



VOLUME 9

MAY

1983

EDITOR: Martin Hunt

"A PERSON WITHOUT A SENSE OF HUMOUR IS LIKE A CAR WITHOUT SPRINGS"

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A most successful Annual Meeting has just been held with fine planning and an enthusiastic crowd. It was great fun - and I hope you enjoyed yourself! If you weren't there, inquire from someone who was - and see what you missed. Our sincere thanks to the Education Committee and to Catherine Ross...let's do it again!

Two highlights for me (beside the election of course) were 1) the personal comments from representatives of the decades of the O.C.A.'s history. Their stories were marvellous, filled with insight and clearly indicated their commitment to the O.C.A. and its place in the lives of individuals. 2) The presentation to Nora. Her acceptance of the gift and her response to the comments from Bruce Harris was most moving. She's a unique individual and has given much to us all in O.C.A.

I want to thank those who have been on the Board and have retired as of the Annual Meeting. My experience has been that the O.C.A. is well served by all Board members and the volunteer association is strong as a result. So to Barbara Gilchrist, Jane McCutcheon, Airlie Armstrong, Gord Meslin, Hal Hannaford and John Marsden - our sincere thanks for jobs well done. Your on-going work will continue. And to Larry Bell, Skip Connett, Bobsie Ebbs, Ted Fauteux, Marilee Tisdall, Lisa Wilson who have just 'joined' the Board.... Welcome!! Your contribution is anticipated; your presence appreciated.

A special word to Janet Adamson. Janet has done a splendid job as President. I look forward to her continuing counsel and advice. She will represent the O.C.A. at the C.C.A. Board Meeting in Winnipeg in May; for that's the kind of person she is.

The O.C.A. is important to us all. I see my role as President as that of enabling the Board to do its work. We all need to serve; to learn; to experience and to participate. I'm a team person. So, be prepared to join the Board in a variety of tasks.

K. GRANT KERR
President
Ontario Camping Association

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FROM THE EDITOR

Do you remember last month's survey?! Well some of you did! a resounding 2.5% of the membership responded! (I was expecting at most 1.1%!) and that doesn't even include the returns from the far north! Chapel Talk and perhaps Thought for Food will return in the Fall. There will be a pilot for "Tip and Tricks" in camping and a new column with a variety of topics, (a different one each month) will begin as well. If you have some views or ideas in the following areas, please drop me a line; business, skills techniques, health, programme, staff training...I must regret to inform you that, the Joke-of-the-Month, or as one audacious member put it, The Near-Joke-of-the-Month, was soundly booted out! It seems that the jokes Hal had culled from the membership, just didn't tickle the funnybone of enough members. Alas ...The other regular features were generally well supported, and I do appreciate the helpful comments, encouragement and especially those of you who volunteered to write an article!

Well I finally made it to my first Annual Meeting on April 25 and had the pleasure of being present for the O.C.A.'s 50th Birthday Party. Cliff Labett began the party with an enlightening history of the development of the Association. Watching Sam Hambly do some acrobatics and seeing David Sands in a 1930's bathing suit was worth the price of admission alone! I unfortunately had to hasten away from the intriguing programme, as I had to get the 30,000 honey bees in the trunk of my car to their new home here in Sheldon. However, at the risk of scowls I did sneak a piece of birthday cake (your Mother makes better, thank you very much) just before departing. It was a grand evening and I'm sure that "...a good time was had by all..." Happy Birthday Everyone!!!

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M.G.H.

JOKE-OF-THE-MONTH

Cancelled due to Joke Editor protest -
Stay tuned.....!

* * * * *

FROM OUR PAST

Dr. Elsie Palter
Honourary Life Member
Former Co-Owner - Director Camp Kawagama

HOW IT HAPPENED

A long time ago, in the early 1930's there was a group of students in graduate studies in the Psychology Department at the University of Toronto; all of whom had a love for camping. Mary L. Northway had spent many summers at Camp Glen Bernard and was inspired in many ways by Mary S. Edgar, the Director. Dr. Mary L. Northway became a Professor in Psychology and has made many noteworthy contributions to camping. Margery Rean, later Dr. Margery Rean King, grew up at Geneva Park on Lake Couchiching where her father was on the Staff. Another famous person was Dr. Carleton Williams, whose camping experience has been with the YMCA in Manitoba. He eventually became the President of Western University. We were part of the early years of the Ontario Camping Association and planned a lecture course for O.C.A. which was held at Margaret Eaton School on Yonge Street, the forerunner of the Dept. of Health and Education at the University of Toronto.

