



CAMP NOTES

Fall, 2006

President's Message

"The only assessment I can offer is that we were once again traditionally un-traditional."

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Congratulations on having survived summer 2006!

I recently flinched when asked to assess how the "traditional camp" was fairing amidst this current round of global change. I wasn't stumped for an answer to the impacts presented by \$3.00/gallon gas, post-Katrina natural disaster prep, or even our new-world "norm" of post 9-11 heightened security concerns. Rather, what had me mentally stymied was pigeon-holing our diverse camp experiences into the term "traditional".

If you've ever amused yourself with the sheer futility of attempting to herd cats or put your finger firmly on Quicksilver you know just how impossible it is to define the whole spectrum of the camp experience into a single "traditional" box.

Was this a "traditional" summer for you? Here in western WA it was a lot drier than "traditionally". Out east it was hotter, and forest fire fed much smokier, than "traditionally".

Thorough a combination of mid-summer visits and brief news snippets I know that plenty of ACA Evergreen section camps celebrated "anything-but-traditional" accomplishments of major longevity milestones; among them Snohomish County Camp Fire's Camp Killoqua at 65 and Seattle YMCA's Camp Orkila at 100! I also know that many of us endured personal loss of family, friends, or even campers. Forever marking the summer of 2006 as a non-traditional summer for all-the-ages.

I know that other camp programs were tweaking their "traditional" paradigm of session lengths in good response to perceived consumer needs. While others were offering newly expanded session themes, going as far as celebrating whole new regions, customs, and opportunities of our ever-transparent global community.

On a personal note, the summer of 2006 marked the first time that one of our children attended a camp session where "Dad" hadn't hired the staff nor had grand-master

keys to any of the buildings. (I have to admit that watching camper drop-off, cabin assignments, and opening day farewell's through the naive lens of a parent / consumer was refreshingly unique.) Even better was the post-camp assessment from my 13-year old, who's personally logged more weeks "at camp" than any fifth-year seasonal cabin counselor. Q: Did you have a good time Chris? A: "Yeah, we did all the same stuff, (early teen code for 'traditional'), you do Dad... only they did it completely cool and different....!"

So, how did the "traditional camp" fair in 2006? When I look at how diverse and wonderful both our industry and its members are, the only assessment I can offer is that we were once again traditionally untraditional!

Thanks to one and all for keeping up our unique tradition.

Steve Shively
Section President



EXECUTIVE NOTES

I hope your summer went well. I look forward to hearing your stories about camp this summer.

But, now it is fall and things are happening in ACA, Evergreen!

- BCDC is a great opportunity for continuing education. See Page X.
- The Fall Annual Meeting and Education Event is on November 14. The education event will start at 1pm featuring Bob Ditter.

Bob will present on the topics of Brain Development and the impact of the Internet on camps.

The annual meeting will follow with dinner, auction and program at 6:00pm.

- NEW standards materials are coming. Instructors will be trained on November 2 and camps to be visited in 2007 will receive notice of training opportunities.
- Plan now to attend the National ACA Conference in Austin, TX on

February 13-16, 2007 and CampWest in Las Vegas April 14-17, 2007

These education opportunities provide time to hone skills, expand horizons, and network with other professionals. I hope to see you at one or more of these events.

Thanks for all you do to impact the lives of children, youth and adults through camping!!

Tom Nielsen
Section Executive

Student Camp Leadership Academy (SCLA)



Opportunity for college students who are passionate about the camp experience

to explore a potential career in camping.

The pilot event took place last November...this years SCLA will be Nov 3-5 at Timber Pointe Outdoor Center , 2 1/2 hrs SW of Chicago for Jr, Sr. or

Graduate Students. Leadership for the current SCLA is volunteers & staff from ACA Great Rivers, Illinois, Indiana, St. Louis, Wisconsin & Heart of the South all led by Dr. Dale Adkins, Western IL Univ. Guest presenters in 2005 included Peg Smith, Gary Forster and Cathy Schreder. Cost: \$125 per student, plus transportation. The ACA Sections mentioned have committed to pay the fee for two students

each. Max is 20 students. First priority to students from sections supporting this event financially & Mid States participating sections BUT all students are welcome. Payment can come from a student, ACA Section, or camp.. Information & registration: www.ACAcamps.org/scla/ DEADLINE: 10/16/06 for students to apply to their section & 10/20/06 for sections to approve & notify Kim Rathsack, acawisconsin@sbcglobal.net

Still a pilot...if this goes forward, it will probably be offered as a regional event to reduce travel expenses.



