



# O.C.A. sional news

VOLUME 3

APRIL 1985

EDITOR: MARTIN HUNT

"BAD PLANNING ON YOUR PART DOES NOT NECESSARILY CONSTITUTE AN AUTOMATIC EMERGENCY ON MY PART."

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

This marks the last Newsletter article I shall write as the President of the Association. It's been a remarkable two years - one I shall not soon forget. I consider the experience a privilege; I now eagerly join an august group of 'past' Presidents. The support, understanding and work done by the Executive and Board of the Association speaks clearly of the commitment of these persons to excellence in organized camping throughout Ontario. And the day-to-day tasks undertaken by Jean and June in the Office always indicate competence and enthusiasm.

April is an important month in the camping calendar. For individuals active in camping life, April is a time of interview, planning and visitation to parent and community groups. It's a time of dreaming about the coming summer. It's a time of preparation. April also marks the Annual Meeting of the Association. The Association takes a brief backward glance at the previous year; then it moves ahead. Hopefully the year review gives us pause for serious reflection so that we can advance into the unknown with hope and security. Plan to participate in the Annual meeting - on April 23.

Participation, development and peace form the foundation of International Youth Year. These concepts can also serve the Association well as it moves into the mid

1980's. This summer we will welcome visitors from Belgium as part of our response to IYY. This will provide numbers of us with an opportunity to rub shoulders with colleagues with different experiences and individual wisdom. We'll all be better for that.

So, farewell and thanks. I look forward to the leadership from the New Board and its Executive. Past Presidents Council here I come!

K. GRANT KERR,  
President.

## EDITORIAL

Ain't got no space!  
Bye!

MARTIN G. HUNT.

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The O.C.A. Board has re-activated its Woodsmanship Committee and all interested people are invited to a preliminary meeting May 13th at 7:00 P.M. at the O.C.A. Office.

If unable to attend comments are welcome.

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To save on cost the next issue will be a double one. Therefore, deadline on the next issue is May 1st.

In accepting a physically or mentally handicapped child into our camp, or in developing a camping program for these children we are ADAPTING the life of camp so that these children can participate to the greatest extent possible. When we take whole children who do not speak English, or who speak very limited English, into our camps we are placing a handicap upon them.

Physically handicapped children have had to live with their handicap, whether it came upon them suddenly or gradually. Their adaption began long before they came into our camps. Our child who does not speak English is faced with the handicap AT THE MOMENT they enter our camp. They have come from a world where they can communicate, where sounds have the same meaning which they have had since their birth. The telephone will ring, they can answer it; a friend comes to the door, they can go out and play, and laugh and joke with their peers. They are capable of long discussions, of talking back to their parents, of understanding loving, soothing words when the world is too much. And now, suddenly, with the precision of a surgeon's knife, this whole part of their life is removed. Certainly it is not forever, but for a period of "short forever" they have lost that most precious of man's abilities - the ability to communicate.

When all children come to camp they are cut off from their familiar world. We take the urban child, accustomed to his own room, his own possessions, his own friends, his own routine and place him in a small tent or cabin with strangers; we give him a small corner to call his own; we insist that he accept the foibles of his cabin mates. We expect him to fall into the routine of camp and to become familiar with the mores and norms and traditions of our camp. "Well," you may say, "is that not what camp is all about?" Yes it is. This is what we directors accept as the challenge of our lives - to help these children grow in wisdom and stature. To guide our staff members to grow and to train them to pass this on to their campers. Example and verbal communication go hand in hand in the achievement of these goals.

Many of our campers fall into camp life with no difficulty, they thrive on all the things that happen in our world. They are

the "real camp types." Some of our campers need help to achieve the skills necessary to live in our camp environment.

We talk to these children, we guide them, we listen to them we try to understand what it is that is affecting their behaviour.

Suddenly, we are faced with a child who is carrying the same invisible baggage as all our other campers but who is also burdened with the inability to communicate. This inability places stress on the child which manifests itself in ways that the child cannot understand and we cannot understand. We in turn are placed in the position that we cannot communicate with that child to help. All our carefully learned tools are blunted like the woodsman's axe on oak. We find ourselves inadequate to the task of guidance and leadership as far as this child is concerned. We who are so professional. From being skilled professionals, we find ourselves, like the camper, out of our depth and uncomfortable with the situation. This places stress upon us, unless of course, we choose to ignore the child, in which case, it doesn't really matter to us.

