



# OCAsional News

Published by the Ontario Camping Association

February 1999

1810 Avenue Road, Suite 302, Toronto, Ontario M5M 3Z2  
Ph: 416-781-0525 Fax: 416-781-7875 e-mail: oca@ontcamp.on.ca

## Isn't It Time to Get a Real Job?

You're exhausted, physically and emotionally drained from another summer of 80-hour work weeks, nutritionally deficient from camp food and have had no nap time. The pay is laughable, the hours are horrendous and the living quarters aren't worthy of a full five stars. So why do you go back year after year? Are you drawn to residential camps for the love of macaroni and cheese? An odd affection for graffiti-adorned walls? Or maybe, just maybe, it is the love of the outdoor bathrooms that keeps you coming back for more.

Despite the posh living conditions and exorbitant pay, people return, but for how long? Employment at a residential camp is considered to be a respectable option for fun-loving 16 to 18-year-olds who want to play with children all summer. Parents and guidance counsellors agree that the leadership and managerial skills involved in organizing 15 12-year-olds for a five-day outtrip are invaluable. Unfortunately, the precarious balance between financial security and passionate employment can only teeter for so long before one side outweighs the other.

Sooner or later the question begins to whisper in your sun-kissed ears, isn't it time to get a real job? The whisper grows louder and louder with each passing summer. It finally climaxes in confusion around high school graduation when parents encourage their 19-year-olds to ditch the summer camp idea and search out a real job. The pressure to find gainful employment mounts and nightmares begin: résumés, business clothes, air-conditioning and a fate worse than death—summer in the city! With escalating pressure from parents, non-camp friends and your secret grown-up self, many campers find themselves wondering

whether it's time to retire the Teva sandals and invest in some dress shoes.

For all of those die-hard counsellors out there who are not ready to forsake pine trees for skyscrapers, I would like to make the case for camping into your 20's and beyond. Many residential camps have young staff which can be a disadvantage for "aging" counsellors in terms of income potential and promotional possibilities. If you are looking for other experiences or searching for more financially lucrative opportunities, you have many different employment venues to pursue.

If you have outgrown the summer camp of your youth, you may want to consider employment at another facility. Sometimes a change of scenery provides the opportunity to assume a more senior position with increased pay and additional responsibilities. Despite your parents' claims that no employee will ever recognize the value of these skills, you should be able to highlight your learning and convince non-camp employers of the validity and transferability of camp skills. Leadership, initiative and sensitivity to group needs are applicable to any work environment. If you can identify the infinite number of skills you must possess, like orchestrating dinner for 12 over a campfire in the rain, then you should be able to assume the CEO's position come September.

If you are interested in diversifying your skills, many special needs camps are looking for experienced and mature individuals to organize and implement programs for children with physical disabilities, developmental delays, learning disabilities and a variety of illnesses. The Easter Seal Society provides a residential camp experience to children with physical disabilities and rewards the

predominately university-aged staff with incredible learning experiences and heightened incomes. Camp Trillium offers children with cancer and their families the opportunity to attend a summer camp that is sensitive to the medical and social needs of this population. Their staff must be at least 18 and they offer employment between early June and late August. If you are interested in working with special needs populations for a future career, I would highly recommend exploring the possibility through a camp situation. Four years of university or college education cannot compare to what you will learn about special needs groups in the few months working at camp.

If a canoe on your shoulders feels more comfortable than a briefcase in your hand, you may want to explore the possibility of a career in the ever-expanding field of outdoor recreation. For intrepid explorers and patient counsellors, Boundless offers an incredible internship program for university-aged individuals.

See *Diversity Key to Success*, page 6

### What's Inside

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| From Barb's Laptop               | 2 |
| Yours for the Asking             | 4 |
| Commercial Member Update         | 4 |
| Camping Makes the World Go Round | 6 |

**"Unless commitment is made, there are only promises and hopes...but no plans." — Peter Drucker**

# From Barb's Laptop

## With Thanks

Where does the time go? Weeks and months used to stretch into eternity but these past two years have gone by in the blink of an eye. It doesn't seem that long ago when I wrote the first *From Barb's Laptop* as President of the OCA and now here is the last.

Accomplishments in the OCA over the past two years are due to the work of many people and so this final one is dedicated with grateful thanks to...

- Members of the Executive (John Jorgenson, Bob Smith, Eoin Wood and Marj Booth) and the Board (Brian Blackstock, Jeff Bradshaw, Dave Latimer, Pauline Hodgetts, Kate Moore, Jen Palacios, Keith Publicover, Andy Rodford, Dave Ward and Maija Zeibots) who put in many hours of volunteer work to keep our Association strong and moving forward.

- All the Committee and Task Force Chairs who take on projects, big and small, that give us educational events, new knowledge on current issues, increased membership, a healthy bank balance and a constant stream of new ideas and projects.

- Those special people in the office (Bev, Paul and Michele) who keep us going in all our projects, even through snow and cold.

