



Inside ACA — August 2008

Learning Resources

Check out the New ACA Online Bookstore

Check out the new [ACA online bookstore](#) brought to you through our publishing partnership with Healthy Learning. The site features a new look, enhanced search tools, and options that will make shopping for camp and youth development resources easier than ever. Additional improvements to the site are in progress.

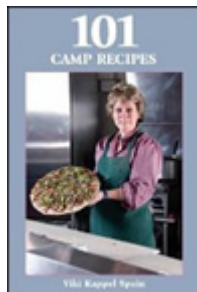
Two new resources for the camp kitchen from well-known food service expert, Viki Kappel Spain:



[101 Camp Cooking Tips, \\$19.95](#)

The primary goal in compiling this selection of tips is to provide every cook and every reader with an opportunity to say, "Oh, I never knew that," or "Great idea." This collection of useful tidbits will imprint itself indelibly in your brain's hard drive, enough to make you want to pass it on to the next generation (or summer) of kitchen staff at your camp or cooking facility. Beyond the 101 tips the book covers common measurements and equivalents, tips for understanding menu lingo, food terms, food allergies, buying food in

bulk, and cooperative food-purchasing program guidelines.



[101 Camp Recipes, \\$19.95](#)

This volume is not just any old regular camp-recipe collection. This montage includes delectable morsels that have been time- and kid-tested in famous camp and conference center test kitchens all across the U.S. The cooks and the hands that prepared these meals for the willing test subjects, otherwise known in the real world as campers, have put their stamp of approval on this collection, which includes chapters for breakfast, lunch, dinner, desserts, side dishes and snacks, and vegetarian dishes.

[S'mores and Other Sticky Stuff – A Training Game for Camp Staff](#)

We've enjoyed a tremendous response to the new version of this training tool. Different than a handout or lecture, the game provides a fun and engaging way to work through real-life situations at camp, and evaluate options for handling even the toughest scenarios, in safe, respectful ways. Read more about the game, and [order today!](#)



American Camp Association 2009 National Conference

The Power of the Experience

Simply put, camp changes lives. The power of the experience is rich, meaningful, and lasting. Join us in Orlando and explore ways to take the great experiences we know take place at camp, to the next level for our campers,



families, and staff. Program threads offer up-to-date knowledge for experienced camp and youth development professionals, as well as those newer to camp.

- Child and Youth Development and Behavior
- Staff Training and Leadership
- Business and Operations, Including Risk Management
- Emerging Issues, Tools, and Strategies
- Innovative Programming and Activities
- ACA Research Forum
- *Commerce Sessions

Select traditional lectures, discussion forums, hands-on demonstrations to match your learning preferences. See the [Schedule at a Glance](#) for more programming details. *Interest in our commerce sessions has grown steadily since first offered in 2006. ACA Business Affiliates exhibiting at the National Conference offer "how-to" sessions, focused on the most practical aspects of camp.

ACA Welcomes Ned Hallowell, M.D.

Psychiatrist, author of *CrazyBusy: Overbooked, Overstretched, and about to Snap*, parent, and frequent television spokesperson on the topics of adult and child attention deficit order, Ned, offers special insights into our "Crazy Busy" world. Dr. Hallowell will be featured at the opening keynote event on Tuesday, February 17, at 3 p.m.



Special Thanks to our Premier Sponsors



Disney's Coronado Springs Resort

Fan favorite, Walt Disney World®, offers a welcomed backdrop for the 2009 National Conference. All major conference events and services will take place within Disney's Coronado Springs Resort. The accessibility offered by the Orlando International Airport, and the complimentary roundtrip shuttle now offered by Disney Resorts makes for an enjoyable trip.



Special rates are available at www.ACAcamps.org/conference. Considering a few days to relax along with the conference? Discounted rates are available three days before and after our conference dates. Rooms are available on a first come-first serve basis, so don't delay!

Staying Ahead of the Curve with ACA Business Affiliates and Other Exhibitors

Exhibiting companies have been reserving booths since the 2008 National Conference! You can check out the companies, organizations and agencies confirmed for exhibits in 2009 at www.ACAcamp.org/conference. Links from our site to the exhibitors' web sites are included for your convenience.

Call for Presenters for the 2009 ACA National Conference!

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](#) 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.