The camping community must begin to look at leadership from the point of view of dealing with the second language camper. We must face up to the inadequacy which has been imposed upon us by that child, (or at least the feeling of inadequacy). We must begin to do solid research into the techniques which are available to us to deal with this child in an intelligent manner, not only to help him learn to communicate but to enter into the lives and spirit of our camp, to learn to laugh and play and have fun, to touch the depth of his soul in the realization that communication can occur beyond and in spite of language.

This is a realm of leadership which has been passed over, or perhaps simply not been realized as a necessary consideration when working with this "special branch" of children.

This the International Year of Youth, must make us aware of International Youth. Hand in Hand with the concept of internationalism is the awareness of the many languages in which people communicate.

Living in Canada, we cannot consider only English, or French. We must go beyond bilingualism. Immigrants from all over the globe are choosing Canada as a land of new beginnings. Whether we run a private camp, a day camp, an agency camp, or inner city camp, we are going to be receiving children from these new families. Canadian children who are not fluent in the language of our camps. We are going to be receiving children who will form their opinion of Canada and Canadians by what they see happening in our camp, and the people whom they meet with us. We have a duty and a responsibility to help these children adapt, and to learn with the minimum of fear and frustration and the maximum of fun and laughter. But it will not just happen.

MADELENE ALLEN,  
Director, Camp Ouareau.

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#### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Membership Committee, since 1984, has spent a great deal of time reviewing our Association Membership Categories and policies. We now wish to bring you up to date with these changes so that you can assist the committee with: membership recruitment, and active participation in the affairs of our growing Association.

As our camps grow stronger as a result of the enthusiasm of many active volunteers and associated colleagues our camping community grows yet stronger. Your assistance with membership recruitment in various geographical areas of the province will make a tremendous contribution to this continued growth. Your knowledge of the membership categories will help to make our membership drive a success.

#### Honorary Life Membership Criteria:

A motion to receive a revised criteria for the Honorary Life Membership was accepted at the December 18, 1984 Board of Directors Meeting.

\* Honorary Life Members shall be a person upon whom this honor is bestowed by the Association's current Board of Directors. The proposed individual must meet the following criteria: long term distinguished service to the Association; for a period, held an Executive position in an organization or agency involved in camping and since retired from this active commitment; held a position on the Board

of Directors, the Executive, or the Chairperson of an Association Committee, Task Force or Special Project. Recipients will hold a non voting status.

Proposals for people to be considered for Honorary Life Membership should be signed by 3 active members of the Association. These proposals must be received by the President of the Board at least one full month prior to the Annual Meeting. Decision for acceptance will be made by the Board of Directors.

New Membership Category. There are many persons throughout Ontario who at one time were either a camper, counsellor or senior camp staff person. The summer camp experience can draw many fond camping memories. Do you know people with these memories? Organizations which work indirectly with youth? Persons who are interested in knowing more about your camping career? A parent who has supported the directions and involvements of the association? All of these persons fall into the new membership category of Non Camping Associate Membership. Although the membership contribution cannot be considered a donation for tax purposes the support to the Association will be appreciated and grandly acknowledged.

A motion to the Board on January 24th, 1985 was received to open a New membership category. We ask now for membership assistance to recruit such interested members.

\* Non Camping Associate Membership is for agencies, organizations and individuals not directly involved in camping, but who support the concept of camping. All NCAM's would receive the OCA's news letter. The Membership fee is currently \$50.00, and would not receive voting privileges.

Individual and Student Membership now can be purchased semi annually. Annual and Student memberships are presently \$20.00 and \$10.00 respectively. The Annual date of membership renewal is October 1st of each year. The Semi Annual fee has been created to assist Camp Directors to encourage new summer staff to obtain membership so as to become aware of staff development workshops during the summer months. Information regarding fees and benefits are available by calling the OCA Office or your Regional Representative.

SALLY MOORE,  
Membership Chairperson.

## **"DO TELL"**

Tell us what can we do with camp program after sunset?

The night hike is a tremendous chance to experience the out-of-doors. It utilizes all explore your feelings and your surroundings after dark.

For many people, nighttime is an exciting, yet mysterious time of the day. A fear of the night and darkness is often a product of not knowing or feeling acquainted with the night.

Night hikes provide an ideal situation for group building experiences, i.e. trust, cooperation, and communication. The night hike leader must be sensitive to his group and be able to set a suitable tone for his group.

As part of the night experience-indoor activities may be conducted to complement the aims of a night hike. These activities may occur prior to or following the hike, depending on the time available.

The indoor portion of the night experience takes the form of six self-guiding stations. Each station deals with a particular sense, a sense which will be used on the night hikes.

### Station #1 SOUNDS OF SILENCE.

Task: Identify the objects in each of 10 cans by shaking them gently. (Prepare the cans by sealing an object or objects inside. e.g. pine cone, sticks, pebbles).