- The OCA folk who actually called to tell me that they enjoyed "From Barb's Laptop" and to talk about some point that I had raised.

- Last, but not least, Peter, Megan, Sandy and Gen, who always commented on *From Barb's Laptop*, occasionally finding it boring but also quick with compliments when something meaningful was found. Praise from family members is a treasure indeed.

### Things to Do

- Enjoy the Conference
- Learn to be Past President
- Contemplate what to do with my free time
- Assist Ellen to ensure a smooth transition
- Choose command "Sleep."

*Barb Gilbert*  
President

## PRISM FOOD SERVICE INC.

A small Canadian company dealing in soup mixes, sauce mixes, dessert powders and drink crystals. We are happy to be a member of the OCA.

Representative: Mark Teal  
1-888-584-7878

**Camps on the internet...**

**more traffic**

For over three years web surfers from all over the world have been using **CAMPSEARCH** to locate summer camps in Ontario.

**increased hits**

Many OCA camps are already Featured in the **CAMPSEARCH** directory.

**low rates**

**Feature your camp today!**  
**Call: 416-516-2502**

**CAMP SEARCH**  
**www.campsearch.com** the internet's fastest growing camp directory visited over **250,000** times every month!

# Editor's Note

Snow is on the ground and I am grateful for my Sorel boots! Yet, despite the freezing temperatures outside, summer has never seemed closer.

Every summer, I read in my local paper, The Toronto Star, about its charitable project called The Toronto Fresh Air Fund. Readers of the newspaper are invited to donate so as to give needy children the opportunity to go to camp. It is certainly a worthwhile cause, and The Toronto Star absorbs all administrative costs so that one hundred per cent of the monies raised reach the camps.

However, every summer I am puzzled in reading the list of camps funded and seeing many unfamiliar names: unfamiliar in the sense that certain camps are not members of the Ontario Camping Association. So I wrote a letter to The Toronto Star and asked for clarification on how it selects the camps it funds. Carolyn Taylor, the administrator of the fund, recently replied:

"(...) Each year, the fund sends more than 20,000 financially, mentally, physically and emotionally handicapped children to day and overnight camps in Toronto and cottage country.

"Eighty-nine camps receive grants from the fund, ranging from \$1,500 to \$21,000. (...)

"Camps that receive Fresh Air Fund grants must be non-profit organizations, governed by a Board of Directors, and must receive government funding. The Fresh Air Fund maintains an arms-length relationship with the camp funded. Organizations which run summer camps apply to the Fund for grants used to subsidize camping programs that benefit the children of the Greater Toronto Area. Children benefiting from these grants apply directly to the camps and have no direct contact with The Star or The Fresh Air Fund. While the Fund provides the opportunity for underprivileged children to attend camp, it does not dictate to them which camp(s) they may, or should, attend."

Now if I were a parent, without absolutely no idea about how children's camps operate and how they come into being, I would probably assume a lot of things. When my children start getting a little older and ready to go to camp, I would probably have heard other parents talk about camp and what a wonderful experience it is. I may ask my friends for references, or I may read my local newspaper and scan the advertisements. I may assume that one level of government or another regulates camps, or failing that, that there is a professional organization of some sort that **all** camps must belong to. I may or may not have heard about the Ontario Camping Association; if I have, I would probably think of it in the same context of the Better Business Bureau.

We have all spoken to parents and discovered these assumptions for ourselves! Traditionally, the Ontario Camping Association has been such a low-key organization that unfortunately a minority of Ontarians know about us. Some member camps are rigorous in always displaying the OCA logo on their literature; others sometimes use it and sometimes not, depending on space. There are too many camps that can't see the value of accreditation and membership in the only professional association for the organized camping industry. Sadder still, many of these camps may not even be aware of the OCA's presence.

This is, for many camps, the busiest time of the year in terms of registration. We find ourselves going to camp fairs, talking to a lot of parents over the telephone, and sending out vast quantities of literature. We should never let an opportunity to educate the public about camping and the OCA slip by. Perhaps, in future, worthwhile causes like The Toronto Star Fresh Air Fund will insist that all camps that receive its funding are members of the Ontario Camping Association. Wouldn't that send an incredible message to the public?

*Flora Hawryluk*

## Camps with Foreign Staff

**Please note that Canadian Camping Association Immigration Packages for Camp Counsellor visas are now available through the OCA office, 416-781-0525.**

## OCA Board Members

**President:** Ellen Nash, Camp Northland - B'nai Brith  
3995 Bathurst St., #200, Downsview, ON M3H 5V3  
H: 416-630-1180 Fax: 416-630-8561

**Vice President:** Jill Dundas  
97 Chatsworth Rd., Toronto, ON M4R 1R8  
H: 416-486-6964  
e-mail: dundasj@girlguides.ca

**Past President:** Barb Gilbert  
R.R.#4, Brighton, ON K0K 1H0  
H: 613-475-1689 Fax: 613-475-2938  
e-mail: bgilbert@blvl.igs.net

