



OCTOBER 1991

EDITOR: JANET ADAMSON

"May you look back on the past with as much pleasure
as you look forward to the future." -- Paul Dickson

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's hard to believe that another season is over - except for the bills, the letters, the bookkeeping, the government paperwork, the maintenance lists, the fall season groups, etc., etc.! I hope in that list appears a few days off. I also hope your summer was a rewarding one, full of sunshine and laughter.

The OCA shifts gears and prepares to address a number of issues - proposal to extend the school year, government grants, training events, and the completion of several projects, one of which is the "Green Guide for Camps". Another is the exciting project undertaken this summer to produce risk management videos. We will keep you informed of the details of these projects and we will be calling on you for your help. In the meantime, welcome back!

LIZ GREENWAY
President

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

The following letter from an OCA member was received during the summer:

"I have been meaning to write for a long time, but I didn't want to be a complainer.

"As you go into a new season in the fall, I would like to ask you and your Board to consider going back to the old letterhead of OCAsional News.

"The current one doesn't seem to hang together. The pine tree on the left is fine with a trip tent beneath it. The tree next to it is also fine and the two little ones. But then we come to the big leafless deciduous tree which make me wonder which season it is? Winter? Finally, on the right, we have a hawk who is getting out of the picture as fast as he can. Artistically it just doesn't hang together.

"Now, please dig out one of the old ones and see what an attractive letterhead it is. I always used to admire it. There may have been a compelling reason for a change, but this new picture seems to represent the fragmented age that we are in. Please reconsider the old."

The old letterhead, for those who may not recall it, depicted three backpackers on the left, and an island with windswept pines on the right.

So, OCA members, what say you? Do you agree with the above letter? Comments are invited and may be sent to me, c/o OCA office.

JANET ADAMSON
Editor



SUMMER CAMP : THE GREATNESS OF THE AFTERMATH

Please forgive me as I gripe. I had a trying time at summer camp this season. As many staff, I developed a bad cold - you know the kind where your nose is plugged up and your throat is incredibly raw. I also tripped over a rock and placed a large gash in my back which was sore. If that is not trying enough for you, I fell through the steps to my cabin every night. At one point in the summer I informed the camp director I planned to quit and go home.

He never let me quit. Somehow the camp director talked me out of it, and I am glad he did. Don't get me wrong: all my problems did not disappear. I was still falling through the steps to my cabin, and the next day, I capsized in a kayak.

One may be asking oneself why did I want to stay at summer camp if I had so many problems? The answer is easy. One can look back at a situation, as hard as it may have been, and realized it was a great experience. I remember I met many good people whom I worked with at camp, and I remember the friendly atmosphere I worked in.

I think to myself, when January hits, and the ice cold wind whips around my body, that great memory of summer camp will warm me up as I wait for the bus.

I urge all camp staff to take my advice next summer. If any of you run into problems at your summer camp which you do not think you can handle, don't quit. Do the best you can and let the memories in the winter take over. You'll be thankful you did.

Until next summer, happy memories. I know I will have many.

JOHN BERGMAN
Camp Wabanaki

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION WOES

Camps that have received their Workmen's Compensation classification for 1993 may have noticed that camps have been reclassified in a category inconsistent with camping. This has resulted in a substantial rate increase.

The OCA has written a letter to Workmen's Compensation to object to the category our camps have been placed in, and feel that there are at least two other categories better suited to our operations: one is educational, and the other is recreational.

If you check the booklet you received in your notification package, you will note that you can object by completing Page 6. We strongly suggest you do so.

LARRY BELL
Vice President

PROPOSED TRANSMISSION FACILITIES

Ontario Hydro has begun an environmental assessment study to recommend locations for new transmission facilities to improve the supply of electricity across a broad area of central Ontario.

New high voltage transmission lines are proposed between the Sudbury area and the north and east fringes of the greater Toronto urban area. New transformer or switching stations are also proposed northeast of the Toronto area to connect these lines into the existing transmission system.

The environmental study process is expected to continue for two and one half years before preferred route and site locations are identified. The study staff will meet with representatives of interested organizations to review all information. The decision on which new facilities, if any, are to be built and their location will be subject to a hearing by a Consolidated Hearings Board. The planned in-service date for the initial facilities is 2002.

If you have any questions or comments about the study, please contact:

Mr. Jim Shewchuk
Senior Community Relations
Officer
Ontario Hydro
700 University Ave.,
8th Floor
Toronto, Ont. M5G 1X6
(416) 592-4092
Fax: (416) 592-7842

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Have you ever gone to an OCA conference and wondered how you can get involved? Have you ever wanted to be part of a committee and did not know how to go about it? Are you interested in helping in some way with the OCA?

There is now a new committee called Human Resources that will probably be able to assist you. The Director is Patti Thom and the Chairman is Cathy Hitchcock.

This committee was established in the spring and we presently have eleven members. We are now identifying our short and long term goals and in turn we are looking at the jobs that must be done in the immediate future. Our mandate is to recruit, train and recognize volunteers within the organization.

The following are some of the goals that have been identified:

1. Design a survey for the membership to determine their current level of participation and encourage them to participate in one way or another.
2. To phone and place all respondents in an appropriate job or committee.
3. To ensure that volunteers get to the appropriate meetings.

