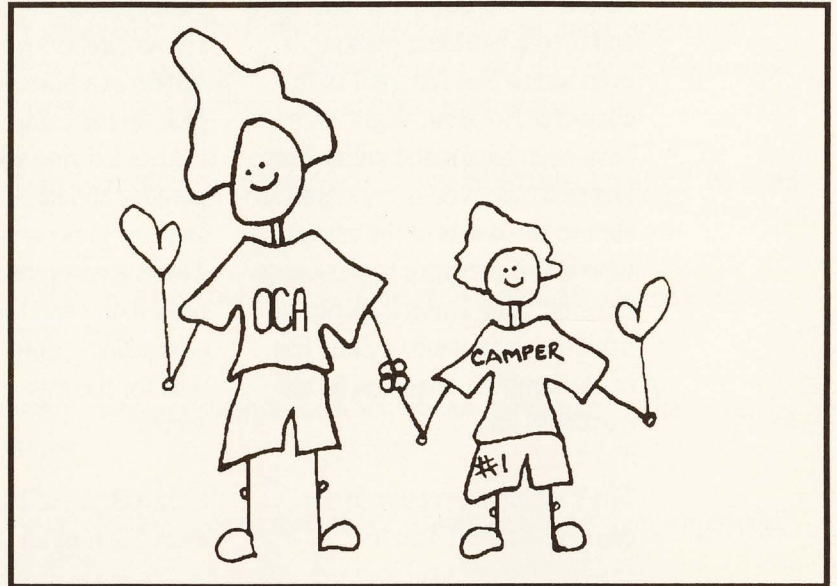
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Come Share the glow at Spring Training!

Fires burning, fires burning in each and every young heart and mind who are aspiring to be that great counsellor that campers dream about as a leader and as a friend.

In the glowing, these young leaders will discover the magic of a unique summer camp counsellor and all about what he or she should know to be one.

Draw nearer together to learn and share information about all different types of camp programming including arts and crafts, waterfront activities, back pocket games, camp wide games among a whole host of other skills.



Be merry, it's a whole day of excitement, learning and meeting new friends.

Come share the glow at the 1995 Spring Training Counsellor Conference. The fires start burning May 27, 1995 at Camp Robin Hood. It is hoped the fire will continue to burn through the camp counsellors' time at camp.

Register prior to May 12 to receive both the early bird and group rates!

Prior to May 12

OCA members: \$18 per person
Group of 12 or more: \$17 per person

Non-members: \$20 per person
Group of 12 or more: \$19 per person

After May 12

OCA members: \$21 per person
non members: \$25.

Bus transportation leaves Yorkdale Shopping Centre at 7:45 a.m. and returns at 5:45 p.m. Here's to the camper in you!

For more information on OCA Spring Training Counsellor Conference, please contact the OCA office at (416) 781-0525.

John Bergman
Spring Training Committee

Calendar of Events

April 1:

Directors' Day
Havergal College, Toronto
RSVP to Cathy Hitchcock
(905) 670-4447.

April 4:

OCA Executive Meeting

April 12:

OCA Advisory Council Meeting
OCA Board Meeting
North York YMCA

April 19:

Breakfast Club
"Health Care Issues"
OCA new office (please RSVP to office)

things for even a day!

adapted from Henry Van Dyke (as an invitation to OCA Volunteers!)

Tim Dales: "Constantly on alert to the needs of the camp"

As the saying goes, Tim was born and bred a Bre'Beuf person. It even seems like the spirit of the character Bre'Beuf might even have been incarnated within him. Here's a man who is constantly on alert to the needs of the camp and who is like a mentor to the camp director. Tim Dales lives not far from the camp laneway and has made camp an extension to his own busy life.

participate in the daily activities. He remembers going to the train station in a horse-drawn wagon to pick up the campers' equipment. He has led sing songs, skits and parades and has cut more than his share of grass around the camp. Tim is always there when things need fixing and there is never a complaining note. Tim has done it all for the love of those he serves.

which is presented to the Counsellor of the Year. The characteristics of one generation have certainly followed to the next as Bre'beuf is continually rewarded by Tim Dales' energy, love and commitment to camping. Well done Tim Dales of Camp Bre'beuf!

Tim's father was active in the camp and raised Tim to

Camp Bre'beuf has a memorial award in honour of Tim's father,


If you know of someone in your camping organization you wish to recognize because of their level of volunteerism or extra special effort, please fax or write me with all the details. Please provide a picture and I will do my darndest to get it back to you. All material will be edited by me. Wendell White, RR#1, Tweed, Ont. K0K 3J0. Fax: 613-473-5481.