### Station #2 THE GOLDEN TOUCH.

Task: Identify the objects in each one of the 9 cans without removing them. Remember NO PEEKING!!!! (These cans are open-topped with "tactile" objects inside).

### Station #3 THE NOSE KNOWS BEST

Task: Using your sense of smell - identify the odours in each of the 10 cans. Replace lids immediately after sniffing. (Block out baby food jars by painting them and then insert cotton balls dipped in pungent materials such as ammonia, cinnamon, garlic, etc.)

### Station #4 TWINKLE TWINKLE LITTLE STAR

Task: Sketch 2 of the constellations posted and fill them out with sketches of the figures they might represent. (Display a few constellations which challenge the camper to imagine the characters.)

### Station #5 TONGUE TWISTERS

Task: Identify each one of the 10 tastes by taking a sample. Shake a bit of each shaker's contents onto your finger. (Block out salt shakers by painting them and then fill them with distinctive tastes: sugar, salt, vinegar, water, hot chocolate).

### Station #6 GOOD COMMON SENSES

1. In pairs - one partner closes his eyes and tries to guess how long a minute is. Keep quiet and try to do it without counting. The other partner must time to see how close his partner is to 1 minute. Switch around and repeat the task.

2. Stand still, eyes closed and arms outstretched. Try to touch the tips of your index fingers together without opening your eyes.

3. Stand with your hands in front of you with palms facing each other close enough to feel the heat from the other hand, but not close enough to touch. Close your eyes and hold your arms outstretched. Try to bring your palms back together until you feel the heat again from your palms. Open your eyes and see how close your hands actually were.

### Follow-up

A follow-up is a good idea to share thoughts, correct answers and provide a time for reflection. A discussion of the importance of our senses would be valuable at this point. DO TELL.

JOHN JORGENSON - DO TELL EDITOR,  
Camp Tawingo.

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## GREAT NEWS ABOUT DISABILITY INSURANCE FOR OCA CAMP DIRECTORS AND STAFF

After much searching and discussion, several insurers have now come forward who are willing to quote on Disability Insurance for OCA members who are full time directors or full-time employees of member camps.

The companies will make full proposals to us, offering short and long term income replacement, medical, dental, etc. as soon as we can provide some idea of the number of people who might be interested. (Of course, the more OCA members participating, the lower the premium rates).

At the present time, WE URGENTLY NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU if you are interested in looking at this insurance coverage. We stress that this is in no way a commitment but just an indication for proposal purposes. Just write the OCA office to let us know how many full time employees you have who might be involved - it will also help if we have a male/female breakdown and an idea of age range. (We do not need individual names and you should not include those who might be already covered through a spouse. PLEASE DO IT NOW IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE THE PROPOSAL WHEN IT IS READY! Mark the envelope "Insurance" and mail right away. (Please note - the OCA office staff are not equipped to answer any questions at this time.)

Please help us to provide another great benefit to OCA members at a very attractive cost - WRITE THE OFFICE NOW TO LET US KNOW OF YOUR INTEREST!!!

### INSURANCE COMMITTEE.

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### COUNSELLOR CONFERENCE

A great opportunity.

Although the staff at Camp Robin Hood realized that they had a responsibility to the O.C.A. for all of the O.C.A. workshops they had gained from it was with considerable apprehension that they offered to organize the Counsellor Conference '85.

Was it worthwhile? After 9 months of steady planning the consensus is an overwhelming YES. Eventually we hope the Conference itself will benefit over 1000 counsellors. Right now we know our camp has benefited. The committee work has been spread among many and the team work and camaraderie that has developed has given us a head start on the coming Camping Season that would otherwise not have been possible.

At the present time no person or camp has stepped forward to host the '86 Conference. This is the ideal time to make that decision. There is still time to join our committees and get a first hand view of the organization. We urge you to give the matter some thought and then contact your executive of the O.C.A. with an offer. You won't regret it!

LARRY BELL.

Camp Robin Hood.

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### ATTENTION SWIMMING STAFF

Following is a list of contacts to approach for information on various swimming awards and qualifications.