**Treasurer:** Eoin Wood, Wanapitei  
393 Water St., #14, Peterborough, ON K9H 3L7  
B: 705-745-8314 Fax: 705-745-4971  
e-mail: camp@wanapitei.net

**Director:** Brian Blackstock, The Mazinaw Company  
33 Davisville Ave., PH15, Toronto, ON M4S 2Y9  
H: 416-486-1526 Fax: 416-781-7875

**Director:** Elaine Cole, Walden Canada  
3768 Bathurst St., #311, North York, ON M3H 3M7  
B: 416-635-0049 Fax: 416-630-9248

**Director:** Pauline Hodgetts, Camp Hurontario  
1 Ridge Drive Park, Toronto, ON M4T 2E4  
B: 416-488-2077 Fax: 416-486-0865  
e-mail: hurontario@interlog.com

**Director:** David Latimer, Kilcoo Camp  
150 Eglinton Ave. East, #204, Toronto, ON M4P 1E8  
B: 416-486-5264 Fax: 416-486-3854

**Director:** Jen Palacios  
356 McRae Dr., #406, Toronto, ON M4G 4G4  
H: 416-423-3338  
e-mail: jen.palacios@sympatico.ca

**Director:** Maija Zeibots  
103 Harcourt Ave., Upper, Toronto, ON M2J 1J3  
H: 416-469-3052 B: 416-961-8313  
e-mail: maijaz@hotmail.com

## Regional Representatives

**Eastern Ontario (Ottawa):** Ian Richardson  
Arrowhead Camp, 23 Sarrazin Way, Nepean, ON K2J 4A5  
B: 613-825-4426 Fax: 613-825-0607

**Northeastern Ontario (Sudbury):** Dave Ward  
YMCA John Island Camp  
185 Lloyd St., Sudbury, ON P3B 1N1  
B: 1-800-465-9622 Fax: 705-674-3236  
e-mail: david\_ward@ymca.ca

**Northwestern Ontario (Thunder Bay):** Charlie Wilson  
Dorion Bible Camp  
408 South Marks St., Thunder Bay, ON P7E 1M5  
B: 807-857-2331 H: 807-622-4601

**Southwestern Ontario (London):** Jim Janzen  
YMCA-YWCA Camping, c/o George White Outdoor  
Centre, 1795 Clarke Rd., London, ON N5X 3Z6  
B: 519-667-3300 Fax: 519-455-2519  
e-mail: ymca.jjanzen@odyssey.on.ca

# Camping Makes the World Go Round

In the January issue of the *OCA'sional News*, I began to share some of the unique aspects of camp life in Australia. I would like to continue sharing some thoughts on how the Camping Association of Victoria (CAV) services its members and member camps. It's always interesting to learn from others and to look towards implementation in our own backyard.

It's important to start with reiterating a key point. With Australia's seasons reversed from ours, the nature of the camping programs offered throughout the country differs dramatically from our own. Summer camps as we know them do not exist; instead, the operations are very much what we know as outdoor education experiences.

I had the great opportunity to meet for a day in Melbourne this past November with Don McDowell (Executive Director of the CAV) and David Strickland (Project Manager in charge of Standards/Accreditation/Membership). Both of these individuals are full-time staff and work tirelessly on behalf of the Association.

Here are just a few of the many fascinating aspects of the Camping Association of Victoria:

- 1) Each year, an annual accreditation update is sent with membership renewal. Camp Directors/Owners sign off on several statements that include a declaration of maintaining the standards; changes in the structure, facilities or operation of the camp in the previous 12 months; and the intent to use the CAV logo and the CAV statement in camp promotions. What a simple way to encourage a regular commitment to the principles of the Association.
- 2) CAV uses a professionally trained staff member to visit camps and offer encouragement and support both in terms of standards and general operations. I was struck by the consistency of this approach and the materials that were made available to member camps during the process.
- 3) A terrific tool called CAVFAX is used to assist camps in booking groups. Each Friday, CAVFAX is sent to those camps that have purchased the service. All enquiries received by the CAV for the week are sent by fax to member camps. The camps in turn have several days to quote on the group's booking requirements and then send the quote back to the CAV. The Association then makes available those returned quotes to the group and they can choose to make a booking. Perhaps this is a service that could (with obvious modifications) be implemented by camping associations in the spring/summer in Canada.
- 4) CAV identifies the different needs of member camps within its organization by offering different membership categories and services. I was intrigued by aspects of this including the invitation for camps to purchase additional promotion within the camping guide.

While it's true that "the grass is always greener..." learning of the various ways that other camps and associations operate provides a tremendous opportunity for professional development. I know that our camp has benefited in many tangible ways from dialogue and interaction with our camping friends around the world. I also know that I have grown tremendously having had this wonderful experience and exposure. Isn't it time that you got involved in ICF?? Do it for your camp and, for yourself!

ICF memberships are available by calling 905-631-2849. We look forward to your involvement as we continue to bring together a world of outdoor experience!

