



JUNE 1990

EDITOR: JANET ADAMSON

"A child needs your love the most when he deserves it the least" - Erma Bombeck

COLE'S NOTE

"And the black fly, the little black fly, Always a little black fly, no matter where you go, I'll die with the black fly picking my bones in North Ontario."

For those of you who have been up north already, THEY ARE BACK: the little black flies who live in your ears, behind your neck and in your hair. You never know they are around until you feel the blood seeping out of your ear or down the back of your neck. My God, wouldn't spring be nice if we didn't have to live with them. I was up at my camp yesterday and could barely stay outside: they were so thick! It wasn't even the biting, it was just the nuisance of having swarms of them surrounding me wherever I go. It is one of the few times of the year that I feel like taking up smoking.

By the time you get this newsletter, many of our plans will already be underway for the summer of 1990. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the OCA Board and Advisory Council to wish each and every one of you a safe, happy and memorable summer camping season. May we gather next fall and not have too many horror stories to relate to one another about incidents that may transpire this season! I know that my adrenaline is starting to flow as I eagerly anticipate the start of another wonderful camping year and I know that many of you feel the same way.

If OCA can be of any help to any of you during the summer, we are available.

Best wishes,

TED COLE
President

CAN YOU HELP US FIND THESE PEOPLE?

The Archives Committee would like to get in touch with the following people:

Bing Caswell
Ed Rushton
Fred Dier
Jean Forester
John Russell
Gerald Whitmore
Gord Wright
Frank Halbus
Ken Hansen
Jean Hartman
Nestor Kelha
Grant McKeen
Peggy Miall
Ron Penny
Brother Raymond
Helena Southwell
Pat Scollard
Lewis Smith
Roy Thrall

If you can help to provide current addresses or phone numbers, please contact the OCA office, (416) 781-0525. Thank you!

THE GREEN SCENE

Lunchtime at Day Camp... a time to slow down a bit, sit under a big shady tree and enjoy each others' company as we eat our lunches packed from home. If you are a Day Camp director or staff member, you can probably picture the lunches that are pulled out from underneath wet towels and bathing suits in your campers' backpacks. Reaching into their lunchbags, campers pull out all sorts of sandwiches wrapped in plastic sandwich bags, a variety of drinks in drinking boxes or plastic see-through bottles, and all types of wrapped chewy granola bars, individual servings of chocolate pudding or fruit cocktail in pull-tab cans, chips and other desserts and treats in all types of disposable packages. At the end of lunchtime, the garbage that hasn't blown away in the wind is collected up by each group and put into the garbage cans around your site. After the buses leave each day, one staff member has the job of emptying out the garbage and throwing out all those lunch wrappers.

I guess there's no real reason to expect any differently, especially when we realize that Canadians produce more garbage per person than any other country in the world (including the U.S.). But there is a lot we as Day Camp staff can do to help alleviate the garbage crisis, and one very simple way is to encourage campers and staff to PACK A LITTERLESS LUNCH.

To get started, try including a section in your pre-camp information to parents explaining the purpose of your "Litterless Lunch" program (or send a letter home at the end of the first day of camp). Parents play the most important role in helping their children pack their lunches at home. Explanations of alternatives such as tupperware containers for sandwiches, thermos bottles for drinks and lunchboxes instead of bags could be accompanied by drawings of the ideal "Litterless Lunch". These visuals could also appear in appropriate places around your Day Camp site to help reinforce the idea each day. Perhaps a weighting or measuring of the amount of lunchtime garbage produced each day or each week could be tabulated, and the campers challenged to continuously break the record for the least amount of lunch packaging waste each day or each camp session. Continual communication with parents, either at parents' nights or through camp newsletters, will help keep them involved and positive about the program. Teachers I spoke with this year after Earth Day noted that most parents actually enjoy being reminded by their children to find new ways to live in a more environmentally responsible way. Why not try encouraging campers and staff to "Pack a Litterless Lunch" this summer? It's one more way that we can be positive role-models for our campers as we all continue to modify the way we live in this "turnaround decade" of the 1990's.

