



SEASON'S GREETINGS

Vol: 1981 Issue: 2

DECEMBER

Editors: Ron & Mickey Johnstone

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

In 1975, the Prime Minister of Canada sent a greeting to the delegates at the Geneva Park Canadian Camping Association Conference saying, in part, "Camp is like Christmas, one of the highlights of childhood".

I wondered, at the time, if he meant that the similarity was in the fact that they were both highlights, or if he meant that they were events with similarities. I like to think the latter because there are similarities. At this time of year, whatever our religious persuasion, there is an increased awareness of all the joyous things that life holds, old friends to greet, traditional celebrations, warm memories, delicious smells, magic and love. The summer time of the year, for a camper, holds many of the same ingredients and is anticipated, by thousands of youngsters, with as much excitement as the approaching Holiday Season.

I hope that your December is filled with joy, and that part of the joy is a pride in your commitment to that other highlight of childhood.

FROM OUR PAST

Adele Ebbs - Member Archives Committee

What do you know about the C.S.E.T.? - The Canadian Standard Efficiency Training programme proposed by Taylor Statten, newly appointed to the Boys' Work Committee of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A. in 1912.

A lot happened that year. It witnessed the end of the operation of Toronto Central's Camp Couchiching at Barnfield Point (now a motor camp) near 'The Narrows' at Orillia and saw the beginning of Geneva Park, to become a training ground for boys' leaders from across Canada, and now internationally famous for its Conferences. In 1910 Camp Pinecrest, Central Y's new camp, had been established at Torrence.

The C.S.E.T. went into many Sunday Schools in the churches of Canada, Presbyterian, Methodist, Church of England, Baptist, Congregational and the Evangelical Conference. By 1918 two programmes had been developed - Trail Rangers for boys 12 to 14 years, and Tuxis Boys 15 to 17. The latter featured canoeing and wood-

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FROM OUR PAST - cont'd.

craft with an overall religious and 'good citizenship' emphasis. TUXIS; T stood for Training, S for Service, X the Greek letter Chi for Christ, U and I for Social Relationship, with the U coming before I, which emphasized the motto, "help the other fellow".

From this organization there developed the Provincial Boys' Parliament, and frequent gatherings which were called 'Father and Son Banquets'.

If Taylor Statten is considered by some as a one-time Evangelist, it would be on these occasions, and when he talked from pulpits of local churches reaching out to touch the lives of youth.

He travelled across Canada, east and west, every year after World War I and through the twenties. His influence was of great magnitude because of the numbers with whom he came in contact. Many older men to-day remember him with great fondness, and are quick to recall the influence he had on their lives.

He was not alone in this mission - Charlie Plewman was very active in the Sunday School Association and some of his church and other colleagues were the Rev. C. A. Myers, Frank Langford, Dr. Pidgeon, Dr. Charlie Bishop, Dr. Crocker, Cliff Shell, C.M. Copeland, and A. Wallace Forgie, who was the first secretary of the C.S.E.T. Committee, when he went back overseas after leave the job was done by Gordon Hignall, who died shortly after, in 1918.

For camp folk, the Tuxis Boys' Manual (1918) is fascinating reading, and even after all these years full of pertinent information. Reference is made to Mary Edgar's Hymn, 'God who touches Earth with Beauty'; to the writings of Ernest Thompson Seton; the contributions of Jas. Edmund Jones writing on camping and woodcraft and canoe-tripping, suggesting routes in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, (see Rare Books, Trent University). Is this the beginning of our 'Cross Canada Canoe Trip, 1967? In the Manual, Taylor Statten describes building his log cabin on Little Wapomeo Island, Canoe Lake, which still stands; R.G. Dingman, managing editor of The Financial Post, tells how to live within our income. (In 1918, that is!)

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In summary: Camp Couchiching, established in 1905 and directed by Taylor Statten, (Couchiching's roll-call has an accumulation of names of campers who became leaders in all walks of life - R.E.G. 'Dick' Davis, Wally Forgie, Connie Smythe, Frank Wood, Lou Buckley); through World War I when the Y.M.C.A. gave leadership both here and overseas, and indeed lost leaders; new leaders were developed at Geneva Park, such as 'Ace' Milks who directed Camp On-Da-Da-Waks until his death in 1952. (The Camping Archives are fortunate to have a tape-recording by his widow in 1981).

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THOUGHT FOR FOOD

Mickey Johnstone

Most people think taste is in the mouth, but truthfully it is in the head. In fact it starts with the eye. For a plate of food to be appetizing it must be appealing, both in texture and in colour.

Potatoes, pasta, rice, fish, poultry and pork are all neutral in colour. Therefore when these foods are being served colour must come from other sources, such as sauces, garnishes and vegetables.

SAUCES: Tomato based sauces give the most colour. Creamed sauces can be brightened with bits of red or green pepper.