Until next time,

Jeff Bradshaw  
Canadian Representative  
International Camping Fellowship

## Commercial Member Update

The following is an update to the Commercial Members' list published in the 1999 *Camping Guide*.

### Artistic Photographs

Contact: Ira and Marion Goldmintz  
22 Linton Court, Thornhill, ON L3T 5M9  
905-881-9867

e-mail: [Ira@connection.com](mailto:Ira@connection.com)

*Quality, creative, group and/or single photos, videography. Prompt, reliable service.*

### Barbarian Rugby Wear, Inc.

Contact: Rob Hartue  
575 Trillium Drive, Kitchener, ON N2R 1J4  
519-895-1932; Toll-Free: 1-800-465-1139; Fax: 519-895-0988  
*Rugby shirts, shorts and jackets.*

### Campers Realty Limited

Contact: Lauri Kangas  
21 Belvia Road, Toronto, ON M8W 3R2  
416-259-1121; Toll-Free: 1-888-259-1121; Fax: 416-252-0068  
e-mail: [lkangas@trebnet.com](mailto:lkangas@trebnet.com)  
Website: <http://trebpage.trebnet.com/kangas>

### Surfbike Products Inc.

Contact: Francois Beland  
800 Cabana, Suite 1, Sherbrooke, PQ J1K 3C3  
819-565-4585; Toll-Free: 1-888-565-4585; Fax: 819-565-4383  
e-mail: [marketing@surfbike.ca](mailto:marketing@surfbike.ca); Website: [www.surfbike.ca](http://www.surfbike.ca)  
*Surfbike provides exciting recreational waterfront activities and an efficient means of waterfront monitoring.*

Keep tabs on your clothes through the  
OCA's Name Label Program.



Sew On  
&  
Iron On



Call the OCA Office at  
416-781-0525 for label forms.



**Ontario Camping Association  
Conference for Directors and Senior Staff**

Recognized by the Canadian Camping Association/  
Association des camps du Canada as a Professional Training Event

Conference Highlights Include:

- ❖ **Keynote Speakers:**
  - Steve Paikin
  - Karenne Bloomgarden
  - Piti Parra Duque
- ❖ **Education Forum**
- ❖ **Exhibit Hall**
- ❖ **Saturday Night Banquet**

February 25-28, 1999  
Plus Pre-Conference Program February 24, 1999  
Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel

If you have not yet received your Conference registration package,  
call the OCA office, 416-781-0525.

# Yours For The Asking

**Yours for the Asking** is a regular feature of the *OCA's* *Asional News*. Readers are invited to send in their questions to the OCA office, attn: **Yours for the Asking**. Our panel will be delighted to respond in an upcoming issue. We are fortunate to have on the team Ted and Elaine Cole of Camp Walden, and Tracy Shand of Camp Naorca. Ted and Elaine bring a residential camp perspective, while Tracy offers the day camp view!

**Question:** I work for a day camp, and have had some concerns in the past with regards to security. We have had a problem with outsiders wandering in and about our site (we access public use lands). Are you in a similar situation? What do you do to make sure strangers don't interfere with your program and your campers?

**Tracy Shand responds:** As a day camp director, I know that we are very fortunate that our campsite during the summer is not open to the public. Even so, we still have senior staff carry and use walkie-talkies, we approach all strangers that occasionally wander in, and require all visitors to report to the camp office. At all times, our counsellors are reminded to "count their campers" and provide constant supervision.

At a campsite that is open to the public, I would strongly recommend that staff wear uniforms to make them visible. All participants must be well oriented to the site and made aware of the importance of staying with their counsellor and group. Staff should use the buddy system and go with children to the bathroom. Other suggestions include: using pylons to mark off an area, posting signs, i.e., "please do not disturb—day camp programs in operation," and being brief and courteous to members of the public, etc. Also, involve parents, campers, staff and members of the local community to ensure security at your site.

**Question:** What measures do you take to secure your campsite during the summer and during the off seasons? How do you ensure the safety of your trippers when they are out on a trip? We have all had problems with strangers coming through our properties and annoying campers out on a trip, and it would be great to hear how you deal with such situations.

**Elaine and Ted Cole respond:** As a camp director, the safety and security of your camp site weighs heavily on all of us. To be

very frank with you, if someone is determined to rob you, both in and out of camp seasons, there is little to be done.

However, common sense during the off season, like gates and buildings being locked up, or the main access road being shoveled, lets people know there is activity in camp. Even with rudimentary precautions, it is no secret in the community that we are a 12-16 week operation, except possibly for personal use.

During the summer months, I am aware of many camps that hire night-time security. Their job is to secure the camp after lights out and check, hourly, specific areas making sure everyone is tucked in.

Trippers have the most responsibility in camp for they truly are on their own with no professional back-up. In general, people who camp are a conservative group, but if someone came onto their campsite and was verbally abusive or threatening, the tripper would have to rely on his best protective instincts. He would calmly approach him/her and explain who and what he does, stating that we were a private summer camp and responsible for these children. Also, if he needed help, this would be available.