The Student Camp Leadership Academy: Developing the Next Generation of Camp Professionals

"The Student Camp Leadership Academy (SCLA) is a weekend retreat that brings together students, camp professionals, national ACA staff, and leadership to explore, learn, and understand what the camp professional of the future must be and the leadership opportunities within the ACA structure at the local and National levels to impact the development of youth and others" (ACA, 2008, p. 1).

The next SCLA will take place November 7-9, 2008, at Camp White Eagle in Leaf River, Illinois (thirty miles from Rockford, Illinois). College students wanting to attend SCLA must apply and be approved to participate through their ACA local offices regardless of where the funding for the students' SCLA fee is coming from (even if the student is paying for himself or herself). The ACA local offices and education/scholarship committees serve as a critical screening tool for ensuring that students attending SCLA have demonstrated a keen interest in the camp profession, as well as the maturity to attend an advanced collegiate training event. For further information, application deadlines, or application packets for the 2008 SCLA, please visit the SCLA Web site: www.ACAcamps.org/scla. Please, note that all application packets should be submitted to the executive director of the college students' ACA section office. All attendees must be a member of ACA.

For more details about SCLA, including curriculum, history, and alumni testimonials, see the article, [The Student Camp Leadership Academy: Developing the Next Generation of Camp Professionals](#).

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

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.



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 www.iccquebec2008.com. For further information, contact [Linda Pulliam](#).

Association News

Share the Value of ACA Membership With Students and Key Staff

Is your camp looking for a way to increase professionalism and retention among your staff? ACA is offering an incredibly affordable way to do just that.

Your camp can purchase multiple memberships for staff now at a price that is so reasonable, you can't afford not to participate. When your camp gives an ACA membership, your camp is offering a bonus to worthy staff, your camp is supporting staff professional development, your camp is increasing the possibility staff will return to its program, and your camp is supporting ACA's commitment to increase the number of members, donors, and customers to 20,000 by 2020.

All memberships include subscriptions to *Camping Magazine* and *The CampLine*, discounts on books and educational events, and access to current research. Students also receive FREE registration to the ACA National Conference in Florida (February 2009).

Purchase by October 30, 2008, to receive the following discounts. All memberships are effective for a year after date of purchase.

Share the value of ACA membership with your camp's student staff

Purchase multiple memberships for your camp's student staff at the following rates: (Student membership is regularly \$35.)

- Give 10 **new** student memberships at \$30 each!
- Give 20 **new** student memberships at \$25 each!
- Give 50 **new** student memberships at \$10 each!

Share the value of ACA membership with all your camp's key staff

Purchase multiple individual memberships for your camp's staff at the following rate: (Individual membership is regularly \$200.)

- Give 10+ **new** individual memberships at \$50 each!

Here's how it works:

- Decide how many memberships your camp wants to purchase.
- Provide the ACA national office with personal contact information, including a personal e-mail address, for each **new** student member by whatever means is easiest for you and your camp: in an [Excel file](#) or simply by sending ACA an [e-mail](#).
- New individual members may opt to receive print or electronic versions of ACA publications (*Camping Magazine* and *The CampLine*). Please indicate "print" or "electronic" for each person on your list. Student members will receive electronic versions only of ACA publications.
- Individual members receive discounts on books and educational events and access to current research. Students receive FREE registration to the ACA National Conference in Florida (February 2009)!
- Send a check or credit card info to the ACA national office.

Show your staff that you believe in their future, and give them the opportunity to grow in our professional community.

If you have questions about this program, please call the membership department at 800-428-2267.

ACA Camps Go to Antarctica!

Send your camp to the ends of the earth this summer and join PolarTREC teachers as they explore science and adventure in the Arctic and Antarctic.

Jeff Peneston has been the program director of Camp Fire USA, Camp Talooli, for over twenty years as well as an ACA, Upstate New York Board member and visitor instructor. He is also a ninth grade Earth Science teacher at Liverpool High School (just North of Syracuse). He is inviting camps across the country to decorate their own unique flag that he will take with him on an international scientific expedition to Antarctica this year!

Jeff is one of [twelve teachers](#) (PDF) from across the country (and the only "camp person") to be selected as a PolarTREC teacher for 2008. Each teacher will travel and work with scientists conducting polar science field research. Some of the science teams even camp out for a month in tents on the top of mile thick glaciers! Each teacher will post daily web journals and invite kids to ask online questions of the research team.

