

Southwest Ramblin's

It seems that I have attended a lot of retreats and training meetings during the month of October. It must be that time of year when camp is over and it is time to process the past summer experiences, receive training, and to recapture the vision of the good work that organized camping does for the campers that attend the wonderful camping programs. I have been able to visit the ACA National offices and also assist in conducting an associate visitor training course in New Mexico during this last month. I am enthused by the wonderful facilities, staff, volunteers that the national office and our local section has that is making a difference in the lives of children and families. I am so excited to share the message of what ACA means nationally and in Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Nevada. I would like ACA Southwest members to support financially through donations made to the Southwest Section to further the great work that is happening in our area. Donations made to ACA Southwest stay here locally to assist volunteers, members, camps, and campers in receiving quality educational programs, meaningful training opportunities, helpful standards visitations, and awesome summer camp experiences. Please join me in making a donation to the ACA Southwest. Pledge cards were mailed out to all of the members of the section earlier this month. If you did not receive a pledge card, please contact Ginger Pauley @ swcamps@qwest.net.

Once again thank you for your support!

Jared Knight
Aspen Grove Family Camp
Manager of Programs
Southwest Section President

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

Make a Difference!

Members of the ACA Southwest will find the ballot for this years election attached to the same email as this newsletter. Deadline for voting is January 10. The candidates and open positions follow:

Vice President
Nancy Pianka

Nancy has been involved with camping for over 25 years and a camp director for many of those years. Nancy's dedication to camping through her roll as Membership Chair, Education Chair and Accreditation Visitor makes her an ideal choice for Vice President.

Treasurer
Char Bowman

Char has been involved in the camping industry for well over 30 years. She served as Executive Director for two Girl Scout councils. She is very active at her church, chairing there camp committee and developing their camping program. All of her positions have involved budgeting, & accounting.

Member-at-Large
Don Brown

Don has been active in the camping industry for over 40 years. He currently is the Southwest Treasurer and in this capacity has taken exceptional leadership. Don has also been the Education Chair and well as other positions within the section. He is the Camp Director/Program Director for the American Wilderness Leadership School in Wyoming.

Welcome New Members

Member Type	Name	Organization
Associate Member	Ben McLenna	Girl Scouts of the USA
Professional Member	Diane Watson	Precision Shooting Equipment
Student Member	Elizabeth Bechok	
Professional Member	Erin White	
Professional Member	Jim Knorr	Montlure
Professional Member	Jim Strickland	Glorieta Conference & Retreat Center
Associate Member	Kari Ferguson	
Student Member	Michael Hancock	
Professional Member	Pam Morrill	Camp Tall Pines
Professional Member	Peter Pemberton	Salvation Army
Professional Member	Peter Swift	Liberty Mountain
Professional Member	Ramon Ocano	Salvation Army
Associate Member	Renee Singleton	Lions Camp Tatiyee
Professional Member	Traci Sherman	Girl Scouts of the USA

Standards Corner

This summer provided us with many successful accreditation visits. Below is the list of camps that had successful visits.



Camp Name	City	State
Anytown Camp & Conference Ctr	Prescott	AZ
Bishop Stoney Camp	Santa Fe	NM
Camp Enchantment	Albuquerque	NM
Camp Hobe'	Salt Lake City	UT
Camp Sky Y	Prescott	AZ
Camp Trefoil Ranch	Provo	UT
Camp Wamatochick (Camp Fire)	Prescott	AZ
FCYD Camp Utada	West Jordan	UT
Lions Camp Tatiyee Inc	Lakeside	AZ
Lone Tree Ranch	Capitan	NM
Maripai	Prescott	AZ
Mingus Springs Camp	Prescott	AZ
Saguaro Camp Cherith	Payson	AZ
Shadow Rim Ranch	Phoenix	AZ
TJCC Summer Camps	Tucson	AZ
Willow Springs Program Center	Prescott	AZ

All currently accredited camps that have not received the new standards guide will receive it when they attend a training update in our Section. The manual is provided by the section. If you need more than the one book, you can order it though the ACA bookstore. Watch for the Update Training in the Spring.

Camps due for accreditation visit this summer are listed below.

Camp Name	State
American Wilderness Leadership	AZ
Camp Maska	AZ
Friendly Pines Camp	AZ
Orme Ranch Camp	AZ
Pine Canyon Camp	AZ
Reality Ranch Military Camp	AZ
Sombrero Day Camp	AZ
YMCA Triangle Y Ranch	AZ
Fort Lone Tree	NM
Lone Tree Lakeshore Camp	NM
Lone Tree Mexico Mission	NM
WOW New Mexico Youth Corp	NM
YMCA Camp Shaver	NM
All Star Adventure Camp	NV
Foxtail Girl Scout Camp	NV

Executive Director's Thoughts

Another year has flown by. I don't know if it is because I am getting older (they say the older you get the faster the time flies) or it I have just been so busy that I really haven't taken the time to slow down.