GARNISHES: any green pickles will add colour as will beet pickles - paprika sprinkled on egg salad and on mashed potatoes - a little parsley on meat platters.

VEGETABLES: green vegetables such as green beans, peas, broccoli gives the greatest colour - carrots are good too but not with pink meats such as ham. Mixing vegetables will often solve the colour problem. During a recent visit to the Rocky Mountain Y Outdoor Centre in Alberta I was delighted by the innovation of the cooks who served kernel corn but had added some brightness - enough peas to add important colour but not enough to take away from the taste of the corn.

During the summer, kitchen staff are unbelievably busy trying to have meals ready on time in order to feed hungry campers. But many of these meals could be so much more appealing (without being any more difficult to prepare) if thought was given to food combinations and to what the campers plate will look like once all the food is on it.

"USE YOUR HEAD - IT'S LITTLE THINGS
THAT COUNT."

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PREPARING STAFF

Ron Johnstone - Consultant

Last March at the O.C.A. Conference, Bruce Elkin of the Alberta Camping Ass'n. presented the Wilderness Travel Guide program on behalf of the Canadian Camping Ass'n. A few weeks ago I was chatting with Bruce about the program and its acceptance across the country. He told me that the reason it has been so positively accepted is because it deals with the 'why' you do things and he felt that this is really the base line for staff development.

They used to tell the story of the group from the PUC out digging, and we have all seen the group with one person digging and the rest leaning on their shovels and watching. An interested spectator asked what they were digging for and none seemed to know. The supervisor arrived just then and asked if they had found the broken water line, the difference in the attitudes after that was most evident. I guess if you know the 'why' it helps in the production.

Too often, we as Camp Directors, assume (assume: makes an 'ass' out of 'u' and 'me') that all our staff knows why we use program; why we use a particular type of organization; why we ring bells for meals; why we want the campers in bed on time; why we have a rest period; why we use 'buddies' in our swim program; why we ask people not to run in the dining room; why we have an emergency procedure; why all our staff must be a positive influence on our campers and others; why we have flag raising; why we set our daily schedule the way we do; why it is important to communicate with parents and so on and so on. I guess this all seems like the basics, but if your staff does not understand the 'why' they won't put the kind of effort and interest into their leadership that you all want from your staff.

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ROBERT TOWNSEND, ON LEADERSHIP:

How do you spot a leader? They come in all ages, shapes and conditions. Some are poor administrators, some are not overly bright. One Clue: the true leader can be recognized because somehow his people consistently turn in superior performances.

- From Reader's Digest

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CAMPING IN THE COMPUTER AGE

Harold Nashman - Wahanowin

With the development of micro computers aimed at the mass market and geared to home use, the camping community is beginning to look at the advantages of bringing computer technology into the camp office. Even relatively small camps are burdened by the work load involved in preparing and changing mailing lists, cabin groupings, bus lists and statements. In many cases the camp cannot afford to hire a full-time secretary and much of the paper and clerical work is done by the Director or his or her spouse. The larger camp that does operate an office with full-time staff is often trying to do too much with too few people with resultant delay and inefficiency.

The micro computer could well be a boon to camp administrations both large and small. by simply setting up a file on a camper you can immediately create all the necessary lists in proper alphabetical order and print-outs of accurate individual statements of account plus have immediate access to all this information at the press of a button. As technology changes and costs are reduced, this kind of electronic helper is clearly within the cost range of many camps. At the present time research is underway by Larry Bell of Robin Hood Day Camp Investigating the feasibility of adapting the Apple II computer to the needs of camping. An estimated cost of between \$5,000 and \$7,500 can provide the "hardware" i.e., the input terminal, screen and printer plus the "software" i.e. the program geared to the needs of camping.

At this time two camps to our knowledge are using computers namely Camp Arowhon (using the TRS 80#2 from Radio Shack) and Taylor Statten Camps using a larger "mini" computer. Larry Bell is continuing his study of the available alternatives and should be making a recommendation by mid-February.

If camping is to keep up with changing technology in the general business world, it will have to give serious thought to taking advantage of what computers can do to streamline its administrative procedures with this kind of help we as camp people will be better able to meet the challenges of dealing with the children of the 80's

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FROM YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

John Marsden - Committee Chairman

On looking through Issues of the OCAsional News for the past 5 or 6 years we have noted that we have never told you what this committee is all about and what our "concerns" are. We propose now to remedy that oversight.

Very simply, we are a group of campers charged by the Board of Directors -

"to develop an awareness and appreciation for our natural environment and to encourage activities which are harmonious with it".

