

Woodsmoke

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Camps Airy/Louise

Awards

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Camps Airy/Louise

Complaint Resolution

Charles Butler
Camping Veteran

Education

Bill Morgan
League for People w/Disabilities

Legislative

Bonnie Dunn
Patuxent River 4H Center

Newsletter

Kathy Tingler
League for People w/Disabilities

Nominations

Sara Portman Milner
Camping Veteran

Not for Profit Council

Sara Portman Milner
Camping Vetera

Standards

Mike Schneider
Camping Veteran
Bonnie Dunn
Patuxent River 4H Center

A Message from the President

Charles Butler

Welcome back. Hopefully everyone had a great summer providing education, outdoor living skills and leadership training to some of America's future leaders. The board will be reviewing previous goals and setting new ones for the coming year. One of my goals for the year is to enrich our section's service to and support of camps in the Maryland and DC area. I would like for us to seek ways to reach more camps and simultaneously, I think we need to be a source of support and help to member camps and their staff.

ACA is seeking change and there has been much talk about what the change will look like. Frankly I do not think that anyone has a clear picture of how the future of the organization will unfold. We need to communicate with our regional representative, the national board and the CEO, to let them know our thoughts. The way the organization should look in the future may not be what we really want, but something that we can live with.

I would like to remind you of some words from our CEO in her definition of ACA's 20/20 Vision "The camp experience is a part of America's heritage and culture. Since 1861 we have impacted more than 500 million children. Today, many institutions have abandoned children and youth or have left them inside with electronic gadgets. Our society has limited the access to natural environments and reduced the time adults spend with children and youth--and offers fewer and fewer authentic human connections. Children, youth and families need an advocate. We must not fail to describe what we do as a critical part of the continuum of care for young people in America. Our ability to provide a hands-on, experiential, nature-based, community experience is unique"

Charles Butler

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News from the Section Office

Nancy Canter, Chesapeake Section Executive

Hard to believe summer camp season has ended and it's time to start preparing for next year. I had more calls in the office this year from parents asking questions about ACA Accreditation and choosing a camp for their children. Many were surprised at what is involved for the camp to be accredited and a member of ACA. When parents visit our web site, they learn the level of commitment the camps have made to become and maintain their accreditation. This is good news for us; parents are recognizing how important it is to send their children to an accredited camp. I also know that some of these parents chose accredited camps over those that were not.



Save the Date: November 22nd Event with special guest - Ann Sheets

Our annual awards and dinner will be held on Sunday, November 22nd in the BWI area. I am negotiating with several hotels at this time and hope to have all the final details by the end of September. Ann Sheets, past ACA National President will be with us to share the latest news from the National office and on the 2020 Vision. Please plan on joining us!

Chesapeake Section Awards

Please take time to think about that special staff person you feel did an outstanding job this summer and nominate them for an ACA Chesapeake Section award. Details are included in this newsletter or call the section office at 410-548-3770 if you have any questions. Your award winner will receive a nice plaque and recognition from our camp community at our annual dinner.

Standards News for 2009

The following camps are scheduled for an accreditation visit this coming summer. If your camp is to be visited, you must attend a Standards training. There is no cost to attend and you may bring as many staff as you like but please note: The participant(s) should be someone who is involved in the preparation of materials for the accreditation visit and who will be present the day of your visit.

We will be offering a Standards Course on Thursday, November 12th beginning at 9:30 am at the Patuxent River 4-H Center in Upper Marlboro, MD. It is in your best interest to attend a course as soon as possible to help with any questions or concerns and beginning preparing for your accreditation visit. Please call the section office (410.548.3770) to register.

Camps to be Visited Summer 2010:

Camp Airy & Louise
Barrie Day Camp
Beth Tfiloh Day Camps
Camp Mardela
Echo Hill
Fairlee Manor

Haborim Dror
Lions Camp Merrick
Ripken Baseball Camp
Salvation Army Camp Tomahawk
Valley Mill



If you think your camp is due a visit and is not on the above list, please call the Section Office.

Visitor Course

Many of our members have expressed an interest in becoming a visitor for the accreditation camp visits. Please review the job description below for an Associate Visitor.