I would hope the tripper could identify and have his name and area where he lived, so if a report had to be made to the authorities, it would be well-documented, i.e., time, place, etc. The children would be scared, so reassurance from staff on the trip may be needed.

# Diversity Key to Success

*continued from page 1*

Between May and September, a select number of talented and qualified interns will learn to run rapids, splint broken bones, and facilitate group debriefs for a wide cross-section of the population. Outward Bound offers mature outdoor gurus the possibility of employment as interns, assistant instructors and instructors to facilitate its outdoor adventure programs. These two companies are extremely well-respected in their field and provide internships which allow you to uncover the splendor and sacrifices of this line of work.

Before you banish your backpack or burn your bathing suit, let me reiterate the inherent value of camp skills. Any decent employer will be able to recognize the transferability of cooperative skills, stress management, confidence, flexibility, enthusiasm and sensitivity. In an increasingly competitive marketplace, employers are looking for a diversity of skills and experiences. Where else but at camp could you learn to navigate swamps, avoid a near mutiny by hungry campers and find the cure for homesickness in a single afternoon. So the question remains, "When is it time to get a real job?" Don't worry, you already have one.

*Rita McMullen*

## Attention 'Celebrate' Delegates and Camp Directors

The Hospitality Committee is happy to host a Job Postings Bulletin Board in the Thornhill Room in the Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel, from February 25 to 28. Available positions and job opportunities can be posted on the board in person or can be forwarded to the OCA office c/o the Hospitality Committee.

# Calendar of Events

## February

Health Care Committee Meeting  
OCA Board Room  
Tuesday, February 9  
7:00 p.m.

Board Meeting  
OCA Board Room  
Thursday, February 18  
5:00 p.m.

Director and Senior Staff Conference 1999  
Sheraton Parkway North Hotel  
Thursday, February 25 to  
Sunday, February 28

## March

Health Care Committee Meeting  
OCA Board Room  
Monday, March 22  
7:00 p.m.

## April

Health Care Committee Meeting  
OCA Board Room  
Tuesday, April 20  
7:00 p.m.

## May

Health Care Committee Meeting  
OCA Board Room  
Monday, May 17  
7:00 p.m.

Counsellor Conference  
Seneca College - King Campus  
Saturday, May 29

Health Care Workshop  
Seneca College - King Campus  
Saturday, May 29

## Counsellor Conference '99

The planning for the Spring Training Counsellor Conference is well under way. Mark on your calendar Saturday May 29, 1999 as the day the Conference will be hosted by Seneca College at their beautiful King Campus, just minutes north of Toronto. An amazing day of outdoor activities, educational sessions and hands-on programming will provide an excellent means for pre-camp staff bonding. If you would like more information or would like to volunteer, please contact Barb Weeden, 905-833-3333 ext. 5029 or track her down at the OCA Annual Conference!

*Barb Weeden*  
Chair, OCA Counsellor Conference '99

## Attention Committee Chairs

The Public Awareness Committee will be hosting an OCA information display in the Hospitality Room at the 1999 Annual Conference for Directors and Senior Staff. A committee update and a list of members presently on committees will be displayed. Any additional information to what is currently available in the OCA office is welcome. If there are any questions or contributions, contact Caryl Colton, 905-842-1176.

*Caryl Colton*  
Chair, OCA Public Awareness Committee

### Clean, drinkable swimmable water?

Camp kits to daily or weekly  
check your drinking & lake water

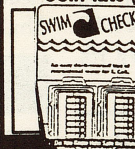
## WATER



## CHECK™

your own water supply  
**Anytime**

**WaterCheck or SwimCheck 12 pak \$66.00**  
**ColiPlate (water quality) 6 pak \$66.00**



## SwimCheck

check your own lake water

Rated by M.O.E. - 'as good as  
or better than their own test'  
Alex Milne Assoc. 1-800-563-5947

## Classifieds

### For Sale/Rent

**Campsite: Private, exclusive, for 15 or more.** Wilderness trails (ski, hike or bike), beach, spectacular view, canoes, kayaks, volleyball. Available this fall or 1999. Call 705-657-8432.

**Tent n' Canoe co-ownership camping lots** for sale at French River. Large common area of pines and rocks. Location great as base camp to explore the Lake Nipissing-French River region by water or land. Lot price only \$6,500. Call Lauri at Campers Realty Limited, 416-259-1121 or toll-free at 1-888-259-1121.

**Secluded camp/retreat, fully equipped.** Available this fall and 1999. Spectacular shoreline, beach, wilderness trails (hike, bike, ski, or snowmobile), tripping, cabins with washrooms. Call 705-657-8432.

### Positions Available

**The Ontario March of Dimes offers** weekly summer camp programs for adults with disabilities at YMCA Geneva Park, near Orillia. We are currently hiring staff for the following positions: program director, driver/counsellor, waterfront staff and counsellor/attendants. Please contact Sarah Cormode for more information at 416-425-3463 ext. 288.