Under the leadership of Clare Magee, Craig Copland, Nancy Weeks, and now John Marsden we have, we think, piqued your interest in things environmental. Most of our action in this regard has been by way of presentations at the O.C.A. Director's and the Counsellor Conferences - and these presentations have covered such matters as site management, the use and/or disposition of camp wastes, composting as related to camp gardening projects, resource recycling and the Woodsman's Code. Concurrently we have been supportive of other environmental groups in Canada, with, in some cases, presentations on matters of common interest, e.g. the development of Algonquin Park as a wilderness and public recreation area as opposed to a large scale lumbering operation; and the acid rain problem.

So what, then, are our current "concerns"? They are these -

...In support of the C.C.A. Environment Committee we hope soon to have for you a set of site management guidelines.

...With the help of the membership, we will develop a policy statement on the use of 'disposables' (styrofoam cups, paper plates, plastic eating utensils) at O.C.A. camps.

...The 7-year-old idea to use recycled (post-consumer) paper in the O.C.A. office will become a reality.

...We plan to organize a Nature Skills Workshop similar to the Canoe and Nurses' Workshops of last Spring.

...The Recycling Council of Ontario (1-800-268-6100) has provided us with a list of depots across the Province which we will match with your camp location to give you the nearest recycling depots for glass, paper, metal and other wastes.

...Lastly, we plan to follow closely the acid rain problem and to keep you posted.

The work of the O.C.A. is dependent upon the strength of its Committees. Within our organization there are people like yourself who can help form a solid base upon which the Environmental Concerns Committee will stand for years to come. We invite you to join us - either as an active member, or in an advisory role. Please contact:

John Marsden, 217 Browning Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4K 1X1 (416) 469-1910

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CHAPEL TALK

This month's "Chapel Talk" relates to time! --The wasting of it.

There are so many occasions...In and out of Camp when we do waste time, and therefore a Chapel on this topic could be very profitable. If we keep our eyes open, we can discover many examples within the Camp setting.

A somewhat poignant poem, written by a young teen-ager from Los Angeles might be of some help in emphasizing your story.

Things You Didn't Do

Do you remember the day when I borrowed your brand new car, and I dented it, and I thought you'd kill me,
But you didn't?

And remember the time I dragged you to the beach, and you said it would rain, and it did and I thought you'd say I told you so,
But you didn't?

And do you remember the day I flirted with all of the other guys to make you jealous... and you were, and I thought you'd leave me,
But you didn't?

And do you remember the time I spilled strawberry pie all over your car rug? I thought you'd hit me,
But you didn't.

And remember the time I forgot to tell you that the dance was formal, and you showed up in Jeans? I thought you'd drop me,
But you didn't.

Yes, there were lots of things you didn't do...but you put up with me...and you loved me...and you protected me...and there were lots of things I wanted to make up to you and tell you when you returned from Viet Nam....
But you didn't.

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FROM COAST TO COAST

Marjorie Booth
CCA/ACC Executive Director

The CCA/ACC Board of Directors met November 20-22/81 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. At this semi-annual meeting, the Board Members developed specific plans for two Workshops - a Promotional Workshop and Education/Standards Leadership Workshop. These two events are scheduled to occur immediately prior to the 1983 International Camping Congress. They are included in the applications for funding which were submitted to Fitness Canada for 1982-83. The Board also identified three topics for which the Leadership Development Programs Committee would co-ordinate the availability of consultant/advisors to attend Provincial Associations Conferences during 1982-83. We were pleased to have the input of Marnie Ellis, Public Relations Promotion Chairman and Dinny Biggs, Leadership Development Programs Chairman, at our Board Meeting.

The Camping Association of Nova Scotia held a one day Workshop on November 21 for camp administrators, Directors, Board and Committee Members. Several CCA/ACC Board Members shared leadership with a number of CANS members to give the sessions. Overall, forty CANS and CCA/ACC members participated in this event to improve the camping movement in Nova Scotia.

THE BOOK SHELF

Easmwythe Flynn - Honourary Member

PATH OF THE PADDLE - Bill Mason

Enthusiasts who think they are ready for the adventure of white water canoeing will take second thought after studying Bill Mason's book of experience, Path of the Paddle.

To read it, study and digest, is to become frustrated in a positive way, in that lake and canoe are not at the back door for immediate use. After considering the efficient basics, the author goes into a technical scientific study of currents, rapids, rock formations and atmospheric conditions, then on to the skill of reading white water, plus a miniature volume of wilderness safety to avoid tragedy.

White water canoeing is not for the novice. Preparing for it, the beginner will, if he is wise, learn all there is to know about the art, not forgetting that only hours upon hours of practical experience produce a strong and wise paddler ready for any emergency. Mason's is a book every canoeist should own.

Van Nostrand Reinhold Ltd., Toronto, Ont.
\$24.95

THIS AND THAT

WE WELCOME TO O.C.A. -

TWO RECENT COMMERCIAL MEMBERS

Camp Tawingo Publications
and -
D. A. Maher & Company, Ltd.
Crested T-Shirts, Caps, Bedding, Tourist Lines

CONGRATULATIONS!!