Coming Attractions:

Earthfest - Sat. June 16/90
10 am-4 pm, Head Lake Park,
Haliburton, Ont.

A Summer Environmental Fair
Call (705) 754-2255

Global Warming-The Implications for Development -
Mon. June 4/90, 7-11 pm,
Ont. Science Centre; FREE!
Call (416) 449-8838.

DAVE NEWNHAM, Chair
Environmental Concerns
Committee

S R. POSITION WANTED

Currently working with children with behavioural problems in a residential and school setting. Over 18 years' exposure to Ontario Agency Camps (from camper to Waterfront & CIT Director). Please contact Mary at (416) 487-8721.

OCA Skills Week-end
June 8-11, 1990
OCLC Bark Lake

This is the last opportunity to try to find a spot in the Skills Week-end for your key staff. The benefits of participation go far beyond the subject of any one stream. These skills are transferable into your entire camp program

**CANOEING
CRAFTS
ECO-SKILLS/NATURE
CREATIVE PLAY/GAMES
DRAMA/THEATRE ARTS**

Contact the OCA Office

**WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS**

New Commercial Members:

CHILDSCOPE EDUCATIONAL
MATERIALS INC.
91 Armstrong Ave.,
Georgetown, Ont. L7G 4S1
(416) 846-4000
Arts & Craft materials,
toys, games, records/tapes.
Catalogue available.

ALLTIME PARTY GOODS
3547 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2C2
(416) 789-2710; FAX: (416)
783-8552
Wholesaler & distributor of
paper, plastic, foam and
aluminum products.

THE LEADING EDGE
3684 Commerce Crt.,
Burlington, Ont. L7N 3L7
(416) 632-4218
Human resources develop-
ment.

New Affiliated Member:

GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA
(ONTARIO COUNCIL)

**CAMPER VACANCY
PROGRAM**

Camp Directors: please
remember that June 11 is
the date to start phoning
in to the OCA office [(416)
781-0525] your camper
vacancies. We will need:
camper age/sex, session
dates, contact person and
telephone number. Fees are
also helpful. We will then
be able to provide this
information to interested
parents.



HELP WANTED

Full-time Program Staff:

Two positions available at
Christian camp for children
and young people in Mus-
koka, Ontario. Applicants
should be graduates of
post-secondary institutions
or equivalent, with Chris-
tian camping or similar
experience. Staff raise
own support in conjunction
with a guaranteed base
amount. Health package, a
vehicle and transportation
costs provided.
Applications, resumes and
references (in confidence)
to: Paul Fowler, General
Director, Camp Mini-Yo-We,
95 Mimico Ave., Etobicoke,
Ont. M8V 1R4.

**DO YOU KNOW
WHERE OUR
SCRAPBOOK IS?**

The staff and campers of
Marygrove Camp spent last
summer preparing a scrap-
book for entry in the
January OCA Annual Confe-
rence contest.

THE GOOD NEWS: We won!!!
THE BAD NEWS: It's been
lost!!!
Anyone knowing the where-
abouts of this important,
irreplaceable collection of
memories - please contact
the OCA Office or Marygrove
Camp at (416) 364-5577.
Hundreds of campers and
dozens of staff are really
hoping for its return.

**OCA CALENDAR
OF EVENTS**

- Skills Weekend.....
.....June 8-11, 1990
- 1991 OCA Conference.....
.....January 24-26, 1991

**LAKE SCUGOG
CAMP REUNION**

Unfortunately, we are
leaving our site on Lake
Scugog and we will be re-
locating in 1991.
If you have had any con-
nection with the camp over
the years, join us for a

CELEBRATION - REUNION
Sunday, June 10
at Lake Scugog Camp Site
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Help us celebrate the memo-
ries as we say farewell to
our site.

R.S.V.P. (416) 489-8382
(after hours at 489-7343).

**SHORT STORY
CONTEST**

Topic: "Why I Go To Camp"
Length: 500 words maximum
(preferably typed)

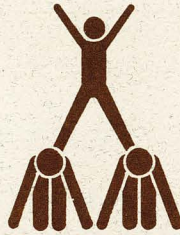
Directors! This is an
excellent "rainy day
activity" for campers and
staff alike.

