



# OCAsional News

PUBLISHED BY THE ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 1995

## The Circle Of Light Exhibit Hall is Open on Thursday Evening

### Top Ten Reasons for Coming to the Exhibit Hall on Thursday Evening

10. You don't have to tax your brain on a decision to buy because you can come back on Friday!
9. You can get first looks at the latest and greatest - what's hot and what's not!
8. You can always tape "Friends" and "Seinfeld" but there is no catching up on the Exhibit Hall Opening!
7. There are door prizes and lots of them. (You can win even more than a door!)
6. Everybody else will be there, too, so you can network, schmooze, hang out, hob nob and have fun!
5. There will be refreshments available throughout the evening officially making the event a soiree"
4. We had so much fun last year that it is open longer this year, increasing your EEQ (Exhibit Enjoyment Quotient) by 50%!
3. Our commercial partners in our Association will spare no effort to make it enjoyable, interesting and entertaining!
2. You can "Graze" as well as "Cruise" because there is a light dinner served on the house (I mean in the hall)!
1. You miss absolutely nothing else at the Conference because it's the only show in the hotel and --- What a Show!

**See you in the Exhibit Hall  
Thursday Evening  
January 25, 1996**

## Task Force Springs Into Action

**M**ost of the fifteen OCA members who volunteered for the Crisis Response Task Force met on Sunday, November 19th. The group, assisted by facilitator Bruce Muchnick, engaged in an interesting and thoughtful discussion on crisis response and steps to be taken by OCA to assist our members in this area. The Task Force decided to focus on these components: AWARENESS, EDUCATION, RESOURCES and ACTION.

Watch for further information on this important topic and plan to attend one of Bruce's conference sessions "Responding When A Crisis Occurs".

BARB GILBERT

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"IT IS THE WILLINGNESS OF PEOPLE TO GIVE OF THEMSELVES OVER AND ABOVE THE DEMANDS OF THE JOB THAT DISTINGUISHES THE GREAT FROM THE MERELY ADEQUATE ORGANIZATION."-PETER DRUCKER

## November's Nuts 'n Bolts

Dear Journal

With the arrival of November, the Office enters the next phase of its annual cycle of support for members. The return from summer camp settings into fall and winter routines is complete, the membership renewal is finalized, the Camping Guide has gone to press and the introductory meetings of the various volunteer bodies have been conducted.

One such meeting was the OCA Advisory Council at which the Board, Regional Representatives, Committee Chairs and Executive gather to filter and focus the separate tasks of each volunteer group through the OCA Action Plan. At that meeting, it was suggested that the Action Plan be re-shared with all members of the Advisory Council and published in descriptive form for the membership at large. The Action Plan is reviewed annually at the Spring Advisory Council Meeting. I'll add it to the To Do List . .

Meanwhile, the Executive meetings are interesting! Everything seems to have its season. It is really timely to move forward on this Risk Management and Crisis Management Strategy for the OCA. Over 15 people have stepped forward, from large camps and small, to be part of a meeting with Bruce Muchnick on November 18 (before this writing and after this reading). This initiative has received nothing but positive comment and clear offers of support. (See article in this newsletter)

On the other hand, the concept of an OCA Camp Fair appears trapped in controversy and diverse points of view before it even arrives at a discussion table. Despite some people's perception, the OCA has not had any involvement in sponsoring or organizing camp fairs in recent years. It has never planned one and any camp fairs which are open exclusively to OCA camps are the result of decisions by the organizers. Unfortunately, many camp fairs are restricted, by size or circumstance, from including

Association-wide representation. Regional co-ordination, inclusivity and scheduling are some of the concerns brought forward by some members. Imposing unnecessary structure, interfering with free enterprise and the impossibility of dealing with US camp fair schedules are concerns brought forward by others. Most significant, however, are the high number of people with strong feelings versus the number of people willing to bring their thoughts to a meeting on the topic. It appears that the Brass Ring on Camp Fairs is out of reach on this subject for this go-round.....

Mary Lynn has gone and Carolyn has come! I hope that everyone calls the office to welcome Carolyn Kelly-Molnar to the OCA Staff. She is a terrific addition. Her smile and manner are as warm as her phone voice. Her background includes time in the office of Canadian Adventure Camp so camping concepts are not new to her. I hope to meet her husband Tony and two children (Diana (8) and Jeffrey (5)) very soon.

