

# SEASON'S GREETINGS



VOLUME 9

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EDITOR: CATHERINE ROSS

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

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Just a simple message for all of you during this festive season. All the best to you and your family as we celebrate and continue to hope for peace throughout the world. From all of us at O.C.A., Jean and June, your executive and board, our wish to all of you is a safe and happy holiday.

May God bless you and your family and continue to direct His love and protection into the New Year.

FRED OKADA,  
President.

## ATTENTION O.C.A. JANUARY CONFERENCE DELEGATES

To clarify some inconsistencies in the Conference Programme Guide, please note the correct times for the following special events:-

Thursday, Jan. 15 - Lunch - 12:00  
Noon-2:00 p.m.  
Friday, Jan. 16 - Breakfast - 8:00-9:40 a.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 17 - General Session -  
8:30-9:45 a.m.

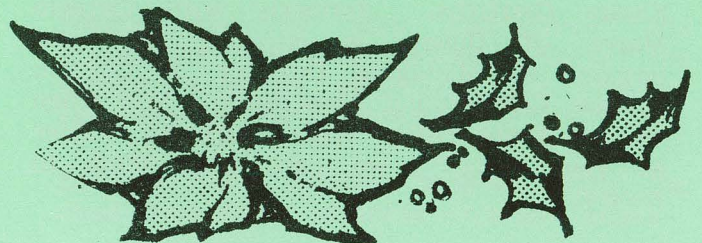
The news has just reached us concerning the recent death of Dave Sands' Mother and Father. We wish to extend to Dave the sincere sympathy of all the members of the Association.

## FROM THE EDITOR

Our eldest son and five of his university student friends are now sharing their rented house with a young man who was evicted from his university residence this October after a suicide attempt. At our daughter's high school Hallowe'en dance, the police were called to break up a vicious fight between two students sparked by a derogatory comment. Recently nineteen windows in Neil's Junior Public School were smashed one night by a twelve year old boy who lives across the street from the school.

All acts of violence committed by young people for who knows what reason - unhappiness, anger, frustration? I suspect if we were to delve into the history in each case, we might discover children who were not heeded, listened to and loved unconditionally. Take the time to listen to, love, and hug your child or someone else's child today. Leo will be pleased! Maybe the familiar phrase needs to be reversed. First "Goodwill towards men" then "Peace on Earth" may follow. Happy holidays!

CATHERINE ROSS,  
Editor.



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

After observing the Parks and Recreation Federation of Ontario in action at their June meeting; Larry Bell, Day Camping Committee Chairman of O.C.A., recommended that the O.C.A. consider joining this Federation. At its October meeting, the O.C.A. Board, following a professional and informative presentation by Marc Neeb, Chairman and John MacIntyre, Membership Director, voted to become affiliated with the PRFO.

The PRFO is an alliance of ten member organizations all of whom are provincial in scope and have parks, recreation, sports or fitness as their prime mandate. Each member organization retains its autonomy but benefits from having a louder and stronger voice when combined with the ten member alliance. In the six years since its inception, PRFO has proven to be an effective voice at the government level influencing legislation affecting parks and recreation.

PRFO Job Mart is available to all members on a subscription basis and to employers wishing to advertise for positions in the Parks, Recreation, Sports and Fitness areas.

The PRFO office is located at the Ontario Sports Centre, 1220 Sheppard Avenue East (416) 495-4088.

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Congratulations to **Mr. Rob Heming** former director of Camp Wanakita on his appointment as Head of the Ontario Camp Leadership Centre (Bark Lake). He will be responsible for the management of the Centre and will be in residence on site during the summer. Rob will be the O.C.A.'s contact person within the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation replacing Dorothy Walter in that responsibility. And isn't it great that **Steve Heming** will carry on the leadership at Wanakita. Well done, guys!

\* \* \* \* \*

**Kirsty Griffiths**, formerly with Ontario March of Dimes, is enjoying her new position as Managing Director of Ontario Private Campground Association. Now when we get those calls "May I park my trailer at your camp?", we can refer them to Kirsty!

## THE REWARDS OF CAMP DIRECTING

2.

