



OCAsional news

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EDITOR: CATHERINE ROSS

TRUE HAPPINESS CONSISTS NOT IN THE MULTITUDE OF FRIENDS,
BUT IN THEIR WORTH AND CHOICE. - BEN JOHNSON.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Good news, members! Camping is thriving in Ontario! Here are a few "stats" from the summer of 1987 that really interested me--I hope you find them noteworthy.

- Parents paid over \$33,000,000.00 in camping fees to OCA.
- OCA camps paid over \$10,000,000.00 to staff.
- Over 2,000 staff volunteered their services to member camps.
- OCA camps employed over 8,000 students.

So, when people ask you what you do for "the other ten months of the year", you tell them that we contribute to the economy of the province, in addition to our providing the best possible environment for the growth and development of the future leaders of the province. Let's brag a little about ourselves--we can be our own best public relations committee if we make an effort to tell the world what we are all about. I am proud of these statistics. I hope you are too.

More good news--the lawsuit pending against the OCA has been dropped. Our thanks are extended to Mr. Gary Kuzyk and Mr. Kim Smith for all their efforts on our behalf.

Now don't panic, but in 1,344 hours the campers will be here!!!

JANE McCUTCHEON
President

EDITORIAL

At present I attend about seven meetings a month while serving on five committees or boards relating to camping. You see, I find it hard to say no when someone asks me to take on a task related to camping. When I arrive at these frequent meetings, I glance around the room forcing my mind into gear thinking, "What committee is this?" "What task is at hand?" My hypochondriac brother would explain my initial confusion as the result of dying brain cells owing to the absorption into my system of alum from coffee whitener, dill pickles, deodorant and cooking pots! What other evil is lurking out there to destroy us?

My explanation is simpler. With a few exceptions, the various committees are made up of the same people, like myself, filling several roles. This problem was isolated in the Operational Review: too few people doing too many tasks. Don't get me wrong! I'm not complaining. For the most part I enjoy the committee work. Whenever camping people get together for work or play, it is always fun. Nor am I blaming the membership. People by nature rarely volunteer to do a task. They need and like to be asked. Hopefully, as a result of the Operational Review Task Force, a procedure will be formalized to extend the volunteer base. When you are asked, please say YES! You won't regret it. Camping people are fun to work with.

CATHERINE ROSS
Editor

REMEMBER THE CAMPERS?

You have just finished your tenth phone call of the day, made a slight dent in your mound of relentless paperwork, spoken to a counsellor about the virtues of being with his campers instead of the new female swim instructor, and finally you decide to take a break. You step outside the door. Everyone is so busy that you don't see a soul. You hear a shout of glee echoing somewhere not too far off and think to yourself, "A camper! I remember them now. Why, I used to work with them!"

A Director's day is chaotic at best. What a refreshing break it is to take a few moments with a kid or two, to help keep us in tune. Easy to say, hard to do. How many of us have said, "My cottage door is always open, so just come in and say 'Hi!'?" How sincere are we, when we offer that opportunity? And I'm not talking about the standard Johnny-hit-me-I-wanna-go-home kid. I remember one day when I was "pushing" paper and I heard the pitter patter of small feet come up to my door. Eight-year-old Billy walked straight in, over to the big easy chair and plunked himself down. "Hello!" And then he looked the whole cabin over. "You sure have a nice cabin. Well, have a nice day Hawkeye." He then came over, gave me a hug and walked out. I was so dumbfounded, I didn't know what to say, but Billy sure made my day. So I decided to leave the continent of Administralia for a while and visit the camp. I decided to make a mental checklist to ensure "kid-time" in my daily schedule.

I thought I could share a part of that list with you--a review I'm sure:

- lunch with a cabin group (or picnic or cookout);
- tuck in a cabin or two at bed time each evening;
- invite myself to story time during rest period;
- lemonade with the Director (senior campers made a selection of music to be played on my stereo and talked about camp and how they were doing), pre-ghetto blaster proliferation days;
- get kidnapped by a group;
- "sneak" out of camp with a group and their counsellors for a pre-arranged star-gazing and milkshake session in the field;
- take swimming lessons with a group;
- visit the craft hut for multiple explanations of "works of art";
- walk with and talk to campers between activity areas;
- always answer their letters...

