



Inside ACA — June 2008

Learning Resources

The ACA Bookstore Has the Tools You Need



S'mores: A Game for Training Camp Staff

\$79.95



Twenty Fun Energizer Games for Kids, DVD

Steve Peck

\$49.95



Each Camper is Special, DVD

Connie Coutellier

\$49.95



101 Age Appropriate Camp Activities

Jared Knight

\$19.95



Starting Strong: Meeting with Campers, DVD

Bob Ditter

\$49.95

To order these great resources and view hundreds of other resources especially designed to support you at camp, visit www.ACAcamps.org/bookstore or call 888-229-5745. A member discount is available at check out.

Train Your Staff Online With ACA e-Institute Courses

Debating this week is a three-part series revolving around the [reduction of injuries and illnesses in camp](#). The courses were developed based on early results from the Healthy Camp Study, a five-year monitoring study of injuries and illness in U.S. camps. Information on proper camp footwear choices, safe knife handling techniques during food preparation, and lowering the spread of communicable diseases in camp are a must in detailing a staff member's role in health care in camp.



Scratching your head about fulfilling the requirements of HR-11 (Pre Camp Training)? The ever popular [Camp is for the Camper](#) course lays out the building blocks of the expectations of staff behavior and a snap shot of camp life from meeting parents during drop off to leading discussions in the group/bunk to what to do during time off. This course material is a great conversation starter for your expectations of staff at your camp. Motivate your staff to begin thinking about the developmental needs of campers and the resulting differences in program, structure, and behavior management and camper supervision techniques to create a physically and emotionally safe environment.

Looking to empower your leadership team members? Camp professionals will want to take part in the [Creating Positive Youth Outcomes](#) Course, a module that helps one design a simple, effective program evaluation process and target specific youth outcomes for improvement in your camp. Its exercises, guiding questions, and camp-specific examples will help you think about, identify, and design your program to meet and achieve positive youth outcomes and enlighten your leadership team to implement the ideas and lesson learned this summer. The [Designing Quality Youth Programs](#) Module, is a course that takes the learner on a unique eight-step journey to support your organizational improvement thus boosting the quality of your camp.

[Register today for these courses.](#)

Call for Presenters for the 2009 ACA National Conference!

ACA National Conference sessions will be accepted beginning May 5, 2008!

The American Camp Association is [accepting proposals from high-quality presenters](#) for innovative, timely, and dynamic educational sessions to be presented at the ACA National Conference, February 17-20, 2009, in Orlando, Florida. All sessions will take place in *Disney's Coronado Springs Resort*.

Analysis of previous conference evaluations, informal feedback gathered from attendees, and the most recent Educational Needs Assessment indicate that camp and youth professionals seek high-level knowledge in these areas:

- Youth Development and Behavior
- Staff Training and Leadership
- Business and Operations
- Emerging Issues, Tools, and Strategies
- Innovative Programs and Activities
- Commerce Sessions
- The Strength of the Experience (2009 Conference Theme)

Target Audience

The national conference draws camp and youth professionals from across the country and around the world. Presentations should apply to directors, owners, executives, administrative staff, and other youth development professionals and educators. Although we draw some professionals relatively new to camp, keep in mind that the balance of the National Conference audience is comprised of experienced professionals committed to life-long learning. They seek high-level educational opportunities, and we are committed to providing them.

Submitting Session Proposals

[Proposals will be accepted](#) beginning May 5 through September 15, 2008. Submitters will receive notification no later than September 30, 2008. If you have a late-breaking session idea, you may submit, with the understanding that your session may in fact be considered for presentation at the 2010 National Conference, rather than the 2009 National Conference. Please e-mail akatzemberger@ACAcamps.org if you plan to submit post-deadline. Responses to late submissions are made on a time-available basis. You are strongly encouraged to submit by September 30, 2008.

Selection Process

Sessions are reviewed and ultimately selected by the volunteer Program Review Team, which is chaired by Dayna Hardin. On occasion, submitters will be asked for further clarification. All submitters will receive notification by early October 2008.

ACA Regional Conferences Listed Online

Check out ACA's Web site for a [complete listing of ACA regional conferences](#) with live links to ACA local office Web sites for more information.

8th International Camping Congress – October 4-7

Early Bird Registration through June 15

Register Now to Save.

www.iccquebec2008.com

The *Association des camps du Québec* with the support of the *Ministre de l'Éducation du loisir et du sport* and its partners, including the Canadian Camping Association, the American Camp Association, the International Camping Fellowship and Quebec City, will host the 8th International Camping Congress, October 4-7, 2008, at the Quebec City Convention Centre.