**Program Director position available at** YMCA Kitchikewana. We are looking for a dynamic, friendly and organized person to coordinate our spring, summer and fall program seasons. Duties include supervision and evaluation of staff, administration, contact with user groups and program development. A contract position is available March 1 to November 1 1999. Possible extension available. Pay range: \$275-\$375 per week. Accommodations provided May 1 to November 1. Forward résumé to: Greg MacQuarrie, Box 488, 560 Little Lake Park, Midland, ON L4R 4L3. Fax: 705-526-8735 before February 15, 1999.

**Senior officer, children's programs.** Salary range: \$19.71-\$21.62 per hour. Period of employment: mid-April to mid-October, 36.25 hours per week; seasonally recurring contract. **Job Description:** To direct, provide leadership and participate in the implementation of the Time Travellers Summer Youth Camp, Young Interpreters

Program, Live-in Adventure Program, the Children's Activity Centre and other children's programs at Upper Canada Village; to assist with the recruitment, training, coaching and scheduling of staff involved in providing these programs; to assist with the evaluation and development of children's programs on site.

**Qualifications:** Excellent and oral written communication skills, including the ability to communicate clearly and relate well to children, colleagues, parents and the public; demonstrated ability to perform the duties of a camp director, including the ability to coordinate and implement a wide variety of operational details required within an overnight camp setting, to complete registration and scheduling responsibilities, to provide leadership and direction to staff, and to ensure the health and safety of program participants; demonstrated ability to perform research, design and implement children's programs or activities within a recreational, historical and educational setting; demonstrated ability to act as a group leader, develop and provide staff training, coach staff, assign work, monitor and evaluate recreational and educational programs, and ensure that program standards and goals are met; excellent knowledge of mid-nineteenth century Canada, living history interpretation and overnight camp programs; ability to monitor and manage a budget; and possession of valid First Aid, CPR, NLSS certificate and driver's licence. Applications and résumés quoting SLPC-UCV 1/99(4) must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on February 19, 1999. Submit applications to: Human Resources, The St. Lawrence Parks Commission, R.R. #1, Morrisburg, ON K0C 1X0. We thank all candidates for applying, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

**Summer Jobs!!! Co-ed residential Muskoka camp** for ages 8-13 requires: head of ski; registered nurse; head of ropes; head of gymnastics; trippers. Call Camp Shalom, 416-783-6744.

### For Sale/Rent

**Experienced director looking for site** for long term lease beginning 2000. Looking for 120-150 beds (approximately 10 per cabin), main dining hall/kitchen, central washrooms with showers, waterfront. Willing to share expenses to bring site up-to-date and expand physical possibilities. Please contact broker at 519-471-5367 or fax 519-657-1651.

*OCA* *sional News* offers you a variety of ways to promote products and services within organized camping. The Ontario Camping Association welcomes articles and photo submissions. The next deadline is February 15th for the March publication.

☉ Display ads are sold on a single or multiple insertion rate, with a \$50.00 non-members fee. Please contact the OCA office for rates. Camera-ready art is required.

☉ We also offer professional and business directory ads of business card size. OCA member fee: \$50 per insert (up to three issues) or \$35 per issue (minimum four to maximum nine issues).

☉ Classified ads are sold with a maximum size of 25 words for a fee of \$15 for members and \$30 for non-members. Additional space sold in 25 word increments.

☉ Paid advertising content will not exceed editorial space.

☉ The *OCA* *sional News* is published nine 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 inquires to the Editorial Committee, care of the office.

☉ Flora Hawryluk, Editor. 416-481-2788. e-mail: hawryluk@stn.net

**The views expressed by the authors in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Ontario Camping Association.**



1810 Avenue Road, Suite 302  
Toronto, ON M5M 3Z2  
416-781-0525  
Fax: 416-781-7875

e-mail: oca@ontcamp.on.ca  
Website: www.ontcamp.on.ca

OCA Office Staff:  
Bev Jahnke, Office Administrator  
Michele Gillingwater, Membership Secretary  
Paul Grossinger, Production Secretary





# The Share-A-Ton News

February Edition

## *Summer Starts in February!*

Oh ya, it's happening - the summer is coming. Every director feels it - the scramble for staff, resumes move across desks, summer supplies get ordered and the *Annual OCA Directors Conference* sparks the summer fires midst snow and freezing temperatures! The conference seminars are the perfect way to launch ourselves into camp. Clear out those winter cobwebs and look forward to the warmth of summer friends, campfires, connection, and leading others in the most important aspect of growing up - SUMMER CAMP!!!!

Come to the conference to connect with other directors and staff - to immerse yourself in the language of summer camp with people who understand your passion for camp and your drive to GIVE young people the summer camp experience.

Learn a new song, game, and technique for staff training. Advertise for staff, and learn more program ideas than you can shake a stick at!

We'll see you at the conference! Let's *CELEBRATE* Summer Camping in 1999!

### IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE!

*OCA conference '99!!!*  
if you're not in yet you'd  
better hurry...

call or fax the OCA  
(416) 781-0525 (ph)  
(416) 781-7875 (fax)

### NOW THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT!

Celebrate is the theme, and that's what we'll do,  
And Friday night do we have a *performance* for you!  
But wait, 'cause that's not all,  
The entertainment line-up is anything but small.  
We've got a *banquet* agenda like not that you've seen,  
And *slides* of camp summers which seem like a dream,  
Instruction in *swing dancing* that will make you learn  
fast,  
Will all add to an evening that's sure to be a blast.  
So book off the dates for the conference this year.  
It will be the best you've attended in your camping  
career!  
(from your poetic entertainment committee. Look out  
Longfellow!)

## THORNHILL HAPPENINGS !

The Thornhill Room at the Sheraton Parkway Hotel is the place to be for hospitality - for...

- ◆ Displaying Employment Opportunities &/or Training Events.
- ◆ The all important NEW DELEGATE ORIENTATION  
Thurs. 25, 9:30am
- ◆ 1999 SCD Photo Contest  
Fri. 9:00am to Sat. 5:00pm
- ◆ Interactive ARCHIVES!  
Fri. 9:00am to Sat. 5:00pm
- ◆ The OCA Hall of Fame! Who and How to participate!  
Thurs. 9:00am - Sat. 5:00pm
- ◆ Display and Receive messages to or from other delegates.
- ◆ A cosy place to sit, relax, reminisce and share stories.  
Thurs 9:00am - Sat. 5:00pm

## EXHIBIT HALL ROCKS THE WORLD!

Support your commercial members by visiting the Exhibit Hall.

**Thursday 7:25pm - 9:15pm**

**Friday 9:00am - 2:00pm**

Shop NOW for the coming summer. Come and see what's new for camp in '99! Discuss your camp's needs at the Commercial Awards Dinner, Thursday 5:15pm to 7:00pm and then visit **over 60 booths at the Hall!!** Come and mingle socially with our suppliers in the Presidential Suite after the Hall on Thurs. evening. Great food thanks to G.B. Catering who will also be providing yummy munchies for grumbling tummies on Fri. at lunch as you shop!

## NOBODY'S PERFECT (Why should we be any different!)

*Conference program changes!!!*

An omission on your Pre-conference Registration Form!

### *Facilitation Skills: The Foundation for Your Adventure Program*

Wed. Feb. 24 - Gormley - 9:00am to 5:00pm.

Presented by Andrew Hubert. If you wish to attend this valuable session please write in onto your application. If your Registration is in, call Michelle at the OCA office 781-0525. Cost of the session is \$20.00.

### *FRIDAY CHANGES and/or additions*

10:00AM-11:15AM - Newmarket

Bruce Muchnick *Winds of Change*

*Several key staff members have told you that they will not be returning...Many situations we encounter challenge us to adapt and to support others in our camp communities in their efforts to deal with change. A new dining hall is almost ready for use replacing a fire-destroyed building...How can we turn the "winds of change" into the "wins of change"? Your son or daughter wants to join the business...This session will focus on the dynamics of change, the impact that change has in our camp communities, and techniques for increasing the likelihood of positive outcomes. You want to significantly increase enrolment;or, perhaps introduce a new approach to dealing with campers and you encounter resistance from your staff...*

**Andrew Hubert offers Adventure on Wednesday and Jim Janzen gives you SIM CAMP on Friday! Check it out!**

10:00AM - 11:15AM - Markham B.

Gord White *Developing Staff to Work with Youth*

If I told you there were seven things your kids needed to become healthy, responsible and successful members of society would you want to miss how to help them? Developing Capable People is a breakthrough program for any adult who wants to make a positive difference in the lives of children and teens. Effective and practical strategies that help kids prepare for the challenges of the future.

## KEYNOTES...

### Steve Paiken

Steve Paiken is co-host of studio 2, a nightly current affairs program on TVOntario. For the two years prior to Studio 2, Paiken was the host of two weekly programs on TVO, "Between the Lines", a weekly discussion program of national and international affairs and "Fourth Reading" which focuses on politics at Queen's Park. Previously Steve has worked on TV and radio in many different capacities which include reporting from two different war zones—Lebanon and Israel in 1985; eastern Bosnia and Herzegovina. He completed his feature-length documentary "Return to the Warsaw Ghetto" in 1993. Steve has been awarded the Houston Film Festival Gold Award and the Calgary Press Club Award.

### Karenne Bloomgarden

Karenne wears many different hats. Presently she is an Adaptive Physical Education Teacher, giving her a unique perspective on kids and youth. Karen is also a Board Member of Morry's Camp, a certified Camp Director, and President of KB Camp Services. Formerly the Executive Director of the New York Section of the American Camping Association. She brings knowledge and experience to share with us.