There is a catch in all of this, however. Campers, once remembered, will never let you forget. I will leave you to ponder these words of Margaret Lee Runbeck:

"Once you've loved a child, you love all children. You give away your love to one, and you find that by the giving you have made yourself an inexhaustible treasury."

MARTIN HUNT



BETWEEN THE COVERS

Pencils and crayons and string and paint, cloth and paper and yarn. With these and some time, you too can make a rainbow.

I Can Make A Rainbow is a book filled to the brim with creative and fun crafty ideas. The materials used are not only inexpensive but you probably have them on hand. With easy-to-follow instructions, the activities are adaptable to various settings: home, school, and camp. You will also find that the author has added her own twists to make the projects unique.

The colourful sections are diverse, ranging from:

- things to do with pencil, pen, crayon and chalk;
- things to do with paper;
- things to print and paint;
- things to do with cloth, yarn, and string;
- things to carve, mold and sculpt;
- things to do with food;
- some special things to make;
- things to do when there's nothing to do;
- kaleidoscope of ideas.

Does the set up sound familiar? For those of you with Puddles and Wings and Grapevine Swings, the nature craft book, it should because it is another Incentive publication.

This book most certainly contains every imaginable craft under the rainbow. A must for those creative geniuses of all ages!!! A true "kaleidoscope of ideas".

I Can Make A Rainbow, Incentive Publications, 300 p., 1976.

Cost: \$24.95 (members);
\$29.95 (non-members);

PLUS \$2.00 shipping and handling.

N.B. This book covers content in the programme section of the curriculum for Camp Directors (page 53).

SPRING SPECIAL!

How about some camp stationery for your tuck shop or personal use? One package includes six cards and envelopes with sketches of a canoeist and children playing.

Cost: \$1.00 per package;
OR \$10.00 for 12 packages;
(Ontario p.s.t. included).

BLUE LAKE AND ROCKY SHORE Belongs to All of Us!

Blue Lake and Rocky Shore is an enchanting record, touching every summer month back to the turn of the century and before. It is our only History, its creation involving scores of professionals and experts, all of them members of OCA, past and present, who were able to tell their stories in their own words, as they happened at the time; this, for the benefit of generations to come.

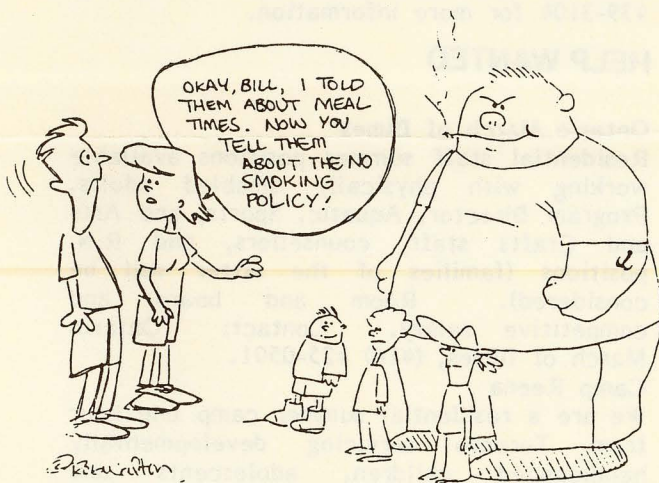
EANSWYTHE FLYNN

(Available at the C.C.A. office for \$8.95).

Books listed in "Between the Covers" are available from 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, Ste. 2
Toronto, Ont. M5M 3Z1
(416) 781-4717



BY: ROB WALTON, MOORELANDS CAMP

GUIDELINES FOR CAMP NURSES

These guidelines, developed in collaboration with Mary Casey of the Ontario Camping Association, will be of assistance to camp owners and administrators in developing health care policies and procedures. The information pamphlet is available from the College of Nurses (416-928-0900) on request at no charge.

MAP FOR THE LESLIE M. FROST NATURAL RESOURCES CENTRE MANAGEMENT AREA

Copies of this map, showing canoe routes, campsites, access points, water levels, grading of rapids, etc., can be obtained for \$3.75 (tax included) from the Frost Centre, Dorset, Ontario, P0A 1E0 or from the Public Information Centre, Whitney Block, Rm. #1640, 99 Wellesley Street W., Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1W3. Cheques should be made payable to the Treasurer of Ontario.