My assignment for the course was to prepare a resume of the lectures. A mimeographed copy of this program can be found today in the Archives of O.C.A. at Trent University.

Both my husband, David, and I had been counsellors during our undergraduate days. David helped move the Boys' Camp from Keswick to Lake Couchiching and I spent a summer, 1930, at the Girls' Camp, Camperdown on Georgian Bay. Both of these camps were part of the Jewish Camp Council who operate now a co-ed camp, Camp Northland in Haliburton. After a few summers at Camp Arowhon in Algonquin Park with Lou Handler and Irwin Haladner also on the Staff, the latter two opened their own camps, Tamakwa and Wabikon respectively. David and I began to dream about opening our own camp and it was Mary Northway who gave us the impetus to realize this wish.

David inserted an advertisement for property suitable for a children's camp and scoured the countryside for a location. It was with the help of John MacNammara, Head of the Dept. of Lands and Forests in Dorset, that he was directed to an Island in what was then known

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FROM OUR PAST (cont'd.)

as Hollow Lake. A fellow camp director was concerned about our choice of this site because of the very deep water in this lake and an unfortunate drowning the previous summer. This did not deter us, but we did not like the name of the lake. An old map indicated that the original name of the lake was Kawagama, translated by the Dept. of Indian Affairs to be "The Lake in the Hollow between the hills". That is the name, Kawagama, we chose for our camp and it eventually came into use again by the cottagers and cartographers.

When David took me to see his choice, there was no doubt in my mind regarding his decision. On our drive back to Toronto after that first visit together, we saw a road sign on Highway 35, Camp Sherwood Forest. Little did we realize that we were intruders when we stopped, uninvited, to see the campsite, but the Cecil Irwins were most hospitable. When we told them our plans and Cecil Irwin learned I was a psychologist, I can still remember vividly his comment, he said: "You will spend more time servicing your septic tanks and other facilities than using psychology on your campers". Unfortunately the physical aspects of the campsite do become a very demanding concern for a director, but I was lucky because David took charge of the physical property and management, and I had the time to get to know our campers.

Camp Kawagama became a reality in 1945 and we became Members of O.C.A. The "giants" in camping in Ontario were all there at meetings and conferences and always ready to guide the new directors in their chosen profession...A.L. Cochrane, Ernest Chapman, Rev. John Hoyle, Chas. Plewman, Taylor Statten and the three wonderful women Mary S. Edgar, Mary Hamilton and Ferna Halliday. For me a special note of thanks goes to Lillian Kates of Camp Arowhon. She is a lady of great imagination and creative ability who inspired a number of us to choose camping for our way of life.

Camp Kawagama is now operated by the Downtown Churchworkers' Association for disadvantaged children, known as Moorelands Camp. We are flooded with memories of those twenty wonderful years with our Campers and Staff.

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THE ARCHIVES COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR ASSISTANCE

We are indebted to those Interviewers and Interviewees who have contributed unstintingly with their time and interest to our O.C.A. Archives.

The following camping individuals have been involved, as indicated **see listed below**

There is a possibility some worthy person has not been interviewed or is not on our contact list. Help us to correct this oversight.

Kindly check the data listed. If there are any errors, suggestions, etc. you wish to bring to the Committee's attention, please contact Helen Stewart (416) 622-6639. We would appreciate a call or letter in time for our Spring Committee Meeting before May 11, 1983. Your assistance is vital! Letters can be addressed to O.C.A., 1806 Avenue Rd., Ste. 2, Toronto, M5M 3Z1.

ALSO, we trust you have read our column "From our Past" in the Ocasional News and have found it to be interesting. It is very difficult to determine who would consider contributing to our column. We welcome offers and suggestions of camping people who would like to share their past with us. When we receive the information, our Chairman will make the contact.

Your Archives Committee deems these two matters to be very important; we need your help to obtain the desired results. So please don't delay!