October 15-
19, 2006
Camp
Huston,
Goldbar
Washignton

With questions about the course content, Camp Huston, early arrival, etc., contact instructor Jan Milligan at jan-m@campfire-usa.org or 206-463-3174, ext. 22..

Basic Camp Director Course (BCDC)

For camp directors with fewer than six years of experience or for seasoned program directors and site managers. This is an excellent opportunity to be sure you have a working knowledge in the core areas of camp management and begin building your personal network of camp professionals. This course is both educational and a fun, interactive experience with other camp professionals to build a model camp from all the things you learn throughout the course.

Tuition:

\$320 ACA members; \$370 non members
includes materials and text.

Room/Board:

\$250 double room; \$230 for dorm-style room (several people)
includes linens, 12 hearty meals and plenty of snacks.

TO REGISTER:

Go to www.acacamps.org/education/bcdc/bcdcnorthwest.php It's listed under education, then courses, then BCDC. You can register on-line or by mail. Detailed confirmation packet, directions to Camp Huston, a suggested packing list, course materials and text, etc. Special needs are gladly accommodated if you let us know about them when you register. If you have questions about registration, contact Laura Bennington at ACA, lbennington@acacamps.org or 800-428-2267.



LOOKING FOR JOBS AND JOB OPENINGS

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Camp Nor'wester-- We are seeking an organized, energetic and flexible person who is comfortable dealing with public. Primary responsibilities include responding to family inquiries, camper enrollment and transportation coordination, managing camper accounts and general office support. Position requires experience in Access/Word/QuickBooks. Winter location: Lopez Island, WA. Summer location: Johns Island, WA. Salary DOE; health, disability and retirement benefits. Job description available upon request.

Send resumes to:
Christa Campbell,
P.O. Box 668
Lopez, WA. 98261
norwestercac@rockisland.com
360-468-2225

SEEKING POSITION

I am in search of a year-round camp director or administrative position in the Pacific/Western United States region. I have experience with the ACA certification process and in the many facets of camp life and camp administration. My chief focus is on camper well-being and staff harmony. I love working with people and in a nature setting.

I have additional talents that always come in handy: Marketing skills, Art/design, Public speaking/PR. My resume is available for review.

Please contact
Charise Diamond at:

chariseherself@people.com

Warm regards,

Charise Diamond

FALL EDUCATION EVENT and ANNUAL MEETING NOVEMBER 14, 2006



Education Event, 10am to 4pm
Featuring Dr. Bob Ditter

“If I Only Had a Brain—Brain Development and Camp.”

This session will cover aspects of the latest brain research, its implications for understanding both campers and counselors and for training your staff.
and

“In Your Face.com—Implications of the Internet for Camp.”

An exploration of how the internet impacts your camp.

Bob Ditter is well known to people in the Camp community as a thinker, writer (“In The Trenches” in *Camping Magazine*) and conference presenter. He has presented at camps, section and National events focusing on development of campers and staff. His materials have been used to train staff for many years and have been instrumental in raising the level of camp quality around the country.

Annual Meeting and Dinner, 6:00pm – 9:00pm
Dinner Speaker Wendy Miller - Seattle REI Outreach
Leave No Trace and PEAK Program

Auction Silent and Live- Bring Something from your camp, community, vendors. Proceeds go to CAMPaign '07 furthering the camp experience for all people.

Business Meeting and Section Awards

Location – Shoreline Conference Center
18560 – 1st Ave. NE
Seattle, WA 98155
206-368-4122



Just off I-5 in North Seattle - Map sent with confirmation.