A sample copy of the map is in the OCA office.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

ONTARIO CAMP LEADERSHIP CENTRE - Bark Lake Celebrates Its 40th Anniversary

The celebration event is scheduled for Saturday, September 17 (afternoon), and Sunday, September 18 (after lunch) at O.C.L.C. The event is for staff, spouses and children of staff. For further information contact:

Rob Heming
Ministry of Tourism and Recreation
77 Bloor Street West, 8th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2R9
(416) 965-2356

WORKSHOP FOR CAMP HEALTH STAFF

8th Nurses Workshop, Bolton
May 14-15, 1988
Registration forms available at the O.C.A. office.

PLANNING TO ATTEND? SO BUDGET NOW!

Directors & Senior Staff Annual Conference
"Together Towards Tomorrow"
January 26-28, 1989
Inn on the Park
WATCH FOR SUMMER PREVIEW

Get Your Tickets Now!



Get in Training for the Big Summer Game Ahead!

The TEAM K.I.D.S. COUNSELLOR CONFERENCE

Send Your Staff for Some Knowledge; A Year's in a Day. Send Your Counsellors to College, To College, This May.....(28th)

- Havergal College--
- Registration is Limited--
- No Refunds on May 28--

Registration Forms at the OCA Ticket Office
(416-781 0525)

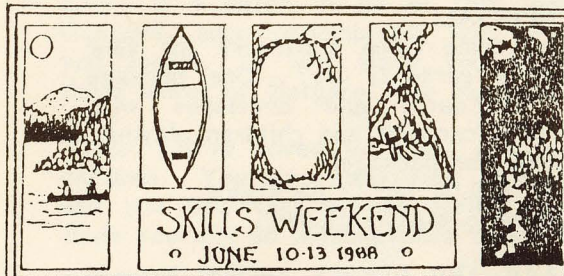
TEAM K.I.D.S.: TIPS FOR TRAINING CAMP

1. **PARKING IS LIMITED:**
A) Use Car Pools
B) Use Public Transit
C) Be Prepared to Park (A) and Use (B)
2. **DRESS IS CASUAL**
Be Prepared for Indoor and Outdoor Activity
3. **GYM FLOORS ARE DELICATE**
Choose Appropriate Footwear
4. **STUDY THE OCA**
Fabulous Prizes Available if you can Answer Skill Testing Question
5. **DEFINE K.I.D.S.**
Winning Answers on May 28

THIS & THAT

Congratulations to Mike Moore, the new owner and director of Camp Kandalore. Good luck, Mike!

Welcome to Meghan Ann, born on April 1, 1988 to parents Lisa and John Pearse of Camp Tawingo. Proud grandparents are Jack and Helen Pearse.



The OCA Skills Weekend is designed to serve all OCA Camps in the on-going development of their Staff and of their Program. Participants are usually returning Camp Staff who, in their own Camps, are expected to be in a supervisory role in specific Program Areas. This year the Skill Streams are:

Canoeing (with or without ORCA Certification)

Eco-Skills (Nature and Environmental Programs)

Arts/Crafts (formal and informal Craft Programs)

The week-end of exchange has generated significant contributions in many participating Camps. For More Information, Contact the OCA Office at (416-781 0525)

URGENT!

Too many special needs applications have come into our office. Would you be willing to allow one special need camper and their mediator attend your camp and/or hire one counsellor to look after one or two special needs campers? Parents are willing to pay reasonable fees. Call John Harder, at Glenbrook Day Camp, at (416) 640-2127, or 439-3104 for more information.

HELP WANTED

Ontario March of Dimes

Residential staff summer positions available working with physically disabled adults. Program Director, Aquatic, Sports, and Arts and Crafts staff, counsellors, and R.N. positions (families of the latter will be considered). Room and board and competitive salary. Contact: Ontario March of Dimes, (416) 425-0501.

Camp Reena

We are a residential summer camp one hour from Toronto servicing developmentally handicapped children, adolescents and adults. Reena offers very competitive salaries. We are still require: a Waterfront Director, a Sports Activity Head, and Cabin Counsellors and 1:1 Support Counsellors. Call the Reena Camp office (Mr. Himel), (416) 787-0131.