INTERVIEWED

Northway, M.	Yard, S & T.
Ebbs, A. & H.; A.	Babcock, J. & B.
Morawetz, B.	Haladner, I.
Goodman, A.	Gilchrist, B.&J.
Milks, F.	Palter, E. & D.
Blackstock, Blackie	Perry, R.
Brother Raymond	Sneyd, B.
Seaborn, T. & B.	Walter, D.
Rhamey, A. & M.	Adamson, J.
Dawson, R. (Mann)	Flynn, E.
Hodgetts, B.	Fine, B.
Wild, S.	Dier, F.
Hodgins, B.	Johnstone, M. & R.
Ivkowf, J. (Raymer)	Fry, T.
Harris, B.	Latimer, P. & J.
Lowe, P. & B.	Labbett, J. & C.
Palm, J.	Patterson, R.
Kay, E.	Hodgins, S. & L.

ARCHIVES (cont'd.)

Liddell, M.	Plewman, C.
Russell, J.	Chapman, B.
Yard, Dave	Coventry, J.
Hambly, S.	Rothwell, H.
Van Wagner, F. M.	Hartry, D.
Govan, M.	Booth, M.
	Stewart, H.

CONTACTED BUT NOT INTERVIEWED

Ferguson, C.	Butters, C. & H.
Kronick, J.	Devitt, E.
Groff, D.	Christensen, B.
Blackstock, Brian	Robinson, I.
Henderson, B.	Atkinson, J.
Connell, J. (recent)	Latimer, J.
Haddad, J.	Mason, B.
Pearse, J. (recent)	Danson, B.
Wipper, K.	Founders of So-
	ciety of Camp Directors.

TO BE CONTACTED:

Cousineau, C.	Swift, B.
Kerr, G.	Bertram, J. & Allen, M.
Matthews, A.	Okada, F.
Nashman, H.	Copland, C.
Cilbert, B. & P.	McEwen, D.
Van Wagner, P.	Bell, L.
Rushton, P.	Booz, D.

Trent Archivists, Camp cooks, maintenance, etc. (Names & addresses needed)

HELEN E. STEWART-Chairman-Archives Committee

DEFUNCT CAMPS

Those people with information concerning Defunct Camps - will you please phone this information to: Mrs. Barbara Gilchrist (416) 656-3403; OR Miss Helen Stewart - (416) 622-6639 or write to O.C.A. 1806 Avenue Rd., Ste. 2, Toronto, Ont. M5M 3Z1

WE WELCOME TO O.C.A. THE FOLLOWING NEW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Maureen Dowhaniuk	Richard Gosling
Gunther Federau	Peter Stark

and A NEW COMMERCIAL MEMBER

HOME CATERING SERVICE

511 The West Mall, Ste. 1702, Etobicoke, Ont. M9C 1G5 (416) 621-0197

Catering is our business not a sideline.

FOR SALE: 2 portable basketball standards, custom built, steel frame, heavy duty, new, our cost-your price, \$900 Each. Contact: Camp Tamakwa, (416) 489-2058

"DO TELL"

A CANOE COURSE by DAVID LYON

If you need something of a challenge for your senior or most competent campers in canoeing or kayaking, try a slalom course. It is easy to make, inexpensive, and it will test the canoeists' skills in a variety of ways. You might even like to have the campers build it with you or for you.

The construction of this course was designed with 4 specific goals in mind:

- a) The material must not damage the canoe.
- b) The markers must right themselves when knocked over or paddled over.
- c) No matter which wind was blowing, the markers must remain a proportional distance from each other.
- d) The materials must be relatively inexpensive and easy to work with.

The construction of the marker stakes is as follows: (Stakes are used to prevent the canoeist from passing the paddle over the markers!)

- 1. Each marker is made of a 2" x 2" x 4 1/2' piece* of spruce or preferably cedar. Turn a screw eye (3/8" x 3/4") into the bottom end of the stake. *(Note: the actual size of the wood is 1 1/2" x 1 1/2").
- 2. Paint the entire stake with 2 or 3 coats of good marine enamel. Choose a color to suit your own color scheme or follow the suggested color plan. Don't forget to paint the screw hole as well. Hang to dry using the screw eye.
- 3. Cut a sheet of 2" Styrofoam S.M. on a table saw, into 3 1/2" x 12" strips. Place a mark 3' from the top of the stake. Glue the styrofoam to the wood, overlapping each piece.**The top of the foam should be at the 3' mark. This will also be the water level of the finished stake. Stick-af foam or PL200 are two glues for foam and wood. **(See Diagram #1).
- 4. Make anchors from tin cans. 120 oz. are ideal. Mix the concrete and pour it over and around small stones in the can. Insert a piece of bent galvanized wire into the concrete near the edge of the can to act as a handle to tie a rope to.***Make two anchors per stake. Concrete blocks also make fine anchors.***(See Diagram #2).
- 5. Locate the course in water 3' - 8' deep if possible. Put one end of a piece of 3/8" rope (polyethylene is fine) through