On looking back at forty years of directing Camp Ponacka a variety of thoughts and recollections crowd into my mind.

The most memorable ones are the earliest ones - the pioneering ones - but even from this past summer many things will be long remembered. What is it that makes events "memorable"? Is it not the closeness that one develops with certain persons? And what is it that brings people close to each other?

Certainly the necessity to pull together against elemental forces unites us and gives us good memories - whether it be a long, hard paddle on a suddenly rough lake or an excruciating portage. One summer when our sauna was ablaze, our entire staff battled it with fire pails, garbage cans and cooking pots. Our bucket brigade had the fire out before the township fire truck arrived. The sloshing of the pails from hand to hand did much to give us a sense of pride and a feeling of closeness.

Although imminent danger often brings a sense of closeness, there are other opportunities and one of these is working together. By "work" I mean a physical task like the clearing of a new campsite, carving a totem pole, hollowing a log to make a dug-out canoe or constructing a building.

In the last decade at Ponacka some campers have chosen to "build" in preference to other camp activities. Our first building entirely built by campers was the ill-fated sauna. That summer I spent half my working hours at the building site - often over-whelmed by too many potential hammerers, or sawers, or painters.

Everytime I walk by that building I can still see Phil shingling on the roof or Kevin installing the posts on the front porch and little 9 year old Bill with his hair, face and arms covered with brown woodstain. I never cease to be amazed at the potential that resides in a young person. It reminds me of Kurt Hahn's motto displayed at the Outward Bound School, "You've got more in you than you think."

As the years went by other building projects came along - a shelter for our rock-climbing gear, a deluxe kybo with three seats and a skylight. This past summer we undewrtook to build a small staff sleeping cabin. We topped that work

off with a gala gourmet party at my cottage. (Parents may find it surprising that it was at camp that their son developed a liking for smoked oysters.)

For my wife and I working together to build a camp has brought us some of our closest life-long friends and some of life's richest memories.

BRUNO MORAWETZ, PhD.,  
Camp Ponacka.

### AQUATIC NEWS

1) The 2 major areas of concern of the Committee are: i) legislation and standards that we must all live by and ii) skill upgrading (Professional Development) of camp aquatic personnel. As a result of joining the Parks and Recreation Federation of Ontario it has come to our attention that there is an organization that can significantly compliment our work in both areas. This organization is called The Association of Aquatic Personnel of Ontario (A.A.P.O.)

A.A.P.O. is presently making recommendations to the Ontario Government on health regulations...and on possible waterfront regulations. It would be wise for the O.C.A. and perhaps individual camps to join this organization so that reasonable legislation will be drawn up. Aquatics are a large part of camping in Ontario and it is a sad but true fact that the O.C.A. has often not been consulted on matters that affect it directly. A.A.P.O. seems to hear about changes much before we do and would serve to inform us of impending change.

A major benefit of membership would be A.A.P.O.'s Fall Conference. Larry Bell and Michael Greenbloom both attended this Fall Conference which they found thought provoking, but also alerted them to potential problems on the horizon before anyone else in the O.C.A. could see them coming.

The cost seems expensive at \$160 for an association membership (\$75. for an individual membership) but I believe we cannot afford not to become members and participate actively representing Aquatics in Camps.

2) The Aquatics committee requires 5 active members who have an interest in any aquatic activity. Do you have any staff from last summer who might be interested? Have them give me (Marc Cote) a call at (416) 366-0009.

### 3) SWIM INSTRUCTOR COURSE

A Royal Life/Red Cross Swim instructor's course with a CAMP EMPHASIS is being offered Jan. 30-31, Feb. 1 and Feb. 13-15, 1987. Cost \$100. Location to be determined. For more information phone the O.C.A. office (416) 781-0525.

MARC COTE,  
Aquatics Chairman.



### **BETWEEN THE COVERS**

ECO-SKETCH is a text full of ideas for environmental education. It is a good first reference for starting and building an effective outdoor program. Entertaining sketches compliment the free form text making it an easy-to-use reference. Each page illustrates a concept, teaching technique, project or activity. Sections include developing a program, outdoor skills, resource areas, environmental studies and many more. Use these ideas or you may be inspired to create your own fun and interesting activities.