Prerequisites

At least 21 years of age
Current ACA member

Completion of the Standards Course on November 12th

Qualifications

Maturity and good judgment
Relates well to camping professionals
Knowledge of and administrative experience in organized camping, preferably in ACA accredited camp
Objectivity, patience, and willingness to learn
Willingness to participate in training and updates, and to conduct standards visits.



Certification is contingent on . . .

Successful completion of the Standards Course and the Associate Visitor Course (16-18 hours).
Recommendation of the course instructor, section standards chair, and the section board.

Responsibilities

Associate Visitors are persons who have completed the requirements of the Associate Visitor Course. They participate as a second (or third) person on a visitation team conducting accreditation visits. In this role they are responsible to:

- * Assist in the interpretation of the Standards Program's purpose, background, function and process.
- * Aid the camp director and Lead Visitor in evaluating all aspects of the camp operation.
- * Assist in the accreditation procedures:
- * Observe all aspects of camp operation.
- * Assist in utilizing camp observations to record Yes, No, or DNA on the score form, and all comments on the comment form.
- * Inform the camp director/administrator of the responses as they are recorded.
- * Assist the Lead Visitor, director, camp staff, or camp committee in developing and sharpening their own observation skills regarding their camp.
- * Assist in the interpretation of individual standards.
- * Provide information as needed in the review or appeal process.

To Maintain Certification

Associate Visitors are responsible to attend a standards briefing at least once every three years and assist with one or more visits at least every other year.

If you would like to become a visitor, the first step in the process is to attend the standards training we will be having on November 12th at 9:30 am. You must pre-register by calling the section office (410-548-3770) by November 1st.

Hope to see you all on November 12,
Nancy

2009 Recognition Awards

The Chesapeake Section established a means of saying "Thank You" to those who make extraordinary contributions to the camps they work for or for the outstanding camping programs in our Section.

Listed below are the awards that will be presented at the fall Annual meeting. The Awards Committee hopes that all camp directors and their staff will take the opportunity to nominate people, programs, and/or photographs for consideration.



The Service Award:

This award is given to honor individuals, groups, or organizations for their efforts to promote camping. It is given for outstanding leadership or service or noteworthy contributions to the advancement of camping. This Service Award is not limited to ACA members, and recognition can be for contributions:

- * Within your camp
- * Within ACA on the Section/Regional level or
- * Within ACA on the National level

The Katherine P. Johnson Award:

This award for meritorious service is awarded on an annual basis to an individual who has been nominated by his or her peers and selected by the Awards Committee. The criteria for the nomination are:

- * Must be a member of the ACA for continuous period of not less than 10 years and Chesapeake Section for not less than 5 years.
- * Must have rendered outstanding services which have been beneficial to the Chesapeake Section. Service to National will be considered.
- * Must have good moral and character standards.

The William "Bill" McLeod Award:

This award is given to honor an individual who is dedicated their self to improving the quality of camps. The criteria for nomination are:

- * Must be administrative staff member of at least 3 years at an accredited camp.
- * Must have rendered outstanding service that has been beneficial to camp
- * Must have rendered a creative and/or administrative contribution to camp.
- * Must have good moral and character standards.



Environmental Education Program Award:

This award for excellence in environmental education programming is given in recognition of a camp or program focusing on environmental education and includes:

- * A system of teaching and practicing responsible stewardship of the natural resources.
- * Exploration of environmental ethics.
- * Opportunities for campers to practice hands-on skills which are transferable to settings outside of camp.

Outreach Award:

This award for excellence in innovating programming is given in recognition of a camp for programs which demonstrates an innovative approach to meeting the diverse needs of today's campers and their parents. Examples may include, but not limited to:

- * Innovative use facility, space or site, to make camping available to more campers.
- * Innovative scheduling to meet needs of parents and maximize program time.
- * Creative uses of resources, including monetary, material and human.

Photography Award:

This award may be black & white or color prints, either 5"x7" or 8"x10", matted for display. On the back of the photography please include the name, addresses of individuals in the photograph and the photographer (age if you deem appropriate), camp affiliation, and description of the subject (location, event, etc.)