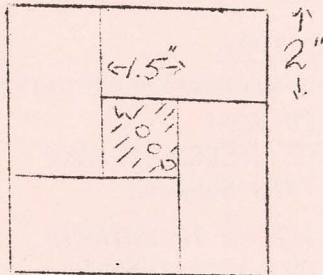
CANOE COURSE (cont'd)

the screw eye and tie a figure-eight knot in the end. It will be this end that is used to adjust the rope length. Tie anchors using a loop and a bowline knot. Be sure to have too much rather than too little rope. Adjust the length of the rope so that the marker floats straight up with 3 feet of the wood above water.

Suggested color scheme

- Starting & finishing gates - 3 stakes - red & white every 6"
- Straight ahead gates - blue with white trim
- Reverse gates - white with blue trim
- 360° posts - yellow with blue trim.

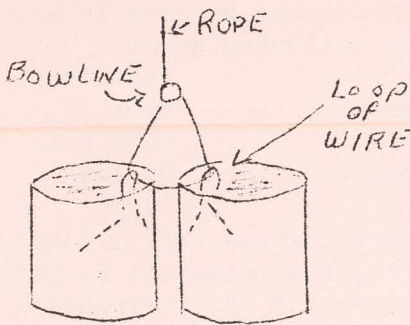
DIAGRAM #1
← 3.5" →



← 5.5" →

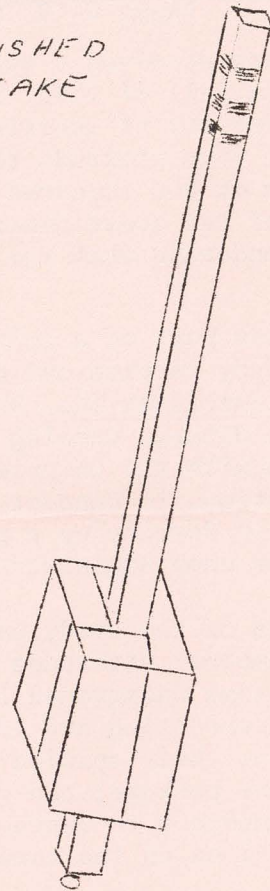
CROSS SECTION

DIAGRAM #2

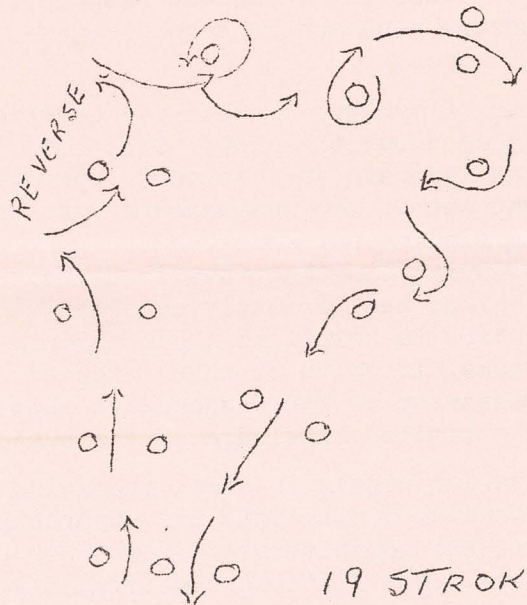


ANCHORS

FINISHED STAKE



SAMPLE COURSE



19 STROKES

PLEASE NOTE: THE ONTARIO WOODSMANSHIP LEADERSHIP SCHOOL HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF RESPONSE.

O.C.A. COMPUTER NEEDS ASSESSMENT STUDY

From: V. S. Cheng

You may recall having received a questionnaire from us in the Fall of 1982. This questionnaire asked a variety of questions about your camp and about your attitude towards computers. A number of you appeared uncertain about the purpose of the questionnaire, and are now probably wondering what the results of it were.