### Jorg's To Do List

- Talk to the Addiction Research about some cooperative learning/education in camps
- Insert an easy-to-read OCA Action Plan outline so the membership knows what we are doing and why
- Meet with some commercial members about some strategic partnerships
- Check out the Internet home pages for 3 OCA Camps (Kwasind, Ekon, John Island)
- Put some Internet technology to tender with the help of Dave Ward
- Read the increasing number of committee minutes crossing the President's desk
- Invite representatives of all associated organizations to the Annual General Meeting in January
- Do same things for Honourary Life Members (plus Banquet)
- Put forward some names for volunteer recognition.



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## Natural Law Impacts OCA

**I**nterdependence, diversity, community, energy are concepts we are accustomed to hearing in our camps as they related to our natural surroundings. As an OCA member you are active within a community and natural laws do affect us in similar ways.

You may ask, "What does this have to do with public awareness?" Let's begin with the concept of interdependence. Together member camps are stronger than the individual. The whole is greater than its parts. Working interdependently allows us to tell our camping story to a larger audience. We can reach more families more frequently as an Association than as a single camp operator.

Diversity in nature permits individuality; while being interdependent.

Celebrating our uniqueness and differences allows children and their families to have choices; we gather our strength together. As you promote your camp, pursue your standards of excellence, and create culture in your camps; the OCA encourages a camping field that celebrates diversity. It is what strengthens us, not separates us!

The camping community is built upon shared goals, purpose, and people. Our pursuit to increase the public's awareness of our OCA community is to enlarge this community. To have more people join our community - be it member camps, families, campers, preferred suppliers, and supporters; is our aim. Our community is a healthier one when all its members are actively promoting and encouraging others to join in our shared purpose.

Energy! It takes individuals like yourself to use your energy to the betterment of the whole (OCA) and in turn strengthen the parts (your camp). You can do this by ensuring the OCA logo sits proudly beside yours on brochures and displays; by telling camper families that you are an accredited member; by giving one hour of your time in support of your camping OCA community. There are other ways to use your energy to promote your OCA internally and externally. Let it be our shared goal that every family in Ontario be aware of the OCA and the benefits of camping. I am sure we all will be stronger for it.

Call the OCA office to inquire how you can promote and support the OCA.

KEITH PUBLICOVER

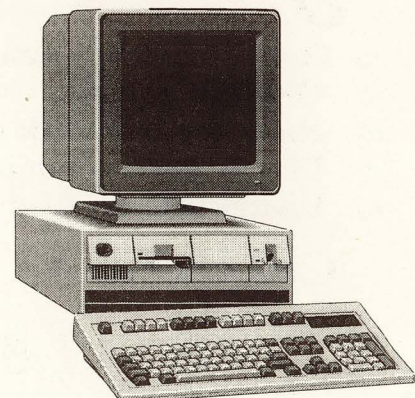
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## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

DEC. 5 EXECUTIVE MEETING 9:30 A.M.

DEC. 5 SPRING TRAINING COMMITTEE 2 P.M.

DEC. 13 BOARD MEETING 9 A.M.

DECEMBER 13 INTEGRATION COMMITTEE 1 P.M.

JAN. 25-27 "CIRCLE OF LIGHT" - OCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

## The Camping Cradle

Howie and Sari Grossinger are thrilled to announce the arrival of their son, Cole Ira, born Monday, October 23, 1995. Proud grandparents are Larry and Pearl Bell.

Adam and Dana Kronick are thrilled to announce the arrival of their daughter, Samantha Heather, born Saturday, November 18, 1995. Proud grandparents are Joe and Doreen Kronick.

## Spring Training - Past, Present and Future

What do Crazy Cranium Apparel Day, David Carmichael, Camp Robin Hood and an incredible amount of fun and energy all have in common?

They were all part of the most fantastic training day of 1995; Spring Training '95: "For the CAMPER in YOU"! With the help of a new outdoor site, a strong and dedicated committee, a superb committee chair, Caryl Colton, and the talented session presenters, the Counsellor conference in May of 1995 was a wonderful success. Thank you to everyone who helped out to make the day so great.

Now as we start the planning for the 1996 Spring Training Counsellor Conference, our energy and enthusiasm is only getting stronger by the minute. We have received a lot of feedback from last year's training event, and we welcome any other suggestions or comments to create an even better Spring Training in '96! Mark May 25th, 1996 on your calendars and keep your eyes peeled for updates in the OCA's News about the 1996 Spring Training Counsellor Conference because it is an event you won't want to miss!