#### Burlington

1. Aldershot Pool - 637-5688
2. A. Coughlan Pool - 335-7000
3. Centennial Pool - 639-5722
4. Hidden Valley Pool - 634-7515
5. Optimists Pool - 639-2700
6. Tyandaga Pool - 639-4747

#### Oakville

For all aquatic information call 844-1381

#### Hamilton Courses Offered.

1. Bennetto Pool - 529-2948  
Bronze & Bronze Cross - Exams in May.
2. Dalewood Pool - 525-0083  
Bronze - Exam in April/May
3. Hill Park Pool - 385-6331  
Bronze & Bronze Cross - Exams in April
4. Norman Lewis Pool - 528-6977  
RLSS instructor's recertification - June 23 (Register at the Red Cross - 923-6692)
5. Scott Park Pool - 544-0563  
Bronze - Exam in April
6. Sir Allan McNab Pool - 389-2045  
Bronze, Bronze Cross, S.R.A. - Exams in May

7. Sir Wilfrid Laurier Pool - 561-8980  
Bronze, Bronze Cross - Exams in May
8. Sir Winston Churchill Pool - 547-6042  
Bronze - Exam in April  
RC/RLSS Instructor School - May 24,  
25, 26, 31, June 1, 2
9. Westmount Pool - 389-6714  
RC recertification - instructor - June 2  
- register with the Red Cross - 923-6692

The two Y.W.C.A. Pools may be contacted also.

#### Mississauga

Contact the pool supervisors for information.

1. Cawthra Pool - Debbie McLean-Schubert - 278-2030.
2. Clarkson Pool - Jim Wynne - 822-2689
3. Glenforest Pool - Rosemary Messent - 625-6583
4. Huron Park Pool - Anne Pontin - Illing 279-8520
5. Meadowvale Pool - Bill Clark - 821-3622
6. Terry Fox Memorial Pool - Perry Smith - 276-5502
7. Westwood Pool - Rosemary Messent - 678-0774

## **THIS & THAT**

### GUIDE TO COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN RECREATION SERVICES

We need your help in gathering information for the project "A Guide to Computer Applications in the Recreation Services".

In recent years, more and more practitioners in our field are either using, or considering the use of computers in their work. Although there may be an abundance of information available in this area, there is no mechanism designed to document such information and to encourage the sharing of experiences and resources amongst practitioners.

In response to the need of such information by an increasing number of practitioners, the Ontario Recreation Society and the Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Recreation have jointly sponsored a project to research and publish a guide to document computer applications in the recreation services.

The proposed project will consist of the following:-

1. A directory of organizations in Canada who are presently using computers for parks & recreation applications. The information will likely include types of applications, basic hardware/software information and contact persons.

2. A description of the various computer applications in the recreation field. This description will illustrate the range of possible computer uses.

3. A list of important guidelines for the procurement and implementation of a computer system.

This publication will be useful for parks & recreation practitioners who are considering the use of computers, as well as those who are thinking about expanding their existing applications. It will help us optimize our limited resources, gain from the experiences of our colleagues and minimize redundancy. It may, in the future, lead to the sharing of computer programs.

In order for the project to be complete and thorough, we need your help. If you are currently using computers for parks & recreation applications, or know of anyone else who is, please send the name, organization, address, phone number and a brief listing of the application (s) to:

Mr. Victor Cheng  
V.S. Cheng & Associates Inc.  
350 Davenport Road  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5R 1K6

Upon receipt of this information, we may contact you for additional information.

We hope to have this initial information gathering stage completed by April 1st. The publication should be available by the Fall of 1985.

Thank you for contributing to the future of computing in our field.

VICTOR S. CHENG.

## THE NEW ONTARIO RECREATIONAL CANOEING ASSOCIATION PROGRAM

A complimentary copy of the new ORCA Youth Canoeing Program is available to every member camp of the OCA.

If you did not receive your copy at the O.C.A. Conference, you may obtain one by calling the ORCA office (416) 495-4180 or by dropping into the ORCA office, 1220 Sheppard Avenue East, Ste. 316, Toronto.

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I am pleased to announce that Camp Allsaw will be open this summer. Mr. Bud Jacobi who has considerable camping experience will be the Director, under the guidance of Mr. Bill Lenters, the Director of Camp Kemonoya. Frank and Shirley Ford will be responsible for camper registration. Mrs. Hambly and I will be at our cottage on the premises and we are looking forward to an excellent summer.

SAM G. HAMBLY.