Just Picture It!

Each year, the OCA is asked to submit camping pictures to publications for promotional purposes. This year, the requests have increased far beyond our capacity to respond and as a result, our reserve of camping pictures has been virtually eliminated.

We need your help!

The OCA will provide aspiring photographers with film (one 24 exposure roll per camp) to take pictures this summer. If you or one of your staff would like to be a part of this important endeavor, please call Mary Lynn at the OCA office. Film (and criteria for pictures) will be sent from the OCA in early June.

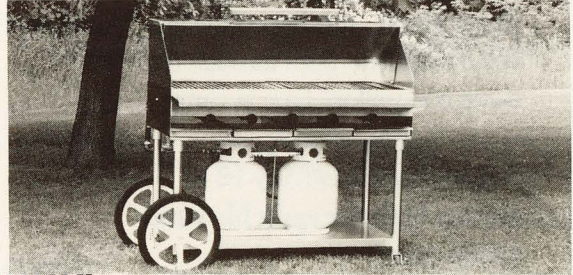


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Conference '96 moves to new site!

From January 25th to 27th, 1996, OCA will take over the Delta Meadowvale Resort and Conference Centre. Just a short distance from downtown Toronto, easily accessible by car or GO Transit, this unique and different facility offers more than the usual hotel meeting rooms of past conferences.

First, there is the beautiful park-like setting, reminding us of our camp homes where our spirits can be lifted even in the midst of the city winter.

Second, there is the fitness centre with full pool, where our bodies can be rejuvenated as we gain insights from the personal interchanges of the conference.

Third, there are the large number of meeting rooms of various sizes, where our minds can be challenged by a diverse series of speakers and workshops.

Fourth, there is the roaring fireplace, around which we can gather to tell stories and sing songs, improving individual skills by learning from a larger group.

Fifth, there are the luxurious bedrooms and diverse restaurants where we can relax and meet our need for either tranquillity or conviviality.

Mark your calendar NOW, and plan to be pampered and challenged, entertained and educated, as part of OCA Conference '96 at the Delta Meadowvale Resort and Conference Centre.

*Ellen Nash
Steering committee*

Thought for the day...

Are you willing to forget what you have done for others and remember what others have done for you?

To ignore what the world owes you, and think that you owe the world; to put your rights in the background, and your duties in the middle distance and your chances to do a little more than your duty in the foreground; To see that others are just as real as you are, and to try and look behind their faces

to their hearts, hungry for joy;

To own that probably the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life, but what you are going to give to life;

To close your book of complaints against the management of the universe and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness...

Are you willing to do these things for even a day?

adapted from Henry Van Dyke (as an invitation to OCA Volunteers!)

Breakfast Club targets integration

Welcome to the 90's, an attempt to break a new mode of camping throughout the Ontario Camping Association. It is referred to as integration, the coming together of able bodied and disabled campers to create summer camp. This was the main focus as we sat down to an OCA Breakfast Club courtesy of the Human Resources Committee, and the Integration Committee, hosted by Camp Towhee (Integra).

At this event of delightful exchange, we discussed how better we may accommodate the disabled child in our fine summer camps. Many of the camp directors who were in attendance favoured integration and welcomed suggestions for improving the concept of integration at their own facility.

Along with the welcoming of disabled campers, some directors expressed concerns about the matter. Some of the questions which arose were "how would parents react if their child was associating with a disabled one?" and, "how could a counsellor be in reach of a disabled camper at night if the counsellors do not sleep with the campers?" The group agreed that minor

Next
Breakfast Club Meeting
April 19th

adjustments could be made to accommodate these children. On the plus side, the members believed children belong with children no matter what their ability level. It should be noted that summer camp is a viable way for children to mature together, and all children of different abilities

should be granted a chance to attend.

The directors and staff in the camping field agreed this was a beneficial session and should be repeated in the future.

It is our intention that OCA Breakfast Clubs focusing on integration will open more doors to stronger debate on the subject and ultimately more opportunities for campers with disabilities.

