



# e-Woodsmoke

Summer 2006

## Section Executive

Nancy Canter

## President

Marc Kolp  
Columbia Association

## 1st Vice President

Jonathon Rondeau  
The League at  
Camp Greentop

## 2nd Vice President

Sara Portman Milner  
JCC of Greater  
Washington

## Secretary

Mary Ellen Waltemire  
Maryland 4H

## Treasurer

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Carroll County 4H Camps

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Diane Kendall  
JCC of Greater  
Washington  
Bobby Miller  
Camps Airy/Louise  
Jennifer Reynolds  
Carroll County 4H Camps  
Mike Schneider  
Camps Airy/Louise  
Vacant  
This could be you!

## Newsletter Editor

Jonathon Rondeau  
The League at  
Camp Greentop

## Awards

Adrienne Blumberg  
Beth Tilch Camps  
Diane Kendall  
JCC of Greater  
Washington

## Conflict Resolution

Charles Butler  
Camp Sonshine

## Legislative

Bonnie Dunn  
Patuxent 4H Center

## Membership:

Devin Mills  
Patuxent 4-H Center

## Nominating

Sara Portman Milner  
JCC of Greater  
Washington

## Standards

Rod Pearce  
Mar-lu Ridge Center

## Education/Program

Chris Pearce  
Patuxent 4-H Center

## Council of Delegates '06

Marc Kolp  
Denise Frebertshauser

## Not for Profit Council

Denise Frebertshauser  
Bonnie Dunn

## From the Section President

Marc Kolp

As we approach the very busiest time of the year and we begin to finalize plans for staff, campers and ourselves, I am reminded of what an incredible organization we are part of. The American Camp Association (ACA), as a community of camp professionals is dedicated to changing lives through the camp experience. The world's leading camp resource and advocacy group, ACA has worked for nearly 100 years to bring the benefits of camp and camp-related youth development programs to generations of young people and adults. ACA provides many benefits both at a national level and at a local "section" level-- Below you find just a few highlights.

### NATIONALLY

- **Camp Knowledge Center**- An electronically searchable, web-based database that puts abundant camp-related information at your fingertips [www.acacamps.org/knowledge](http://www.acacamps.org/knowledge)
- **Professional Development**- National and regional conferences for expertise-sharing, networking and professional growth [www.acacamps.org/conference/conferences.php](http://www.acacamps.org/conference/conferences.php)
- **Crisis Hotline**- Twenty-four hour access to ACA staff trained in crisis management (800-573-9019)
- **Products & Services**- ACA partners with business affiliates and others to provide services to ACA camps at a reduced cost such as payroll processing and HR-related services, ATM/debit pay cards for camp staff, credit card processing, food, paper and chemical products, bulk purchase service, commercial mowers/tractors, athletic & recreational equipment, [www.acacamps.org/partners](http://www.acacamps.org/partners)
- **Staff Recruitment Assistance**- Job postings, local advertising, list of job fairs, and international staffing organizations [www.acacamps.org/jobs](http://www.acacamps.org/jobs)
- **Accreditation**- The standard of professional practices in camp management, accreditation is a voluntary peer-review system composed of 300+ industry standards [www.acacamps.org/accreditation](http://www.acacamps.org/accreditation)
- **Camping Magazine**- ACA's bimonthly publication [www.acacamps.org/campmag/](http://www.acacamps.org/campmag/)
- **CampLine**- Quarterly Newsletter on important regulatory, legal, legislative, and accreditation-related issues [www.acacamps.org/campline/](http://www.acacamps.org/campline/)
- **Camp Professionals Discussion Group**- Listserv discussion group for networking and sharing
- **Message Boards** - <http://bb.acacamps.org/cgi-bin/ultimatebb.cgi>
- **Research**- Ongoing research of trends and issues in the camp and youth development community [www.acacamps.org/research](http://www.acacamps.org/research)
- **Inside ACA**- Bi-monthly online member newsletter with latest news and important developments in the association.

### LOCAL

- **Education** – Annual fall conference – focused on what you've told us you need.
- **Newsletter** - Quarterly newsletter for Section members
- **Complaints Resolution Program** – We help you and your camp families resolve issues upon request.
- **Public Relations** - Local area advocacy with the media and public for the value of the camp experience.
- **Awards**- Recognizing contributions by local members
- **Standards Team**- Qualified visitors, accreditation mentors, pre-visits, and training to assist in the Accreditation process

If you've not tapped into any or all the above listed resources you're not taking full advantage of your membership in this fabulous organization. I encourage you to explore and use every possible resource at your disposal to further enhance the great work you are already doing. Good luck with the upcoming camp season and I hope to see everyone at our Fall Conference in early November!