Change has been something that seems to continue to happen in our section. Jared Knight filled out the final year for Martin Combs when he moved to Texas and he has done a very good job. Jared is now starting his full term as President of Southwest and is very enthusiastic. He will be looking for a few good people to head up various positions on the board. If you are at all interested please contact him at Jared_Knight@BYU.edu. Jared is very interested in adding new blood to the board and will welcome those that feel they can add to the dynamics of the board.

Along another line, I was reading the paper the other day and came upon an article about family values. I found it interesting that the article pointed out that children that have outdoor experiences develop their creative process as well as social skills much better than those that don't. Of course, we as camp professionals already knew this, but I was pleased to see it in print in an area that was not camp related. It certainly does reinforce our beliefs.

Remember to watch for the date of the update for camps and visitors in your area. We now have been under the new standards for a year and every camp and visitor must attend an update in order to comply with the national guidelines. The new Standards books will be distributed at these trainings. If you took a training update elsewhere and have not received your new Standards book from us, contact Char Bowman at crbatphs@cox.net or Ginger Pauley at swcamps@qwest.net.

Work is either fun or drudgery. It depends on your attitude. I like fun.
 ~ Colleen C. Barrett (b. 1944), President and COO, Southwest Airlines

American Camp Association Southwest Annual Meeting

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

Guest speaker

Dr. Mark Roark

Utah State University,

Department of Health, Physical Ed and Recreation

Menu: Grilled Teriyaki Kabobs served with rice pilaf, garden salad, and fresh baked bread. Girl Scout cookies for desert

Registration: 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$12.00 for lunch

Meeting: 11:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Location: Girl Scouts of Utah
 445 East 4500 South (Use north doors)

Please bring items for the annual raffle

People don't notice whether it's winter or summer when they're happy.
 ~ Anton Chekhov

News from National

Operation Purple® Summer Camp Proposals Now Being Accepted

With the successful completion of the 2007 *Operation Purple* Summer Camp program, the National Military Family Association (NMFA) is now accepting camp proposals for the 2008 camp season!

Operation Purple camps offer children of service members a free week of summer camp. The goal is to help military children of various ages learn coping skills associated with deployment-related stress, provide a support network of peers, and most of all, have fun. Operation Purple imparts to these young heroes the message that "Kids Serve Too." Since Operation Purple began in 2004, NMFA has sent more than 10,000 military children to an exciting week of camp.

If you would like to impact the lives of military children—this is the perfect opportunity! To obtain a copy of the proposal guidelines, list of frequently asked questions, and to view the training slideshow from this year, please visit the program's Web site. We encourage all interested applicants to review the documents and training slide show that provide vital information about our curriculum and expectations for Operation Purple camps.

For questions about the Operation Purple Summer Camp program, please contact Cynthia Clagg. The deadline for receipt of proposals is December 3, 2007, so please do not delay. Proposals can be e-mailed to cynthia.clagg@nmfa.org or mailed hardcopy to:

The National Military Family Association
Attn: Cynthia Clagg
2500 North Van Dorn Street, Suite 102
Alexandria, VA 22302

Selected camps will be notified in January 2008.

Give Camping Magazine to Your Staff and Give the Gift of Knowledge

Give the gift of knowledge Order multiple subscriptions of *Camping Magazine* for your staff and SAVE! Give your camp staff year-round access to the premier camp resource. Minimum order: 5 subscriptions* for \$100 – a savings of \$9.95 per subscription. Special rates* available through December 31, 2007. [Order today!](#)

*Special rate can only be applied to a minimum order of 5 subscriptions or more. Each subscription can be sent to five different addresses. Pricing will be adjusted after submission of order and will appear on billing receipt.

Enter the J. Wendell and Ruth T. Howe Golden Lens Photography Contest

[The Golden Lens Award](#)

You could win:

- ◆ A \$150 cash prize for first place
- ◆ A commemorative plaque
- ◆ Acknowledgement in *Camping Magazine*
- ◆ Recognition at the 2008 ACA National Conference

Send us your favorite photos that depict the camp experience and represent the best practices in the field. Include with each submission the photographer's name, camp name, contact address, phone number, and a letter stating the camp or photographer has a model release on file for identifiable subjects in the photo and that grants ACA permission to use the photo in publications. Photos sent electronically must be a TIF or JPG file and at least 300 dots per inch (dpi).

Mail photos to:

Camping Magazine
American Camp Association
5000 State Road 67 North
Martinsville, IN 46151-7902
E-mail: magazine@ACAacamps.org

Photo Release Form Required for All Photo Submissions to ACA

An [online photo release form](#) is required for photo submissions to ACA. Please complete the form when sending any photo submissions, either electronically or through the mail.