The questionnaire was part of a software needs assessment study carried out by our firm, V.S. Cheng & Associates Inc. We were commissioned by the Ontario Camping Association in conjunction with the Ontario Ministry of Tourism & Recreation, to conduct a study on the feasibility of developing a general software package for camp administration.

The major objectives of the study were: to determine O.C.A. members' attitudes towards computers; provide some background information on the camp's accounting and administrative needs; determine their opinion towards the proposed software package; and to offer an opportunity for members to express their comments and suggestions on the concept of computerization.

The questionnaire was mailed out to all OCA members, and close to 80 percent responded. The respondents represented a good cross-section of camps.

Here is a brief summary of what the questionnaires told us about the camps. First of all, there was an interest in computers. Approximately eight out of ten respondents were interested in finding out more about computers and the potential for their use in camps. About two thirds had seriously considered using computers to help with their administrative tasks. In spite of this interest though, a majority of the respondents appeared to have a limited knowledge of the subject.

The camps varied widely in size, operating period, financial constraints and ownership. As a result, the administrative tasks performed by the camps differed significantly, as did their expectations of a computer system. Some camps were interested in computerizing only registration, while others were interested in the computerization of a large number of tasks (accounting, inventory, word processing, etc.).

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Many respondents perceived their camps to be unique, and seriously doubted that a generalized program could cater to their specific needs. Smaller camps in particular were concerned about the financial aspects of computerization ie. would it be worth their while?

Taking all these, and other less frequently cited concerns into consideration, we concluded that it would not be advisable to design one generalized software package. The perceived and actual requirements as well as financial constraints of the camps were so diverse, that much compromise would be necessary in the design of the software package. Inevitably, such compromise would result in unnecessary features for some camps, and insufficient capabilities for others. We recommended for O.C.A. not to proceed with the development of the software package at this time. We also proposed several alternative ways to facilitate the prudent use of computers among O.C.A. members.

THIS & THAT

* WE NEED YOU! *
* MORE VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO MAKE *
* STANDARDS VISITS THIS SUMMER. *
* PLEASE CALL OR WRITE IN TO ONTARIO *
* CAMPING ASSOCIATION, 1806 AVENUE *
* RD., TORONTO, M5M 3Z1 - 781-0525. *

ENVIRONMENTAL EXPLORATION PROGRAM

A Summer Program is being sponsored and produced by the Ministry of the Environment.

A Ministry 2 member crew could come to your camp and conduct a one day program in a combination of the following areas;

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Nature | Insects |
| Environmental Concerns | Soil |
| Aquatic Habitat | Acid Rain |
| Field/Forest Comparison | Litter |
| | Films |

For applications and information contact - ROXANNE S. CHARETTE, Environmental Program Co-ordinator, Ministry of the Environment 135 St. Clair Ave., W., Ste. 100, Toronto, M4V 1P5 (416) 965-7117.

FROM THE BOOKSHELF
-THE ALL-IN-ONE COUNSELLOR ACTIVITY BOOK

Would you believe that the folks at Tawingo have done it again?! Yes, Jack Pearse, Jane McCutcheon, John J. Jorgensen and Tom Knowlton have come up with another relevant and practical activity book... "Singing Fun ...and Games". Unlike, the more topic-specific Tawingo publications, this book is a well-rounded eclectic resource, including; active, quiet and specialty games and relays, songs, skits and stories. It is a handy book for the counsellor who travels with a light load, but wants a variety of ideas. Like other Tawingo publications, this book is presented in a fresh, readable style, not littered by redundant variations so common in other games books trying to achieve the Fat Book award. The games appear to be playable, and kid-tested and include a nice smattering of new nature games. For all of you outdoor educators and nature directors eg. Jar Starades and solar system search. Although some of the songs are old favourites and may take a little longer than usual to learn, there are a number of the sought after songs of Mark Baldwin, Jim Knowlton, Tom Knowlton and Peter "Raz" Raspberry eg. Let There Always Be A Song, and Walkin'. "Singing Fun...And Games", with its variety and new material is a worthy addition to the library of Activity and Song books.

M.G.H.