Best Regards, Marc

**American Camp Association, Chesapeake**

5841 Brandywood Lane, Salisbury, MD 21801  
[www.ACAchesapeake.org](http://www.ACAchesapeake.org)

## Accreditation – the Front Line in Risk Management

If your camp is scheduled for an American Camp Association Accreditation Visit this summer, you should by now be well underway in having everything in place for the visit. If this is your first time in seeking accreditation, there is quite a bit of paperwork (documentation, policies and procedures) that you need to have in a concise format. If your camp is accredited and you are not due a visit, well, you really should still be of the mentality that you are being visited as accreditation is an ongoing process even if it is a non-visit year. And then, for those of us in the Chesapeake Section that are in Maryland, we also must contend with the DHMH surprise inspection sometime during the summer.

Oh did I mention, so don't forget, that we also need to operate a camp program with countless activities and phone calls taking place that we also need to oversee? You sure don't have to be reminded. Whew, there's a lot of stuff that goes on during the summer. The inspections and/or the ACA Visits just add more to an already full plate. Let me ask you. Do you really dread the visits and inspections?

I've seen numerous times where non-accredited camps advertise that they follow the guidelines/standards set forth by the American Camp Association. While yes this is somewhat a misrepresentation, my question to them would be, "How do you know you are following the standards if you have not been visited by trained ACA Visitors?" Their intent may be to use the standards as only a marketing gimmick.

While Accreditation is a positive marketing device, adherence to the Standards as an accredited camp is also a sign of a proactive risk management plan. There are many hours of effort accredited camps choose to go through, many policies and procedures routinely reviewed, tedious documentation kept current, and safety precautions and procedures practiced on a regular basis. Without doubt, accreditation (and the State inspections) is a lot of work and time during an already hectic schedule. However, isn't proper preparation prior to any occurrence better than by-the-seat-of-your-pants decisions in a crisis situation?

Accreditation assures us that we have done what is reasonably prudent to prevent, to properly respond, and to successfully follow-up negative occurrences at camp. And yes, while the visits may be stressful, wouldn't you rather hear it from a Visitor – so corrections may be made – prior to an occurrence?

Accreditation by the American Camp Association is a great front line in risk management. I've heard some say that all the work, all the time, all the paperwork may not really be worth it because nothing major seems to happen. Well, that may just be proof in and of itself that accreditation is well worth all we put into it, and perhaps more.

The Standards Committee of the Chesapeake Section wishes you the best this summer. Remember we are here to assist you in making our camps all that the accreditation process intends to be.



### **Save the Date!** **November 5 & 6, 2006** **ACA-CK Professional** **Development Conference**

*This 2-day conference will be held at Camp Puhtok in Munkton, MD (Baltimore County)*

The conference will include many sessions on a variety of topics including:  
*Service Awards Ceremony & Dinner, ACA Standards Course, Information from DHMH and other youth development professionals and with special guest....*

**Sunday's Keynote Speaker: Michael Brandwein**

***Don't miss this great event... Mark your calendars!***

## NEWS FROM NATIONAL - CAMPAign '07 Reaches \$3.5 Million

With the recent major gift from the Markel Insurance Company, CAMPAign '07, the American Camp Association's fundraising effort to promote and improve the camp experience, has exceeded the \$3.5 million mark. National President Ann Sheets said, "Through the generosity of our members from across the county, CAMPAign '07 has raised more money than it ever dreamed possible. And the funds are being used for the advancement of the camp experience."

Projects that have been funded by CAMPAign '07 include cutting-edge research that has validated our contention that the camp experience is of almost incalculable importance to the social development of young people. Our research also has included efforts to improve program quality and to reduce injuries and illnesses at camp. "Every camp has benefited and will continue to benefit from these research projects," says Peg Smith, National ACA Chief Executive Officer.

We're not finished, however. We have \$1.5million to go and we can do it if everybody helps out just a little bit. If each member would make a pledge to the campaign, we could keep this tremendous effort alive and do even more exciting things to match the benefits and excitement of our research projects and the magazine, such as the development of a strong, effective strategic plan to assure the relevance of ACA for many years to come. To make your contribution to CAMPAign '07 contact Tim Millbern at [tmillbern@ACAcamps.org](mailto:tmillbern@ACAcamps.org) or call at 800-428-CAMP.