Registration for the Congress is available online or by mail with an Early Bird discount until June 15. Seventeen Congress packages are offered with special rates at four hotels near the Convention Center. Additional hotels, bed and breakfasts, and hostels are also conveniently located. Quebec City will be celebrating its 400th anniversary in 2008 and will be welcoming thousands of visitors for the occasion, so early lodging reservations are necessary.

The theme, "In Living Colors," represents the diversity of participating camps and their missions. ICC Quebec 2008 is a unique international event with the goal of creating opportunities for the exchange of ideas and alliances between camp representatives from various cultures and various countries. Some highlights of the Congress include:

- Keynoters:
 - **Steven Lewis**, former UN Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS Africa; former Canadian Ambassador to the UN
 - **Georges Broussard**, famed entomologist and founder of Montreal's Insectarium
 - **Peg Smith**, CEO, American Camp Association
 - **Mark Lalonde**, Executive Director, National Circus School
- Celebration of Quebec City's 400th anniversary, at the Musée de la Civilisation with special guest Jean Charest, Premier of Québec
- Educational session presenters from Ireland, Turkey, Colombia, Australia, Russian, Venezuela, Ukraine, Brazil, Germany, Japan, Mongolia, the UK, Canada and the US
- Opening afternoon "In Living Colours" – interactive teamwork and cooperation event
- International Research Forum
- Monday shared sessions with World Leisure Congress
- International Exhibit Hall
- International Room - showcase of camps around the world
- Participative crafts area with Mary McCutcheon and Sako Tanaka
- International "Campfire" with an opportunity for cultural presentations from participating countries
- Pre-Congress events:
 - 5-day International Camp Directors Course and Trainers Course with Armand Ball, Connie Coutellier, Jack Murdock, and Dick Chamberlain
 - Teambuilding and Leadership Course with Dr. Jim Cain
 - Tours of Canadian Camps in four provinces

Don't miss this memorable event! Expected attendance is 700 participants from twenty countries. Updated information about the Congress and online registration is found at <http://www.iccquebec2008.com>. For further information, contact [Linda Pulliam](#).

American Red Cross Offers Babysitter's Training Program

The newly revised American Red Cross Babysitter's Training course gives eleven- to fifteen-year-olds the skills and confidence to be great babysitters. Through hands-on activities, interactive video, and lively discussions, the course teaches young people how to:

- Care for children and infants
- Be good leaders and role models
- Make good decisions, solve problems and stay safe
- Handle emergencies such as illnesses, injuries and household accidents
- Write resumes and interview for jobs

Add Babysitter's Training to Your Camp Activities

Your camp can become a Red Cross authorized provider and teach Babysitter's Training when and where

you want. Your staff can be certified as instructors in as little as four hours. They can also add on training to teach First Aid/CPR/AED to campers and staff.

Plus, the Babysitter's Training course is flexible and can be taught to campers in one day or in several shorter blocks to fit any schedule.

To learn more about Babysitter's Training, view a short online presentation at www.redcross.org/services/hss/courses/bst.html. You can also contact your local Red Cross chapter for more information or to order materials.

Latest in ACA Research

Healthy Camp Study Enrollment Now Open

Want to gain a powerful risk management tool for identifying and assessing injuries and illness at your camp? [Enroll your camp in Year 3 of the Healthy Camp Study today](#). Participation is FREE, confidential, and it's okay if you didn't participate in Year 1 or 2. You'll devote about twenty minutes each week to enter data into an easy online system. Each participating camp receives a detailed camp-specific report analyzing the injuries and illnesses of that camp, along with a national report for comparison. Become one of the hundreds of camps benefitting from this important study.

Association News

ACA's New Membership Model Takes Effect July 1

In ACA's new membership system, everyone has access to the same great resources and learning opportunities at the same individual membership rate of \$200. And, if you qualify for a Visitor, Retiree, or Student rate, you receive a further discount and still receive the same exceptional benefits as individual members enjoy.

The membership discounted rates are as follows:

Visitors	\$95
Retirees	\$60
Student	\$35 (As an added benefit, exclusively for students, national conference registration is FREE!)

ACA will grandfather all members who are currently (effective 2/1/08) receiving a discount as a "volunteer" into the new system at the Visitors discounted rate of \$95.