MAIJA ZEIBOTS, CHAIR  
1996 SPRING TRAINING COMMITTEE



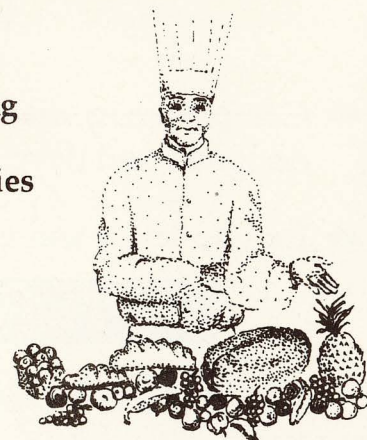
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## PROFILES

There are some very interesting things going on in OCA these days and one such item is the new task force on "Incident/Crisis Response". OCA is very fortunate to have Bruce Muchnick involved with this group and, already, we have met once in Toronto. Our first meeting was a valuable event of sharing and planning for the up and coming task force survey. Here's an opportunity for camps to share significant events that have happened in their camps. All information will

be dealt with in a private and confidential manner. From such information the task force will assess need and determine the need for putting together a response team. I feel confident that such a team will be a valuable support system for all member camps, directors, and staff. As a camp director I know that this action excites me and speaks to the value of OCA as a parent organization.

Volunteers on the Task Force:  
Ken Hedges, Jane Mead, Barb Gilbert,

Tom Appleyard, Kyle Barber, Marie McCarron, Sally Moore, Rob Pollard, Leslie Clark, Sam Hambly, Larry Bell.

You are going to hear of great things happening from this group. . . So stay tuned!

Please write

WENDELL WHITE

*Additional Note: Send in the name of the person you wish to profile.*

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

### New Accredited Camps

Congratulations to the following camps for attaining their full OCA Accreditation:  
Camp Kienuka and Camp Selkirk.

### New Provisional Camp Members

Welcome to Banbury Programs; three Circle Square Ranch Camps at Arden, Brantford and Washago; Forest Cliff Camp; Green Acres Baseball Camp; Westbound Teen Travel Camp; Youth Leadership Camps Canada.

### New Commercial Members

**Actionware.** 196 Citation Drive, Concord, ON L4K 2V2. 905-669-4969, Fax 905-669-6220. Quality customized sportswear and advertising specialty products.

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**Sirius Wilderness Medicine.** PO Box 38, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, PQ H9X 3L4. 514-424-6993, Fax 514-424-8297. Canadian Specialist in wilderness first aid training, first aid kits, river rescue, instructor programs.

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

**Office Assistant** needed at the Taylor Statten Camps. Must have excellent organizational and reception skills, as well as working knowledge of Microsoft Office. French language skills an asset. This is a full-time position. Please send a complete resume to: Judith Biggar - Business Manager, The Taylor Statten Camps, 59 Hoyle Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4S 2X5 by Dec. 13, 1995 or fax: 416-486-1837.

### The OCA Needs You To:

- Let your name stand for a Board position (deadline for nominations: December 13, 1995)
- Join the Committee of your choice
- Call the office and register with the Human Resources Committee to take on a task

It will be good for you and it will help all of us interested in camping!!!



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## OCA BOARD MEMBERS

**President:** John Jorgenson, Tawingo, RR#1 Huntsville, Ont. P0A 1K0 H: 705-789-8701. B: 705-789-5812. Fax: 705-789-8624. E-Mail: TNTAWINGO@AOL.COM.

**Vice President:** Barb Gilbert, 13 Maple Ave. Toronto, Ont. M4W 2T5 H: 416-921-7384. Fax: 416-922-4523. Portfolio: Regional Reps.

**Past President:** Larry Bell, Robin Hood, 158 Limestone Cres. Downsview, Ont. M3J 2S4. 416-736-4443. Fax: 416-736-9971. Portfolio: Nominations, PRO.

**Treasurer:** Adam Kronick, White Pine, 40 Lawrence Ave. W. Toronto, Ont. M5M 1A4. 416-322-6250. Fax: 416-488-9313. Portfolio: Fundraising.