1981 is Kilcoo's 50th year in camping.
Congratulations John & Peg

1981 is Ponacka's 35th year in camping.
Congratulations Bruno & Gwen

This is the 20th anniversary of CUSO

A REMINDER FROM ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

Helen E. Stewart - Chairman

This is just a Reminder to all Committee Chairmen that the O.C.A. is in need of historical background information regarding activities, special events, conferences etc. Taping of speeches, presentations and special events should be made whenever possible. A cassette recorder, tapes and funds for films are provided by Archives Committee for this special purpose and are available at any time through the O.C.A. office. If Committee Chairmen will keep this in mind our Archives can often provide vital information when it is needed in years to come.



It's time to think SPRING --- and being
a SPEAKER for the -

1982 COUNSELLOR CONFERENCE at SENECA COLLEGE, FINCH CAMPUS

If you would like to present a session to this year's group of
Counsellors, please contact: -

DIANE BLAIR
Jean Royce Hall, Bryce House, Rm. 301
Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario K7M 2B9
(613) 549-0886 or (416) 481-7322

BEFORE JANUARY 10, 1982

1982 COUNSELLOR'S CONFERENCE

MAY 8, 1982

O.C.A. PHOTO CONTEST

The time is near and soon the time will be gone. Start entering your photos for the biggest contest ever. Anyone can enter but DO IT SOON!!! Check the separate page in this Newsletter for more details.

CAMP DIRECTORS REQUIRED BY - THE EASTER SEAL SOCIETY, ONTARIO

- For 5 residential summer camps throughout Ontario for physically handicapped children, ages 7 - 18, for the period mid-June to late August, 1982.

Qualifications:

- Administrative and supervisory skills
- Interviewing and hiring skills
- Knowledge of and experience in camping activities/programmes
- Training skills
- Understanding of the needs of physically handicapped children.

For further information contact or write -

Mr. Jim Fraser, Supervisor,
Camping & Recreation Department
The Easter Seal Society
250 Rumsey Road
Toronto, Ont. M4G 1R8 Tel. (416) 425-6220

***** Ext. 241

DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER

3 WOODSMANSHIP SCHOOL MEETING
7:30 P.M.
1806 Avenue Rd., Toronto

10 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
Christmas Party
15A Wychwood Park
Toronto, Ont.

14 ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE
7:30 P.M.
1806 Avenue Rd., Toronto

JANUARY - 1982

7 EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
9:30 A.M.
15 Wychwood Park
Toronto, Ont.



SEASON'S GREETINGS

VOLUME 4 (Christmas Edition 1982)

DECEMBER 1982

EDITOR: Martin Hunt

*Never a Christmas Morning,
Never the old year ends,
But someone thinks of someone,
Old Days, Old Times, Old Friends*

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Janet Adamson
Camp Gay Venture

As 1982 draws to a close we, in the O.C.A. can look forward to an important year in organized Children's Camping - 1983 the Ontario Camping Association's Fiftieth Anniversary.

From the early days of A.L.Cochrane, Taylor Statten, and Mary Edgar to the latest years the O.C.A. has been an Association rich in its membership. To start our Fiftieth year, what better event than the first International Camping Congress, a time to re-unite with camping friends.

There will be an "Ontario Welcomes You to Canada" breakfast at the Congress on Thursday, January 27, complete with Dave Broadfoot and Sharon, Lois and Bram and a gift of Ontario maple syrup for all hardy enough to be at the Sheraton Centre for a 7:45 a.m. event.

As the year continues the Annual Meeting on April 25 will be an O.C.A. Birthday Party complete with cake and programme to evoke memories of past years.

As well, during 1983 the O.C.A. Archives Committee is planning to publish a history of the Association.

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Fifty years is something to celebrate and celebrate we will for we can be proud of Our Fifty Years.

EDITORIAL

M.G.H.

IT'S ALMOST TIME!

Well I thought that I would put my own reminder in for the upcoming Congress. December 17 is the postmarked deadline for the discount. And although \$125.00 is a lot of money, look at it in the context of your budget; 1/3 of a canoe, a mere fraction of your food budget, 25 T-shirts (and what would you do with 25 of your own camp T-shirts anyway?) 2 or 3 boards of a new dock....'Might as well invest in some personal cerebral development (and whose cerebellum can work without some stimulation in that coldest month of the year?)

There is certainly a healthy line up of speakers to offer that ever-needed stimulation, but the richness of any conference comes from the delegates themselves. For me it is a great annual reunion. Look at some of the people who you could meet; Sir Edmund Hillary, Dr. Leo Buscaglia, Fred Okada, your Board and members of the C.C.A. Board, Past Presidents of the O.C.A., old friends from other camps and if some of our newest members

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