If you're curious about your renewal date or have specific questions about how the change will impact your dues or services, be sure to contact Rachel at membership@ACAcamps.org.

MPLC and ACA Partner to Offer Video Licensing at a Discount

For sixteen years, ACA and the Motion Picture Licensing Corporation (MPLC) have worked together to educate our members about the benefits of video licensing and to promote the wide range of programs that are available when your camp obtains an MPLC Umbrella License®. As the camp season approaches, please be advised that if you wish to have video programs on your grounds, a video license is required. Now is the

best time to take advantage of the ACA member discount and obtain your MPLC Umbrella License at a savings of up to \$80 off the standard rate.

According to the Federal Copyright Act, pre-recorded home videocassettes or DVDs, those commonly available in retail or rental stores, are intended for personal, private home use only. The MPLC is an independent copyright licensing service exclusively authorized by motion picture studios to grant the MPLC Umbrella Licenses to businesses, nonprofit groups, and government organizations for the public performance of motion pictures contained within pre-recorded home videocassettes and DVDs.

To date, the MPLC has licensed more than 250,000 locations in the U.S. and over 450,000 locations worldwide, from the smallest camps and libraries to the largest multi-national corporations and federal government agencies.

The MPLC Umbrella License provides the most diverse programming available from over 100 producers, including major Hollywood studios, independent, foreign, faith-based, specialty, and children's producers.

If you have not thought of showing movies at your camp or conference center in the past, this season may be the time. Now more than ever video programming is a simple, cost-effective activity for your campers. Why take campers to a local movie theater when they can enjoy a twilight movie at your camp?

ACA has enjoyed a strong relationship with the MPLC and encourages its members to comply with federal copyright law through the purchase of an MPLC Umbrella License. To obtain a license, simply [download the application in the online brochure](#) (PDF), and send it directly to the MPLC at the address provided in the brochure. If you have any additional questions, please contact ACA at 765-349-3313 or MPLC at 800-462-8855 for more information regarding the MPLC's simple and affordable license.

ACA's Latest Annual Report Available Online

[Peruse ACA's Annual Report](#) and read about the milestones ACA has reached in the past year and be reminded of the power of the camp experience.

Tell It Through the Tube!

Enter ACA's YouTube Contest Today!

Your Creative Assignment: Put your videography skills to work! Choose one or more of the following topics for your YouTube video and in a three-minute or less video, tell us the story of how your camp community .

...

- Links kids to nature, providing kids with real, authentic experiences with nature;
- Connects kids to authentic relationships that afford friendships, understanding, and appreciation for one another and the global community; and/or
- Gets kids up and moving and learning about their strengths and lifestyles that advance well-being.

For contest rules and regulations and to submit your video to Peg Smith, CEO of the American Camp Association, visit www.ACAcamps.org/youtube.

Relevant Issues

Here's How to Start Saving on Fuel Costs Today at Camp!

ACA polled a number of camps across the country to determine how they were dealing with the perplexing issue of rising fuel costs and to accumulate the following list of energy-efficient ideas and methods camps are currently using to curb increasing fuel prices and the subsequent consequences of higher food prices and declines in the economy:

- Use golf carts and scooters instead of camp vehicles for driving around camp.
- Evaluate trips camp staff take for errands, supply runs, and other trips to the city if you are a rural camp. Determine the actual need and consolidate the outings into fewer and more efficient trips to streamline vehicle use and eliminate unnecessary trips.
- Reconfigure heat and water systems use in cabins for better energy efficiency. If a cabin is not needed for a week or weekend, drain water and turn heat completely off until the cabin is needed again.
- Offer discounts to parents who make efforts to reduce their carbon footprint by carpooling to camp or using public transportation to motivate conserving fuel.
- Encourage staff to bike to work, carpool, or take the bus.
- Focus camp activities around self-propelled sports, such as canoeing, kayaking, and biking versus use of speed boats, pontoons, etc. in an effort to cut gas consumption.
- Plan local adventures versus long-distance trips for your tripping program.
- Work more strategically to educate your campers and staff regarding food waste to cut consumption.
- Investigate long-term use of wind and solar power.
- Use vans instead of buses for camp transportation.
- Cut back on your ski boat hours.
- Turn to local growers or grow your own food in camp gardens to combat the excessive delivery charges.
- Be mindful that charter bus companies are adding surcharges and consider creating a policy that allows your camp to add a surcharge to camp fees as needed for transportation costs.