[Send Your Camp Flag To Antarctica](#) (PDF)

ACA camps can request blank flags that they can decorate. The camps must return the decorated flags to Jeff by **September 1, 2008**; he will then send you one of his official expedition flags and take your flag to McMurdo Base in Antarctica. Along the way you can look for a photo of your camp's flag on his daily online journal. Once he returns, he will mail your camp's expedition flag back to you! Jeff can only take **two hundred flags**. Flags will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. This fun outreach project is free to camps.

For more information, visit the PolarTREC.com Web page or contact Jeff at jpeneston@polartrec.com.

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

Important Recall Notice on Climbing Ropes

The Consumer Product Safety Commission has issued a recall on two types of Maxim Climbing Ropes manufactured by New England Ropes due to fall hazard. Please check the [recall notice](#) to see if this applies to your program and take the ropes out of service immediately.

Standards News

Annual Statement of Compliance

While we have received many signed Annual Statements of Compliance, there are still camps that have not submitted this required annual document for 2008. As a reminder, this is a requirement of accreditation. The form can be accessed online at www.ACAcamps.org/soc. Once you have the form completed, select the "print" option so you may have a copy for your files.

Please remember that accreditation applies to all camp programs and services offered under the same camp name throughout the year, except for single-day events.

Grant Resources

Connect Grants for Culturally Diverse Communities

The Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics is currently accepting applications for its Connect Grants program for Culturally Diverse Communities. Connect Grants provide direct support and training grants for organizations and people that serve culturally diverse communities. The next 2008 Connect Grant deadline is August 15. The Center will respond to all grant requests after their respective deadlines.

Grant applications can be submitted online via the "Grants and Scholarships" page of the [Center's Web site](#). If you have any questions, please e-mail grants@lnt.org or call the Center at 800.332.4100.

Donors Make a Difference

ACA Wants to Know

ACA wants to know . . . when attending camp as a child, what skills did you learn that you still use as an adult today? ACA research has found that 63 percent of children who learn new activities at camp tend to continue engaging in these activities after they return home!

Join our conversation about this on [ACA's Facebook page](#)! Our group is 127 strong and more are joining every day. In addition to being a great online way to network with others interested in camp, it's the perfect way to tell all your Facebook friends that you believe in the camp cause—and they should too!

ACA's Campership Program—the Perfect Way to Give Others the Gift of Camp!

Perhaps one of the best kept secrets of ACA! Through the campership program, individuals make a designated donation to your ACA campership fund. All donations, minus a small administration fee, are deposited in your account. ACA staff complete acknowledgement letters and return them to you for personalization and mail out. When your camp has selected recipients based on pre-set benchmarks, ACA will release the funds for the campership. Several camps are already participating in this fantastic member benefit. Since the program's creation, over 750 individuals have been given the gift of camp! Contact Gillian Frazier (gfrazier@ACAcamps.org, 800-428-2267, ext. 508) for further information. This program is only available for camps with current accreditation status.

Green Resources

Earth Science Week 2008

The American Geological Institute (AGI) is pleased to announce the theme of Earth Science Week 2008, October 12 – 18: No Child Left Inside. Earth Science Week will encourage young people to learn about the geosciences by getting them away from the television, off the computer, and out of doors. In addition to providing resources for participation in Earth Science Week, AGI is also sponsoring three national contests for children:

- "Earth Science Beyond your Front Door" the 2008 photography contest — This contest asks people to explore the geologic world through the camera.
- "Studying Our Earth" visual arts contest — Open to students grades K – 5, the contest calls for participants to show themselves as an earth scientist actively studying our planet through drawing or painting.
- "Earth Connections" essay contest — Contest entrants (students in grades 6-9) are asked to write about the interconnected geologic processes that take place in their community and how those processes in turn affect them.

All entries must be either postmarked or received digitally by 5:00 pm EDT on October 17, 2008. To learn more about these contests, including further information on deadlines and qualifications, visit www.earthsciweek.org.

National Wildlife Refuge Week

Visit a national wildlife refuge during National Wildlife Refuge Week, which also occurs on October 12-18. Build a nesting box, photograph butterflies, or watch wildlife with your campers as you hike. Visit an [online list of National Wildlife Refuge Week events](#).