John Bergman
Individual Member

Northern Ontario Emergency Training Centre

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Communications Systems

The technology of communication systems is becoming more affordable and helps reduce risks as well as enhancing the camps' ability to provide effective programs. In particular, day camps tend to be leaders in this field. A quick survey indicates that pagers, CB radios, VHF radios and cellular telephones are being used. Camps use these systems to facilitate emergency situations, daily arrivals and departures, rainy day programs and areas, out of camp trips, and communication between the camp office and important personnel or speciality and maintenance areas. The size of the camp in area and numbers, budget, the philosophical basis of the program and the expectation of the clientele, the area and topography of the site and out-trip locations determines the type of systems being used.

Pagers are most advantageous when trying to reach a specific person. They can be simple and beep, vibrate or can receive complete messages. Reception is within specific areas but it can be long distance.

We talked with Doug McClintock of Motorola in Toronto, a long-time friend of camping, to determine the difference between CB radios and VHF radios. He recognizes that CB (citizen bands) are less expensive, have specific ranges depending on the power of the unit and are especially useful for sites that are flat, lack rock formations and are away from trafficked areas as the public has access to the CB frequencies.

The VHF radio is more like an FM radio unaffected by topography and weather. Each system has its own frequency. The unit has a consistent 4-5 kilometre range and has unlimited ranges in the corridor through York Region to Lake Simcoe. These units can be rented for as little as \$60 per month.

Cellular Telephones have been especially important in urban areas and specific "corridors" where there are "cells." Many day camps send these units on

out-trips or overnights away from the site. Some camps ask their transportation providers to have their drivers equipped with cellular phones instead of VHS radios.

OCA would like to compile as much information as possible on the use of communication systems in camps. At Camp Robin Hood, we depend heavily on the use of CB radios. If you use any system or systems, write to the OCA in care of "Communication Systems." Please describe the system), the approximate cost of purchase or rental, its uses and benefits to camp, its limitations and any comments or questions. We can all benefit from this information.

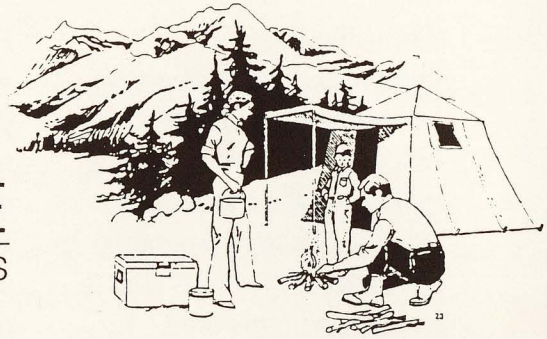
*Larry Bell
Camp Robin Hood*

Change of Venue

**Please note:
The 1995 Health Care
Workshop will be held
at the North York YMCA
567 Sheppard Ave. E.
North York, Ont.
(S.E. corner of Bayview and
Sheppard)**



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**ATTENTION
CAMP DIRECTORS !**

**1995
INSTRUCTORS COURSES**

For **TENNIS & WATERSKI** Staff
at Manitou-wabing Sports & Arts Centre, Parry Sound

**Waterski Instructors Course
JUNE 17 TO JUNE 20, 1995**

Our third annual waterski instructors course specifically geared to instructors and boat drivers at camp waterskiing programs.

A great deal of time is spent on **boat driving, safety and risk management** at the camp waterfront.

Cost: **\$295.00 per person (Plus tax)**

**Camp Tennis Instructors Course
JUNE 17 TO JUNE 23, 1994**

Canada's number one Tennis Camp's will once again be offering it's annual Instructors Course - designed specifically to meet the needs of **camp** Tennis Instructors. The 6 day course is an intensive on and off court training program focusing on group lesson instruction for beginners to advanced players. The course is a thorough and invaluable preparation for any tennis staff member planning to teach campers successfully and with measurable results.

Cost: **\$495.00 per person (Plus tax)**

Participation in either course is open to any Tennis or Waterski Staff holding a 1995 contract at an O.C.A. camp.

**For more INFORMATION give us a call
at the Manitou office:
Phone (416) 922 - 2447**

**1995
OCA Skills
Week-End**

Friday, June 9
to
Sunday, June 11

(12:30 p.m. start
Friday/3:00 p.m. finish
Sunday)

At Bark Lake
Leadership Centre

Streams

- ◆ Arts and Crafts
- ◆ Environmental Programming and Leadership
- ◆ Boardsailing
- ◆ Leadership Skills for Supervisory Staff
- ◆ Canoeing
- ◆ Out-tripping
- ◆ Integration
- ◆ Program Potpourri
- ◆ Kayaking
- ◆ Ropes and Initiatives

Registration information for OCA Skills will be sent to all OCA member camps in early April. Priority registration fee (paid by May 19th) for 1995 is \$125.00/person for OCA members and \$145.00/person for non-members (Arts and Crafts and Ropes and Initiatives add \$10.00). Prices include GST.

