



**DATE: April 30, 2015**

**TO: ACA Southeastern membership**

**FROM: Larry Hancock, Chair – ACA SE Local Council of Leaders**

**SUBJECT: Update**

*Greetings! We know that each of you is busy with plans for Summer 2015. We sincerely hope that you find the very best staff and that your summer is the most rewarding one ever - one of joy and excitement for all your campers and staff. On behalf of your Local Council of Leaders, I want to provide you with a few updates:*

### **ACA, Inc. ~ Transformation ~**

- On going since August, 2014
- Process began with ALL staff in place at that time being given “notice” and phased out. Each was given the opportunity to apply for any of 14 new positions.
- ACA SE LCOL has met many times (in person and via conference calls).
- Goal has been to ensure a smooth transition and an even higher level of service to individual members and camps that we serve
- Throughout this process, we have received remarkable professional support from ACA, Inc. Susan Yoder served as our Staff Liaison during the transition and was very supportive wonderful to work with.

### **Highlights**

- Staff are now organized into three regions (West, Central & Eastern).
- ACA SE is in Eastern Region along with Chesapeake, Keystone Regional, Ohio, Upstate New York and the Virginia’s Field Offices.
- Effective January 2015, a team of fourteen (14) new ACA Staff began work
- Our former Executive Director, Katie Johnson was hired as the Professional Development Specialist in the Western Region
- The staff supporting the Eastern Region are:
  - Jazmin Albarran – Team Lead - Outreach & Engagement Professional
  - Tim Huchton & Jay McGhee – Membership & Customer Development Specialists
  - Akera Gamble – Professional Development Specialist

- Barb Collins – Standards Specialist

*This has been a major staff re-organization, designed to improve member services and programs nationwide. It will likely take one complete yearly cycle for our new ACA Staff to get to know the programs and services offered by each Field Office. No two are exactly alike, even in the Eastern Region. Our new Team is highly qualified and eager to learn and serve. They have attended as many ACA SE events and meetings as possible. Some of our staff are new (Jazmin, Akera and Jay) and some are seasoned ACA veterans (Tim and Barb). Together, they form an awesome team that will serve us well. Their GOAL is not to just maintain, but to work with us to GROW and IMPROVE all programs and services.*

*Each of them is eager to meet you and assist you in any way needed. Use this link from our ACA SE website: <http://www.acacamps.org/southeastern/contact/new-staff-east>*

*Your ACA Southeastern Local Council of Leaders is dedicated and has worked tirelessly throughout this process. I could not have asked for a better group of volunteers to work with me during the transformation and transition phases of ACA, Inc.'s reorganization. They have served beautifully, even in times of uncertainty.*

*A decision was made last fall to not hold elections. We did this due to all that was happening during ACA's re-organization. I asked each LCOL member to continue to serve – all graciously agreed. During our Retreat at Camp Twin Lakes in January, I asked them to continue to serve this year to help phase in the new ACA Staff. This also ensured that we had our very best volunteers continue serving you. Each said yes and has served "above and beyond" the call of duty. Each LCOL volunteer has done yeoman's work to affect a smooth transition and to carry on the high standards of programming and services in the Southeast. I trust that each of you can see the reasoning in doing this and will join me in thanking your LCOL for their loyalty and service.*

*We hope that this update has been helpful and re-assuring. We value each of you in ACA Southeastern and deeply appreciate your support and understanding during this time of change.*

*I close with two items of importance:*

## **Call for New Volunteers**

- [Here you can access a copy](#) of the roster and contact information for the ACA SE Local Council of Leaders.
- Beside each name is the year their term of service ends (calendar year).
- We will select new LCOL members this fall (terms beginning January 2016).
- We highly encourage you to consider volunteering for one of these roles.
- Any of us currently on the LCOL, or our ACA Staff, are happy to answer your questions.

- Each Vice-Chair also welcomes additional volunteers to serve in their area of responsibility. This is a great way to get to know that position and to serve ACA Southeastern.
- We anticipate a need for several more volunteers to assist with STANDARDS in the future.

## **Fall Conference**

October 4-7, 2015

Hyatt Regency Riverfront

Jacksonville, Florida

<http://www.acacamps.org/southeastconf>

*Have a GREAT spring and summer. See you this fall in Jacksonville!*