TO NOMINATE SOMEONE, PLEASE COMPLETE THE RECOGNITION AWARDS FORM ATTACHED.

Student Leadership Academy (SCLA)

Do you have staff member, currently enrolled in college and considering a career in the camp profession? If so, please share with them this amazing leadership opportunity. The SCLA is a weekend retreat that brings together students, camp professionals and National ACA staff. The SCLA curriculum addresses critical professional development topics such as, current trends and issues in American camps, camp accreditation, post-college professional training opportunities, and the future of the camp profession. For a qualified applicant, ACA-CK will provide a stipend that will cover the cost of registration, room and board, and help defray the cost of travel.

Please do not delay in reaching out to a hard working, deserving college student on your staff!

The next SCLA will take place Friday, November 6, 2009 starting at 4:00 p.m. and ending on Sunday, November 8, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. The location is [Camp Henry Horner](#) in Ingleside, IL. Application deadline, Oct. 2nd. You can download the application and learn more at www.acacamps.org/scla



New Director's Orientation



Spend the day with two experienced camp directors who will share their related experiences and review what needs to be done to get your camp operating at peak performance. This educational opportunity is aimed at seasonal or new directors and supervisors to develop the skills they need to be effective leaders for their camp program. The 8-hour course examines several core areas of camp management: leadership, risk management, camper behavior, staff training & supervision. Don't miss out on the opportunity to develop the many tools needed to prepare yourself and your team for a successful camp season!

Course will be held at Geshar Summer Program, (located at the Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy, 110 South Orange Avenue, Livingston, NJ 07039) on Wednesday, **October 21st** from 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Preregistration is required. Course costs include materials and lunch. Course Fee: \$75 ACA members; \$95 non-ACA members. To register: www.acacampsnj.org

****See registration form on page 7**

Chesapeake Section Recognition Awards Form

This form is to be used when nominating camp staff or programs or photograph(s) for any of the awards established by the Chesapeake Section. Please double check the award criteria before you return the nomination to us. On a separate sheet of paper, we would also need a small paragraph stating why you are nominating this individual or program included.

_____ Service Award (Limited to three individuals per camp)

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

_____ Katherine P Johnson Award – Limited to one individual per camp.

Name: _____

_____ William “Bill” McLeod Award– Limited to one individual per camp.

Name: _____

_____ Environmental Education Award: – Limited to one per camp.

Name: _____

_____ Outreach Award: – Limited to one per camp.

Name: _____

_____ Photography Award – Limited to three per camp

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Submitted by: _____ Contact person phone # (____) ____ - _____

Please Send to: ACA Chesapeake Section Office
5841 Brandywood Lane
Salisbury, MD 21801

**Nomination must be received
No later than October 26, 2009**



NEW DIRECTORS ORIENTATION COURSE Learn the Tools of the Trade!

October 21st, 2009
9:30 AM-5:30 PM
Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy
110 South Orange Avenue
Livingston, NJ 07039

This 8-hour interactive course, developed by ACA-National, provides an overview on key aspects of the camp director's job.

Who should attend?

- Seasonal or new camp directors
- Assistant directors
- Program directors
- Camp staff that have been in other administrative positions and are considering directing camp in the near future.



This course will cover core areas of camp management with special focus on **leadership, risk management, camper behavior, staff training** and **supervision**. Upon completion of this one-day course, the ACA National office will mail you a certificate, suitable for framing.

REGISTRATION: New Director's Orientation Course

Oct. 21, 2009

CAMP NAME: _____ ACA Member #: _____

YOUR NAME AND TITLE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____ Email: _____

Course Fee: \$75 for ACA members and \$95 for non-members. (Lunch included.) Sorry, no refunds.

Registration deadline: Wednesday, Oct. 14th 2009.

Please make checks payable to ACA-NJ and remit with this application to:

ACA New Jersey
P.O. Box 672
Pittstown, N.J. 08867

For questions or directions, phone: 908-238-9900, fax: 908-730-7990, e-mail: executive@acacampsnj.org