(This publication can be purchased through the Canadian Camping Association Book Store 1806 Avenue Rd. Toronto M5M 3Z1 781-4717 - Purchase price \$9.50)

WHAT'S HAPPENING

NEW GAMES WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

LOCATION: Senator O'Connor College School
Toronto

COST: Students \$10.00 others \$20.00
Maximum 60 participants.

INFORMATION & REGISTRATION: Contact:

Daytime - Youth Corps (416) 968-9264

Evening - Dwyer Sullivan (416) 762-5538

NOVEMBER DIRECTORS' WEEKEND
DR. MARY KEYES WILL LAUNCH THE
NEW CURRICULUM

In a two day Education Workshop prior to the International Camping Congress, Dorothy Walter presented a proposed curriculum for the professional development of Camp Directors. This document was the product of two years of effort by a Canadian Camping Association Task Force. Representatives from across the country, evaluated this curriculum and considered means of delivering the content to our membership.

We, in Ontario, are fortunate in that plentiful opportunities for professional development are offered through meetings, workshop and conferences. This November at the Bolton Directors' Weekend, Dr. Mary Keyes will be presenting a two day workshop entitled Camp Leadership For the Next Decade. Mary has examined the new curriculum and will be including several sections from it which are relevant to her topic.

With Mary's experience in education and camping, she is ably suited to present to us current and relevant theories and experience from related disciplines and then help us to practically apply this new knowledge to our own camping field. We will be seeing leadership oriented videotapes and examining the results of a recent survey of leadership styles.

Be among the first to benefit and grow professionally as we begin to approach the new curriculum under Mary's capable guidance.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS
CANADIAN ENVIRONMENT WEEK JUNE 5-11, 1983

Canadian Environment Week begins on World Environment Day, June 5, marking the 11th Anniversary of the U.N.'s Conference on The Human Environment in Stockholm.

Scientists have since confirmed that the earth's resources are seriously threatened by pollution, overexploitation and mismanagement.

Environment Canada will be undertaking some special activities during that week and for details and more information contact the Ontario Regional Office, 7th Fl., 25 St. Clair Ave. E., Toronto M4T 1M2. Telephone: (416) 966-6406

WHAT'S HAPPENING



YEARS: 1933-1983
"Still Growing... TOGETHER!"
1983 COUNSELLOR CONFERENCE
Ontario Camping Association

O.C.A. COUNSELLOR CONFERENCE
SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1983
SENECA COLLEGE

PROGRAMMES & REGISTRATION FORMS AVAILABLE AT O.C.A. OFFICE
REGISTER BY MAY 13, 1983

OCA CANOE SCHOOL

LOCATION: CAMP COUCHICHING (9 miles north-east of Orillia).
DATES: JUNE 9, (7:30 P.M. until JUNE 12, (about 6:30 P.M.
COURSE FEE: \$75.00 (includes meals, accommodation, equipment, handout material & books.
APPLICATIONS: Contact the OCA Office 1806 Avenue Rd., Suite 2 Toronto, M5M 3Z1 781-0525
COURSE STAFF: Director - Howard Rosenthal, Assistants Bill Elgie, Anne McKnight.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES WORKSHOP

DATE: SUNDAY, MAY 29, 1983
PLACE: Ontario Crippled Children's Centre 350 Rumsey Road, Toronto, Ont.
TIME: 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
FEE: \$5.00 per person
BRING: Your own Lunch - Bathing suit and towel.

Registration Forms available at the O.C.A. office, 1806 Avenue Rd., Suite 2, Toronto M5M 3Z1

ECO-SKILLS WORKSHOP

WHEN: FRIDAY - SUNDAY, JUNE 10 - 12
WHERE: HOCKLEY VALLEY OUTDOOR CENTRE Orangeville, Ont.
COST: \$35.00 per delegate

NURSING WORKSHOP - "THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF CAMP NURSING - MAY 14, 1983 -

To be held at FOREST VALLEY DAY CAMP, Downsview, Ontario. \$10.00 per delegate.

1984 O.C.A. DIRECTORS' CONFERENCE

YES, 1983 will be a hard act to follow BUT with a little imagination, a lot of organization and even more dedication, WE can build on what '83 will have given us. GET INVOLVED!! Be a member of the 1984 O.C.A. Directors' Conference Committee. We need help in all areas so don't hesitate...Call HENRI AUDET at (416) 486-6959 Bus. 488-7498 Res.