Send your camp's energy-efficient ideas to magazine@ACAcamps.org. We will post your recommendations to this evolving list.

Business Resources

AED's May Save a Life at Your Camp

The American Red Cross reports that more than 300,000 people suffer from sudden cardiac arrest each year. Increasing the chance of survival if such an emergency occurs in your camp can be achieved by having at least one person in each camp trained in the proper usage of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and having an AED readily available.

Congress has declared June 1-7, 2008, as National CPR/AED Awareness Week. In support of this important week, and to keep camp directors informed of information related to AED's, the American Camp Association reminds you of the following Health and Wellness Standard from the *ACA's Accreditation Process Guide*:

HW -17 Availability of an Automated External Defibrillator

Has the camp assessed the need for an AED (automated external defibrillator) at the camp location??

Interpretation: This standard requires that the camp determine the need for an AED in relation to campers

and activities. Staff should take into account the age of campers on the site in all seasons, the nature of the camp's activities, the location of the camp in relation to medical services, the logistics of storing and using the AED, the applicable state and local regulations, and the advice of medical and legal authorities.

Too often, people think AEDs are used only for older people. There have been many reports of youth athletes being revived after a trauma through a quick first aid response and the use of an AED.

ACA has received a number of inquiries from camps to provide resources for AEDs and locations for appropriate trainings. The following ACA Business Affiliates are dedicated to assisting camp directors in finding appropriate and affordable AED's for their camps:

[Cardiac Science](#)

Alec Steinmetz
3303 Monte Villa Pkwy
Bothell, WA 98021-9869
Phone: 425-402-2000
asteinmetz@cardiacscience.com
www.cardiacscience.com

[Medic Response Health & Safety](#)

Trisha FitzGerald
PO Box 221765
Chantilly, VA 20153
Phone: 703-449-5438
Fax: 703-449-5453
trisha@medicresponse.com
www.medicresponse.com

[Think Safe, Inc.](#)

Paula Wickham
1105 Hawkeye Dr
Hiawatha, IA 52223
Phone: 888-473-1777 or 319-377-5125
Fax: 319-377-4224
pwickham@think-safe.com
www.think-safe.com

ACA's Official Partner for AEDs is:

[Nationwide Instruction for Cardiovascular Education, Inc., \(NICE, Inc.\)](#)

Get your AED's through NICE for only \$895! ACA has partnered with NICE, Inc. to offer advanced life-saving equipment and training to ACA camps at the absolute lowest prices available.



Standards News

Annual Statement of Compliance

Earlier this spring, all camp liaisons should have received an e-mail from the ACA national office reminding them of the need to sign and submit an [Annual Statement of Compliance](#) (SOC). We often hear a camp director comment "I have already done that, last year." While this is true, since things (program, staff, etc.) often change from year to year, the SOC must be read and signed on an annual basis. We strongly

recommend camps [submit this document online](#) and select the "print" option so you may have a copy for your files.

This document should be signed and submitted prior to the start of the 2008 summer season. It is important to remember: Accreditation applies to all camp programs and services offered under the same camp name throughout the year, except for single day events.

Accreditation Resources

As you finish the preparations for summer and your accreditation visit, remember to visit the [Accreditation Resource page](#) to review the following: aquatic and first aid equivalent certifications, a list of potential authoritative sources for a variety of program offerings, and additional tips and tools.

Green Resources

NWF Releases Report to Encourage Parents and Caregivers to Send Children Outside to Play

Ranger Rick's National Wildlife Federation recently released a policy action guide to help and encourage parents and policymakers to send children outside to play. This report is especially timely given new research that shows today's kids are actually gaining weight over summer break. Summer is no longer an outdoor experience for many of today's kids.

The average American child today spends more than 6 hours a day watching TV, playing video games or on a computer. Conversely, the amount of time U.S. children now spend outdoors has declined by 50 percent in the past 20 years.

To access the report, visit www.nwf.org/kidsoutside/pdf/report.pdf.

The Great American Backyard Campout

The National Wildlife Federation's Great American Backyard Campout will be held June 28, 2008. The one-night event motivates families, youth, and individuals to camp out in their backyards or local parks to discover the fun of being in the great outdoors. The National Wildlife Federation offers tools to organize a camp out at your camp or to host a campout for your community. Register as a partner online and [download a complimentary copy of the Great American Backyard Campout Event planning guide](#).