4. To orientate new Board members and chairpersons on how to recruit, train and look after their volunteers.
5. To follow up with new volunteers after six months to make sure they are happy.
6. To develop an official recognition and thank you for volunteers.
7. To develop an annual social event for volunteers.

It is our hope that over the next few months we will have at least one person from each member camp involved in a functioning committee or helping out in some area. This may include: speaking at a conference; planning workshops; helping stuff envelopes for an upcoming event; or anything else! If you let our committee know what you want to do, we will get you there and follow up afterwards.

Please volunteer! We are looking for new people to get involved with the OCA and we encourage continued participation from current volunteers.

CATHY HITCHCOCK
Human Resources Chairman

TOPICALLY . . . FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE

An important reminder - the next issue of "Camps Canada" will be published this fall. Please watch for interesting and topical articles.

This summer was the first since the implementation of the GST. What effect has the addition of this tax on top of camp fees had on camper enrolment? The GST and its effects will be an agenda item at this fall's Presidents' Council.

Hours for the Canadian Camping Association office /bookstore are: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 - 4:30.

BETWEEN THE COVERS



Earthwalks (Earth Magic) by Kirk Hoessle and Steve Van Matre

An acclimatization walk is a special adventure in experiencing the richness and wonder of the natural world. Includes activity cards, introductory material, leader guidelines, and detailed notes on how to put the walks together. Three-ring binder, 7½ x 9, black with white graphics.

Cost: \$19.37 (includes shipping and GST).

Available from the Canadian Camping Association Bookstore. Single copies must be prepaid by cheque or VISA (please show account number, full name on the card and expiry date).

To order or for information on large orders, write or phone:

CCA Bookstore
1806 Avenue Rd., Suite 2
Toronto, Ont. M5M 3Z1
(416) 781-4717

CONFERENCE '92

First Time Conference Delegates Travel Allowance Available

IF...you are a member of
OCA

IF...you plan to attend the
OCA Conference for
Directors and Senior
Staff as a FULL TIME
DELEGATE WITH HOTEL

IF...you will be a first
time delegate

IF...you reside more than
150 km from Toronto

THEN the OCA would like to
assist you!

At the same time that you
mail your registration for
the Conference, enclose a
completed TRAVEL ALLOWANCE
APPLICATION. You will be
eligible to receive an
allowance from \$30 to \$225
depending upon the distance
you have to travel. Avail-
able funds will be distri-
buted on a first-come,
first-served basis. Noti-
fication of confirmation
will be mailed to you with
your receipt and the
allowance will be forwarded
shortly after the Confe-
rence. Applications will
be sent to all members who
live more than 150 km from
Toronto or you can call the
OCA office at (416) 781-
0525.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Conference for Directors
and Senior Staff.....
.....January 23-25, 1992

Third International Camping
Congress.....
.....March 2-5, 1994

POSITION WANTED

Experienced **Camp Director**
(13 years) seeks summer
position at either day or
residential camp. Avail-
able during the year part-
time and full-time for
summer. Experience inclu-
des owning and operating
his own camp. Qualified in
all phases of program and
administration. 14 years
teaching experience; resume
upon request. Please call
Danny Mirrett at (416) 483-
8353 (home).

HELP WANTED

Secretary for Day Camp.
Looking for a friendly,
cheerful person with excel-
lent telephone skills.
Must be organized, depen-
dable and have WordPerfect.
Please send replies to:
Bayview Glen Day Camp
275 Duncan Mill Rd.
Don Mills, Ont. M3B 3H9
Attention: Lynda Fishman

HELP WANTED

Camp Katonim, a day camp on
Lake Simcoe requires a
resident **Director** for the
1992 season. Dormitory
facilities for 40 staff;
120 day campers from local
summer cottage communities:
Balfour Beach, Keswick,
Island Grove and Jackson's
Point. For further infor-
mation contact Judy Winberg
at (416) 395-0565.

FOR SALE

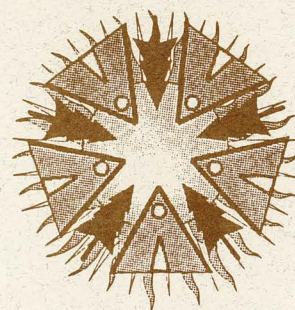
2 large stainless steel
pots (never been used) and
a steam table. Make us an
offer, we're desperate!
Call Bruce or Lisa Wilson
at Camp Oconto, (416) 470-
2030.

WANTED TO RENT

A very clean, non-smoking
family is looking for an
R.V. that can sleep 4 for a
2 or 3 week cross-country
trip next summer. Adults
have excellent driving
records. Call Fiora at
(416) 781-0525.

FOR SALE OR...

The OCA office is looking
for a new home for their
old Radio Shack computer
system. For more infor-
mation, call Wendy or Fiora
at (416) 781-0525.



O.C.A.
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
January 23 -25, 1992

"Kaleidoscope
of Camping"

The Sheraton Centre
Toronto

DON'T MISS...

- * marketing
- * future trends
- * communication
- * story telling
- * earthwalk
- * cultural awareness
- * family law
- * entertainment
- * exhibits
- * seminars
- * workshops

... AND MUCH MORE!