Classified Ads

For Sale: 250-300 Single Camp Beds (Steel, 30" x 72") Contact Ted Cole - Camp Walden (416) 635-0049 for prices on all or part.

Executive Director wanted: Gracefield Camp and Conference Centre (Synod of Quebec and Eastern Ontario of the Presbyterian Church in Canada). Resume, including the names of three referees, by April 7 to Mr. John G. Davidson, Chairman, 5837 Rideau Valley Dr., Manotick, Ont. K4M 1B3. Fax: 613-828-0713. Phone for information 613-692-4010 (evenings).

Camp location needed for karate camp Aug. 18-20. Requirements for 200-300 campers, food, beverages, low cost, indoor/outdoor facilities for 200-300 to practice karate and self-defence, preferably carpeted indoor facility, location close to Toronto or Orangeville, some recreational activities. Contact Master Renshi Belle 1076 Queen St. W. Toronto, Ont. M6J 1H8. (416) 532-9095.

For Sale: 110 single beds, 65 dressers, 65 night stands. Good condition. Contact Stephanie Johnson, CNIB Lake Joseph Centre. (905) 528-8558 ext 132.

Great Business Opportunity: Tenders sought from OCA members to manage our Name Label Program from your home or office. Requirements: computer literate, accurate typist, well organized, have access to PC and heavy-duty dot matrix printer. Contact Bobsie Ebbs by April 13th (416-781-0525) for information prior to submitting quote.

Spring and Summer Training Events. ORCA Basic Instructors Course: May 12-14, 1995. This award is the requirement needed to certify ORCA Basic levels used in many camps. Cost per participant: \$200.

SOLO Wildemess First Aid Course May 26-28, 1995. This is the first time that this course, which is used by the American coast guard and the ACA, has been offered in Canada. Cost per participant: \$160.

Wellness Day July 19, 1995. This is a workshop provided for any camp health care professionals interested in developing their health care program. Workshops, discussion groups, and a guest speaker will be featured. Cost per participant: \$16.

All courses take place at YMCA Camp PineCrest in Torrance, Ontario. Courses include food, lodging, awards, and all manuals and resource materials. For more information, contact: Bob Demare, YMCA Camp PineCrest, 3292 Bayview Ave. Suite 302, North York, Ont. M2M 3R7. (416) 225-9870. 1-800-263-4336. Fax (416) 229-1795.

Media monitors wanted: Have you seen or heard news items about the OCA or camping in general in your local media? Please clip items (or jot down a few notes about the broadcast you heard) and send to the Media File at the OCA office. Thanks!

"Camp Maple Rock Goes to Trial" Transcripts are still available at a cost of \$25. Contact Ellen at the OCA to place an order.

Ontario Recreational Canoeing Association (ORCA) Lakewater Level 2 and 3 (Instructor) combined course June 16-25th, 1995. Price \$695.50 (tax included.) Contact Doug Gifford - course director at 613-544-8265 for further information.

► OCA'sional News offers you a variety of ways to promote products and services within the association.



Deadlines are the 10th of the month preceding the issue of publication.

- Display ads are sold on a single or multiple insertion rate, with a 10% discount for members. Please contact the OCA office for rate information. Camera-ready art required.
- We also offer professional and business directory ads of business card size (2"x1.5"). Camera-ready art required. Ads must be purchased with a three issue minimum insertion or full year (nine issues). OCA member fee: \$35 per insert (3 months) or \$28 per insert (9 issues).
- Classified ads are sold with a maximum size of 25 words for a fee of \$10 for members and \$25 for non-members. Additional space sold in 25 word increments.

► The OCA'sional News is published 9 times a year by the Ontario Camping Association, a voluntary, non-profit association committed to excellence in Camping. We want to hear from you. Please send your inquiries to our Editorial Committee:

- Janet Adamson, Inspirational Messages (416) 481-7322
- Henri Audet, Hot Tips (416) 443-9058
- Jim Blake, In-depth Board issues (705) 457-5278
- Kate Moore, Editor, (416) 766-4204
- Mike Moore, Photographer, (416) 322-9735
- Patti Thom, Obituaries (905) 338-9464
- Wendell White, Profiles (613) 473-2877