## ACA, Chesapeake: 2006 Calendar

- May 19-21 Shooting Sports Certification Training – Theodora 4H Center, MD For more details, call Conrad Arnold 410-228-8800
- June 4-5 Red Cross Fundamentals of Canoe Training – Camp Pecometh Cost: \$150.00 call Ann Ashe for details 410-556-6900 x100
- June 4 Archery Training – Beth Tfiloh
- June 4 Open Water Lifeguard Module – Beth Tfiloh
- June 13 Notice of available Awards Announcement
- June 19 Lifeguard Training – Camp St. Charles (4 days)
- June 19 Canoe Instructor Training – Camp St. Charles (2 days)
- June 19 Riflery – Camp St. Charles (2 days)
- June 19 Archery – Camp St. Charles (1 day) For trainings at Camp St. Charles, contact Laura Hall at: [csclaurahall@aol.com](mailto:csclaurahall@aol.com)
- August 22 Woodsmoke Deadline
- September 1 Woodsmoke in mail/emailed
- September 16 Awards forms due
- September 12 Minutes and Agenda mailed to Chesapeake Members
- September 19 Chesapeake Section Board Meeting – 9:30 am Columbia, MD
- October 10 Minutes and Agenda mailed to Chesapeake Members
- October 17 Chesapeake Section Board meeting - TBA
- October 22 Woodsmoke Deadline
- November 1 Woodsmoke in mail/emailed
- November 5-6 Annual Professional Development Conference/meeting TBA
- January 4, 2007 Board Retreat – Columbia Association 9:30am

**ACA Spring Staff Training Registration:**

(All Classes must have a minimum of 8 participants)

Course Title & Number:	Location	Dates	ACA Cost	Non-member cost	# People attending
#1 Archery Instructor	Beth Tfiloh, Baltimore	June 4 <sup>th</sup>	\$75	\$100	
	<b>Additional Training Opportunities</b>				
Open Water	Aqua Culture	June 11	Call For details	1-410-420-7665	
Canoe Training	Camp Pecometh Ann Ashe	June 4-5	\$150	410-556-6900 Ext. 100	
Canoe Training Lifeguard Riflery & Archery	Camp St. Charles Laura Hall	June 19	Call For details	301-259-2645 or csclaurahall@aol.com	
High Ropes	Beth Tfiloh	June 11	Call for details	410-517-3451	
Red Cross Waterfront Lifeguarding	Aqua Culture 22 Newport Drive Forest Hill, MD 21050	<b>Call: Aquaculture</b>	<b>Training Center</b>	<b>1- 410-420-7665</b>	
Red Cross CPR for the Professional Rescuer	Aqua Culture 22 Newport Drive Forest Hill, MD 21050	<b>Call: Aquaculture</b>	<b>Training Center</b>	<b>1- 410-420-7665</b>	
Red Cross Lifeguard Training	Aqua Culture 22 Newport Drive Forest Hill, MD 21050	<b>Call: Aquaculture</b>	<b>Training Center</b>	<b>1- 410-420-7665</b>	

More detailed information will be sent after you registration concerning each session. For additional questions call: **(410)548-3770**, ACA Chesapeake Section Office  
 If one person is registering, list that name as the contact person. If this registration is for more than one person, confirmation will be made to that individual who, in turn, will contact the others in his/her group. Please remember you must pay for spaces reserved. We cannot hold spaces until we get your check. Total balance must be paid at the time of registration. No refunds for no-shows or cancellations. Registration Form: (Due By ASAP or 2 wks prior to training session, 2006)

**Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **(ACA# \_\_\_\_\_)** **Camp:** \_\_\_\_\_ **(ACA# \_\_\_\_\_)**  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ **Fax:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**List Names & Contact number for people attending: (feel free to reproduce this form)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact #: ( ) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Training Title # \_\_\_\_/\$\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact #: ( ) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Training Title # \_\_\_\_/\$\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact #: ( ) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Training Title # \_\_\_\_/\$\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact #: ( ) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Training Title # \_\_\_\_/\$\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Included:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Check Payable to ACA Chesapeake Section & Mail to:  
 5841 Brandywood Lane, Salisbury, MD 21801**