Entries to be submitted to
the OCA Office by January
10, 1991. Please include:
contestant's name, address
and telephone number, and
camp affiliation.

The winning entry will be
presented at the 1991
Annual Conference.

**Notice to Camps and Indivi-
dual/Student Members:**

Enclosed with this News-
letter you will find
information on the ever-
popular Photo Contest.
Please encourage staff and
campers to take pictures
over the summer for
submission later this year.



**WE CAN
MAKE A
difference**

1 9 9 1 O C A A N N U A L C O N F E R E N C E

FOR DIRECTORS, OWNERS AND
SENIOR STAFF

JANUARY 24 - 26, 1991

THE SHERATON CENTRE, TORONTO

Planning for the 1991 OCA Annual Conference is well on its way, and based on early indications, it will be an exciting event!

JACK PEARSE, Camp Tawingo, will kick off the event with his keynote address, "We Can Make a Difference". BARBARA COLOROSA, a much sought-after speaker and an expert on children, will give the keynote address on Saturday morning. She will also present a full day seminar (by special ticket only). SKID CREASE, of the Mono Cliffs Outdoor Education Centre, will provide a thought-provoking finish to the conference with his presentation, which will focus on the environment and the Periwinkle Project.

And between these major happenings, there is something for everyone...

- new or nearly new directors will get the chance to brush up on basic skills;
- experienced and new directors, section heads and senior staff will have the chance to compare notes on how to deal with the sticky situations that we all have to cope with at one time or another;
- day camp staff will share their uniqueness;
- program staff will go home with new, practical ideas to take to camp;
- office staff and kitchen staff will gain insight to their operations and their importance to camp life.

And for those camp people who have been in camping "forever"... there will be sessions to refresh and rejuvenate!

So if you are asking yourself: Should I go? Should some of my staff go? Will we learn anything? Is it worthwhile? The answer to these questions is **YES!**

Watch for your summer flyer - coming soon - and share it with your staff!

O C A P H O T O C O N T E S T . . .

at the Annual Conference for Directors and Senior Staff
January 24 - 26, 1991.

Before the summer starts we want to remind all directors and senior staff about the Contest so they can encourage interest amongst their staff and campers. We hope to get entries from both campers and staff at all the OCA camps. Photos will be judged in 4 categories:

Activity
Emotion
Humor
Scenic

Prizes will be awarded for winners in each category and all photos entered will be displayed on the Saturday of the Conference.

HERE ARE A FEW IDEAS TO HELP INTEREST YOUR CAMPERS AND STAFF
TO ENTER THE CONTEST

- provide film in your tuck shop
- develop a special day around taking pictures
- hold your own Camp Photo Contest and send in all the entries to the OCA Photo Contest
- invite all campers who enter to visit the display on Saturday at the Conference
- enclose some entry forms with a mailing that goes out in the fall (copies on back)
- add picture mounting as an activity in your Arts and Crafts program

Remember we all enjoy viewing the entries at the Conference so please do your best to promote it at your Camp.

OCA PHOTO CONTEST COMMITTEE

OCA PHOTO CONTEST ENTRY FORM

NAME _____ CAMPER ___ STAFF ___

Address _____

Phone _____ CAMP _____

CATEGORY: SCENIC ___ EMOTION ___ HUMOR ___ ACTIVITY ___

Send entries to OCA, 1806 Avenue Rd. Suite #2, Toronto, ON. M5M 3Z1. Entries must reach the office by Jan 10th. Pictures must be mounted with a maximum size of 16" x 20". Pictures may be picked up at the Conference on Sat Jan 26th. after 3:00 p.m. or at the OCA office before Feb 15th.

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S U M M E R H O U R S

Summer hours for the **Ontario Camping Association** office are as follows: Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (July and August only). Jean and Fiora wish you all a safe and happy summer!

The **Canadian Camping Association** office will operate with irregular hours from June 8 until the Fall. You may order books by mail, or if you wish to visit the office in person, please do so by appointment only. The telephone number is (416) 781-4717.