REGISTRATION - FALL EDUCATION EVENT AND ANNUAL MEETING - November 14, 2006

Registration Deadline November 7, 2006

NAME: _____ E-MAIL: _____
ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
CAMP: _____

Please register me for the following:

- | | | |
|--|-------|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evergreen Annual Meeting | _____ | @ \$25.00 = Total _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bob Ditter Education event (Members) incl lunch | _____ | @ \$40.00 = Total _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Both Events | _____ | @ \$60.00 = Total _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bob Ditter Education Event (Non-Members) incl lunch | _____ | @ \$45.00 = Total _____ |

Please return to: ACA, Evergreen: 6523 California Ave SW, #305: Seattle, WA 98136

What's Up With Research?

While you have all been focused on running great camps this summer, we have been busy gathering information and developing resources to help answer some of the questions we get from you. We want to highlight just two of these projects and let you know where you can find more details.

- Financial/budget Information for Camps: This project provides you with the latest financial data from over 1000 ACA accredited camps. The information is broken out by day and resident camp. For each one, you can look at a summary of findings by region and sponsorship or you can look at tables broken out by gross revenues and sponsor on areas such as annual camper days, gross revenues, expense categories, weekly fees, profitability, and revenue and expense by camper day. The information is available in PDF to members by going to <http://www.acacamps.org/research/> and clicking on 2006 Business Operations Survey. Also look for an article in Sept-Oct. *Camping Magazine* as well as a new book to be published in 2007 to help camps with financial management!
- Look for your mailed copies of *Inspirations* and *Innovations* in September! These booklets provide the benchmark (starting point) of 80 camps who participated in Phase I of the Program Improvement Project (PIP)

that assessed youth development supports and opportunities at camp. The *Inspirations* booklet provides a summary of this information based on camp and camper characteristics. *Innovations* is the third in this series focused on outcomes and opportunities for youth development in camps. This booklet provides a summary of the strategies and practices implemented by 23 camps that went through a program improvement process and offers camps a step-by-step way to carry out your own process. Both of these projects were generously funded by the Lilly Foundation, Inc. Beside the mailed copies, you will be able to find both booklets as PDFs on the ACA Research website at <http://www.acacamps.org/research> - also look for a series of PIP articles in *Camping Magazine* as well as other educational resources.

Stay tuned this fall for several other exciting research-based resources! Here's a hint of what is to come:

- New Outcomes Tools that are camp specific as well as age-appropriate are currently being tested. We hope to have 6-7 outcomes available for next summer that are modular (you

select the ones you want to intentionally target) as well as a way to easily score and interpret what the numbers mean! This project was funded by the Independent Not-for-Profit Council and by Lilly Endowment Inc. grant

- New Enrollment data will be collected in Sept-Oct so be sure to go online and enter your information! This information is one of the most requested sets of data, so watch for the email request to add your enrollment numbers!!
- A new Salary Study will be conducted in Sept-Oct. Like the financial/budget data, this information is critical to camp professionals, so we need your input!

There are several other exciting projects underway so we will keep you posted on their progress as the year goes on. If you have any questions about these (or other) projects, just contact Deb Bialeschki (dbialeschki@acacamps.org)

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1-877-888-2267

FAX:
206-935-4424

E-MAIL:
evergreen@acacamps.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.acaevergreen.org

Remembering Lucille "Rabbit" Townsend Henderson

Lucille Townsend Henderson, the 101-year-old matriarch of a youth camp in the San Juans, is remembered for her strength and dedication to providing young people with the skills and confidence necessary to succeed, and instilling in them a lifelong respect for nature.

Ms. Henderson, known as "Rabbit," died Sept. 3 in

Seattle after a brief illness.

Every summer from 1935 to 1966, when the Hendersons retired, the camp let kids sleep in tepees and learn canoeing, sailing, swimming and Native American art and dance.

Ms. Henderson, with no children of her own, inspired and continued to serve a vital role in the lives of former

campers and camp counselors long after their summers at camp.

The Evergreen Section established the Henderson Award in 1973 to honor Frank and Lucille Henderson for their many years of dedication and service to the field of camping.

ACA HOTLINE 1-800-573-9097

Call anytime- 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Camp Notes is published quarterly by the American Camp Association, Evergreen and is provided, at no cost, to members of the section. Anyone wishing information about ACA and the Evergreen section may contact:

President Steve Shively, President@acaevergreen.org
Executive Director Tom Nielsen, 1-877-888-2267, Home Office: 206-923-2322



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