Camps, schools, nature centres, churches, recreation departments and environmental education centres will find that Eco-Sketch is a valuable environmental education resource text.

TIPS AND TRICKS IN OUTDOOR EDUCATION is another terrific book. It provides the reader with approaches to educational experiences in the outdoors for children. Used as a school text, this well documented resource book includes such topics as animal studies, interpretive trails, nature arts and crafts, and studies of environmental impact. In addition to these, winter studies, environmental values and initiative tasks are included in this revised third edition.

Simple step by step instructions and suggestions help the leader provide the student with an awareness and creative expression of his surroundings.

Enhance your outdoor program with the ideas from either of these excellent books.

## THE OCA WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

4.

### NEWLY ACCREDITED CAMPS - RESIDENTIAL

Camp Bon Echo, Branchton Camp, Cedar Valley Ranch, Camp Geshar, Lakefield Camp International, Westcoast Connection Travel Camp.

### DAY

Arrowhead Day Camp, Camp Fundale, Ryerson Summer Day Camp.

### NEW INDIVIDUAL & STUDENT MEMBERS

Mrs. Wendy Beveridge, Stephen Burns, Phil Calder, Walter Davison, Sandy Eathorne, Mary Elder, Gail Hains, Jack Goodman, Michael James Griffith, Roger Hawkins, Ross Hodgetts, James Hopkins, Neil Hoxie, Frank Robert Nagy, Campbell Nisbet, Christopher Northey, Brian Presley, Mary Jane Styles.

### NEW COMMERCIAL MEMBERS

Exer-Clean Launderers  
Kestrel Management - Food Management Services  
York River Industries - Boat Manufacturer.

## HELP WANTED

WHITE OAKS AREA GIRL GUIDES require summer staff for their 1987 season at Camp Wyoka.

Camp Director - Guiding experience preferred but not essential to take charge of administrative duties and responsible for camp operations.

Camp Nurse - R.N. or R.N.A. to look after camp health and safety of 150 campers weekly.

Waterfront Director - Ensure waterfront regulations are maintained according to Provincial Government Standards and Provincial Girl Guide waterfront rulings.

Quartermaster - To order, distribute and take inventories of food stuffs and related camp supplies.

H.Q. Cook - To cook for a staff of approximately 25.

Please direct all responses to:- Operations Committee Chairman, Girl Guides of Canada, 3054 Mavis Road, Mississauga, Ontario, L5C 1T8.

Eco-Sketch, American Camping Association, 130p., 1976.

Cost: \$8.25 (member); \$9.90 (non-member)

Tips and Tricks in Outdoor Education, Interstate Printers and Publishers, 184p.

Cost: \$12.35 (member); \$14.80 (non-member)

Books listed in "Between the Covers" are available from the Canadian Camping Association Bookstore.

Orders that are \$20.00 or less must be prepaid with \$2.00 added for shipping. Contact the C.C.A. office by mail or phone.

Canadian Camping Association  
1806 Avenue Road, Suite 2  
Toronto, Ontario, M5M 3Z1  
(416) 781-4717

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE - C.C.A.

### CCA/ACC PUBLICATIONS CHRISTMAS SPECIAL!

10% discount on Photography of Natural Things, Magic Ring, Clouds on the Clothesline and The Earth Speaks - Offer now extended to December 15, 1986. See the fall issue of Canadian Camping for details.

## THIS & THAT

Bring your past to the Conference (Jan. 15-17) and we'll make sure that it gets to the Archives. What you could bring are brochures, manuals, staff training material, pictures, letters, histories and anything else which you would like to see kept safe and secure for years to come. Throw it in a box and drop it off at the Archives Sign at the Conference.

JOHN JORGENSON,  
Archives Chairman.

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If you have read your Conference Programme, you will know that this hard-working committee has assembled a host of notable speakers and camping experts from across the country and south of the border. We are promised three full days of activity, learning and leisure. I hope you plan on attending both for your pleasure and professional development.

EDITOR.