### Luis Fernando (Piti) Parra Duque

Luis, known to his friends as Piti, has studied business management at Universidad Javeriana in Bogota and Leisure Studies and Resources at the University of Massachusetts. He has been a camper in his own county of Colombia. He has also been a counsellor, senior village director, program director, co-director, special program director and experiential educator at several camps in the United States. Piti is the founder and director of AIRE LIBRE Outdoor Education Centre at Villa De Lyna in Colombia and has been an associate at Wilderness Bay Adventures in Evanston IL. He is a member of the International Camping Fellowship, Colombian Camping Association, and the ACCV association for Experiential Education



## Friday Changes Continued....

2:15PM-4:45PM - Vaughan E

Jim Janzen *So This is What You Do...*

**Red Alert!** Jim requires a minimum number of delegates to run this session! Register prior to the conference...early! We whet your appetite with this..

### SIM CAMP

An Exercise in Empathy for Summer Camp Staff

Sim camp is a fictional role playing exercise in summer camp management. Enjoy a 90 min. intro into a typical summer of camp management pitted against your competitors, government, and a volatile camp clientele. Sim camp is a training exercise designed for senior & mid-level seasonal camp staff that helps to build support for camp directors & administrators by articulating the constantly changing demands and changing balance between summer camp leadership and the business of camp management. Enjoy a sample of Sim camp and see the potential for its use in your staff training this summer.

## SATURDAY CHANGES and/or additions

10:00AM - 11:15AM - Newmarket

Bruce Muchnick

*Responding When A Crisis Occurs - 1*

Apologies! When we prepared this session description we should have been more careful....

If something terrible were to happen at *your* camp, how would you respond? Wouldn't you feel more secure knowing that you had an organised plan in place to help guide you through the enormously complex task of responding to a crisis? We will identify the essential actions that compromise a sound crisis response plan and find ways to apply this material in participants' camp settings. This workshop can be a starting place for those who want to initiate positive and significant planning actions and/or a revisit for those who want to revise and refine their crisis response planning.

10:00AM - 11:15AM - Stouffville

Andrew Hubert

Title Change!

From: *What am I looking For? Daily Inspections of Challenge Courses*

To: *Daily Safety Inspections of Challenge Courses, Climbing Walls and Equipment*

## KEYNOTES cont...

Piti is also a ropes course instructor trainer, a jungle trekking guide, an experiential education consultant and has lead leadership training sessions for the Secretary General and Mayor of Bogota

### OOPS, OOPS, OOPS!!!

We hope Piti will forgive our misprints. Although always learning, Piti is not NOW studying, but has finished the courses mentioned above. We thought he was the Mayor of Bogota and he's not the Secretary General either! When you meet him, you'll agree with us that he is capable of holding those offices!

right from the gecko . . .  
**THE EARLY BIRD  
GETS THE WORM**



(and great  
workshops  
too!)

Hey! Don't forget to register for the NEW pre-conference workshops. It's a chance to upgrade your skills, get re-certified and "climb to the top"!

### A ROOM WITH A VIEW

Need a room for the conference? Call the Sheraton Parkway at 1-800-668-0101.

## *Saturday Changes Continued...*

10:00AM-11:15AM - Richmond B

Loraine DeCarli **VOICE POWER** - *Make people take notice...every time you speak*

Note the emphasis aspects of this print!

Your voice is the most important asset you have. The way you sound **every time you speak** delivers the real message about your product or service **and** creates a powerful and lasting image..you. Improve your confidence, your business, your image and create an impact...every time you talk. Deliver like a PRO! A lively, fast paced, fun, awareness presentation.

2:00PM-4:30PM - Richmond A

David Maxwell *No Really...How Are You?*

Are you where you want to be? When someone asks "Hi, How are You?", listen to your response. Join David for an experiential session that has helped change the lives of 12 people who had decided to stop existing, and then took control of their lives to begin living! Happiness Is A Choice! David has created a valuable resource with practical material to assist you with your professional development, and overall satisfaction with your life.

### **Speaker Change**

2:00PM-4:30PM - Richmond B

Carl Riley and Nicola Perring  
*Behaviour Disorders*

This is not a panel discussion. It is an interactive workshop. Many children are presenting in camps as angry, aggressive and antisocial at a very young age. SNAP (Stop Now And Plan - a self-control and problem solving technique) helps kids to relate to their angry feelings and to think before they act. It can help them avoid fighting and handle peer pressure, to stop stealing and to be better winners and losers. Learn to teach SNAP to staff and children and to positively reinforce its use daily in camp.

### **Speaker Change**

2:00PM-4:30PM - Richmond D

Day Camp Forum

Aimee Spencer of Bayview Glen will present with Trish Trojman.

2:00PM-4:30PM - Don Wolters

*Opening the doors to stronger staff teams Cancelled*

### **Speaker Change**

4:20PM-5:15PM - Vaughan W.

David Arama *Survival & Safety - Preventative (Educational Forum)* Originally Karen Gowanlock was to deliver this session. We are pleased to have David Arama present this timely information.

**NEWS FLASH!** We forgot "Been There, Done That"!

2:00pm-2:55pm in Aurora with Dale Long

*(Educational Forum)* MORE INFO. IN NEXT NEWSLETTER!