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### PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS - Staff Class

#### 1. Nature Category

- 1st - Lynn Arnold, Wanakita
- 2nd - Ruth McGhee, St. Vincent De Paul Marygrove Camp.
- 3rd - Lynn Arnold, Wanakita

#### 2. Activity Category

- 1st - David Balcaras, Scott Mission Camp
- 2nd - David Balcaras, Scott Mission Camp
- 3rd - Diane Blair, Gay Venture

#### 3. Emotion Category

- 1st - John Turner, Richildaca
- 2nd - David Balcaras, Scott Mission Camp
- 3rd - John Baird, Walden

#### 4. Humour Category

- 1st - Douglas Miron, Sudaca
- 2nd - Bernie Burnett, Ki-Wa-Y
- 3rd - Jocelyn Palm, Glen Bernard

### Camper Class

#### 1. Nature Category

- 1st - Ian Sandler, Tamakwa
- 2nd - Michael Craig, Wanapitei
- 3rd - Karma Barsam-Brown, Camp Ouareau

#### 2. Activity Category

- 1st - Garon Helman, Tamakwa
- 2nd - Seana Irvine, Wanapitei
- 3rd - Michael Craig, Wanapitei

#### 3. Emotion Category

- 1st - Kris McLaughlin, Oconto
- 2nd - Yvonne Philpott, Heimdall
- 3rd - Penny McFluaine, Oconto

#### 4. Humour Category

- 1st - Mike Craig, Wanapitei

## **HELP WANTED**

### WANTED FOR TORONTO DAY CAMP

Two Section Heads.

- One for Junior Division - E.C.E. essential
- One for Intermediate Division - Experience Required.

Also - Assistant Swim - Must have Instructors.

- Head of Crafts - Experienced.
- Dance Instructor - Experienced.

Please call (416) 881-6022.

## **"WHAT'S HAPPENING!"**

### CAMP SAILING INSTRUCTOR PROGRAM

Location: Camp: Mini-Yo-We, Port Sydney Muskoka.

Fee: a) \$215. per candidate, from OSA Member Camp

June 17 - 21

The program is being run specifically for camp sailing staff. The program shall be open to any camp sailing instructor who does not possess the necessary spinnaker handling skills required for attendance at

the OSA Instructor Development Courses.  
Upon completion of the five day course,  
successful candidates will receive an OSA  
CAMP SAILING INSTRUCTOR  
CERTIFICATE.

Candidates will receive instructional training in safety, motorboat rescue, and skills required for teaching sailing such as, the dynamics of handling diverse groups, communication skills and the preparation of lesson plans. The candidates may also have the opportunity to improve their sailing ability.

The cost of accommodation is included in the course fee.

For more information contact Cliff Peat, Boys' Camp Director, Camp Mini-Yo-We, 630 Renforth Drive, Etobicoke, Ontario, M9C 2N6, (622-4802).

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FITNESS RECREATION AND CAMPING and  
THE NEEDS OF THE LEARNING DISABLED

Thursday, April 25, 1985 - 9:00 A.M. - 6:30 P.M. Inn on the Park, Toronto.

In conjunction with:

The 8th Annual O.A.C.L.D. Conference

"PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER"

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With the summer approaching, it is important that young people realize the many opportunities which are available to them. Camp Awakening, an outdoor program designed for teenagers with special needs, is looking for prospective campers for the summer of 1985.

Founded in 1982, the program focuses on canoe tripping for boys with physical disabilities. The camp operates out of Kilcoo Camp, an established boys' camp in Haliburton, Ontario. Awakening also offers activities such as swimming, kayaking, sailing, archery, ceramics and group games. The special features of canoe tripping out of a base camp setting and integration with able-bodied children combine to make the program unique in all of Canada.

Camp Awakening is a non-profit charitable corporation. Four two-week sessions are offered during the course of the summer. The program can accommodate 24 boys

through the ages of 12 to 18. The fee for one session is \$565; however, it must be emphasized that no applicant is ever turned away due to financial limitations.

We anticipate strong competition for the spaces that are available; therefore, please do not hesitate to contact us at our office for future information.

Camp Awakening,  
150 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 304,  
Toronto, Ontario, M4P 1E8  
(416) 486-5264.

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A SKILLS AND LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP IN  
THE LONDON REGION

When - May 25, 1985

Where - Huron Church Camp - on Lake Huron, 3 miles south of Bayfield on Bluewater Highway #21.

Fee - \$10.00 (includes lunch)

Who for - Counsellors, Staff and Directors of Residential and Day Camps.

Please make cheques payable to Cathy Russell, Box 85, Delaware, Ont., N0L 1E0

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WORKSHOP FOR CAMP NURSES

The Workshop for Camp Nurses will be held at Bolton Outdoor Education Centre on May 24/25, 1985. New and experienced nurses from residential and day camps, doctors, directors and interested others are welcome. Get a new insight into the role of the nurse and how he/she fulfils the aims of the health program. Come to share and learn.

Registration forms are available at O.C.A. office to any nurses going to camp this year.

MARY CASEY.

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ECO-SKILLS '85

June 7, 8, 9 - Cost \$55.00 per person.

Where: Circle 'R' Ranch

Who: Senior Staff, Directors, Youth Leaders, Scout/Guide Leaders.

Registration Form Enclosed.