**Director:** Jim Blake, General Delivery, Hallburton, Ont. K0M 1R0. 705-457-5278 Tel. and Fax. Portfolio: Legislation, Integration, PRO, MCTR & CCO liaison.

**Director:** Jeff Bradshaw, Couchiching, 4 Ripley Ave. Toronto, Ont. M6P 2Y9. 416-769-2233. Fax: 416-769-0204. Portfolio: Fundraising, Education (Conference, Skills, Spring Training.)

**Director:** Kate Moore, Camp Allsaw, 36 Evelyn Ave. Toronto, Ont. M6P 2Y9. 416-766-4204 Tel. and Fax. Portfolio: Public Awareness (Camping Guide), Professional Development (Newsletter).

**Director:** Ellen Nash, Northland B'nai Brith, 3995 Bathurst St. #200, North York, Ont. M3H 5V3. 416-630-1180. Fax: 416-630-8561. Portfolio: Health Care, Standards, Membership.

**Director:** Keith Publicover, YMCA Camp PineCrest, 3292 Bayview Ave. #302, North York, Ont. M2M 3R7. 416-225-9875 x 325. Fax: 416-229-1795. Portfolio: Public Awareness (Media, Camp Promotion), Archives.

**Director:** Patti Thom, Tanamakoon. 235 Church St., #3, Oakville, Ont. L6H 1N4. 905-338-9484 Fax: 905-338-3039. Portfolio: Human Resources (Volunteers, Events), Education (Director Training).

## REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

**Eastern Ontario (Ottawa):** Deirdre Billes, Omagaki Wilderness Centre, Box 4, Pembroke, Ont. K8A 6W5. 613-732-0780.

**Northeastern Ontario (Sudbury):** Dave Ward, John Island, 185 Lloyd St. Sudbury Ont. P3B 1N1. 705-674-8315 Fax 705-674-3236. daveward@mcd.on.ca

**Northwestern Ontario (Thunder Bay)** Elaine Kalnbach, Dorion Bible Camp, Dorion, Ont. P0T 1K0. 807-857-2331.

**Southwestern Ontario (London).** Roxanne Arts, Y-Ma-Wa-Ca Day Camp, George White Outdoor Centre, RR #5, Clarke Sideroad, London, Ont. N6A 4B9. 519-455-2519 or 519-667-3300, Fax 519-455-2419.

## A Letter

This holiday season, allow yourself the recognition of peace. Reflect upon the past year and just ponder those who inspired you to grow and those you assisted in growing.

Six months ago, we influenced a potential for a great many lives to grow and we did our best to assist in the process.

Every camper is truly an unique being. The child holds a gift of memories of interacting with others on a personal level, one of the best gifts a child can receive.

We, in the summer camping industry, can feel good about the surroundings which we provide. Life is a great deal brighter, I think, with the pass of a smile in our summer settings.

The cold, wet landscape of December gives way to the thoughts of a warm and friendly sunsets of summer where the inner peace grew and the minds felt whole.

As we prepare to close 1995, let's put our thoughts forward to the new year where we once again place our campers at centre.

Let us all come together to rewrite the book on memories which we have put together so many times before. And as we do rewrite this book, allow us to dream just a little more and perhaps, those campers of the upcoming summer will shine just a little more.

For now, a warm wish of the holiday season upon us all.

JOHN BERGMAN

## PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Sandra Root, formerly at Canterbury Hills, is now the Coordinator of Nature on Wheels, in Ancaster.

OCA's **Asional News** offers you a variety of ways to promote products and services within organized camping. Next deadline is December 15th for January publication.

- Display ads are sold on a single or multiple insertion rate, with a 10% discount for members. Please contact the OCA office for rates. 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 (10 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.

- Paid advertising content will not exceed editorial space.

- The OCA's **Asional News** is published 10 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 thoughts and inquiries to our editorial committee:

- Janet Adamson, Inspirational Messages 416-481-7322.

- Henri Audet, Hot Tips 416-443-9058

- Jim Blake, Current issues 705-457-5278

- Kate Moore, Editor 416-766-4204

- Mike Moore, Photography 416-322-9735

- Patti Thom, Newsworthy items and Obituaries 905-338-9464

- Wendell White, Profiles 613-473-2877

- OCA Office, 1810 Avenue Road, Suite 302, Toronto, Ont. M5M 3Z2 416-781-0525. Carolyn ext 15; Bobsie ext 11. Fax 416-781-7875.



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