Deadline: November 30, 2007 Share the Message

To better serve you, the American Camp Association accreditation logo usage guidelines have been updated. For your records, download pages 13 and 14 of the [Graphic Identity Standards manual](#).

We encourage you to take advantage of all the [online ACA-Accreditation Marketing Tools](#)—display your camp's ACA-accreditation logo proudly.

ACA-Accreditation Message Reaches More Audiences Through Business Affiliates

In new collaborative ventures between ACA and two Business Affiliates, Gocamps.com and Summercamps.com, the ACA-accreditation message is reaching a broader audience.

Summercamps.com features a prominent link to CampParents.org; offers a search function for ACA-Accredited® camps directly from its home page; displays the ACA-accredited logo; and provides information about what it means to be ACA accredited, promoting the value of ACA-accredited camps throughout its Web site.

Gocamps.com refers its site visitors to key messages describing what ACA accreditation means, and the ACA-accreditation logo is indicated with each ACA-accredited camp listing.

ACA encourages ACA-accredited camps listed with either of these online camp directories to confirm that ACA accreditation is part of their customized profile features. Please take advantage of this expanded opportunity to share the message of your camp's commitment to providing children with a safe, healthy, and nurturing environment.

Use ACA Business Partners and Calculate Your Savings!

We feel strongly that you can save money and trim your camp's budget by doing business with ACA Business Partners! Indulge us for a minute. Pull out your calculator and figure what your camp might save if you:

- ◆ Reduce your credit card company's fees and some of the miscellaneous charges.
- ◆ Purchase a John Deere tractor or Gator using the **ACA/John Deere** program and save 28%.
- ◆ Chop 15% off your food budget using the **ACA/Consorta/SYSCO** or **ACA/Consorta/Food Source** program.
- ◆ Save an amazing 40% off your overnight mailing costs using the **ACA/Consorta/FedEx** option.
- ◆ Save 20% off your camp's office supplies.

And, if you're planning some capital or major maintenance improvements to your camp this year, calculate your savings with **ACA/Consorta/Sherwin-Williams** for paint supplies. You'll save 25% off the **lowest** contractor's price. If you order supplies through **Home Depot Supply**, you benefit from free shipping and the **LOWEST CATALOG** price offered!

Read more about these programs that add value to your ACA affiliation on our Web site at www.ACACamps.org/partners. Or, call 800-428-2267 and ask for Paula McCarns or Kim Bruno, your ACA Business Development Team, to discuss these opportunities for your camp. Let us help you realize the best deals possible!



The Latest News About the 2008 ACA National Conference in Nashville

Fall Resource Flyer Features National Conference Program

Get the details on keynote lectures, educational breakout sessions, commerce sessions, and discussion groups by checking out the ACA [November Resource Flyer](#) online (PDF - 2MB).

Register Now for the Best Values

[Register today](#) and save! Early bird registration deadline is December 10, 2007. Best values are offered to ACA members. Consider joining today and access the best rates.

NEW FORMS for ACA Members and Camps

The Association for Camp Nurses (ACN) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recently joined together to develop two new medical forms for camps to use with their camper population. One form is a four-page camper health history; the second form is a one-page medical recommendation form to be completed by the physician. These two forms used together are equivalent to the old "Green Form" for campers and will meet the current ACA Standards for HW-2 and HW-6.

The ACN has also developed several additional forms to be used as a template and/or a sample for camps. These include: Health History Form for Camp Staff, Medical Recommendation for Camp Employee, Request for Additional Information about Your Child's Asthma, Health History Form for Short-Term Campers (three nights or less), Health and Emergency Information for Adult Campers, and Exemption for Immunization Request.

All of the above mentioned forms are available as a free download for ACA members. Several of these, as well as other forms may be purchased in a convenient 100 pack through the ACA Bookstore.

For description and additional information, visit: <http://www.acacamps.org/members/healthforms/>

Is Your Camp Being Visited in 2008?

If so, it is not too early to be reviewing your written documentation, your hiring policies, policies regarding staff and camper possessions, etc. Also, make sure someone who will be involved in the preparation of your materials and on site the day of the visits attends a Standards Course. More than one person from a camp may attend a Course for no charge. Please make sure you have reviewed the revised Standards and Interpretations

<http://www.acacamps.org/accreditation/interpretations.pdf>

ACA Standards Course

The Standards Course prepares Camp Directors for their accreditation visits and to serve as an introduction to the Standards program for persons interested in becoming Visitors. Save the date: Tuesday, February 12, 2008 ~ Prior to ACA National Conference 8:30am - 2:30p.m. Registration: Pre-registration is required for this Standards Course. Registration Deadline is January 25, 2008. Register at: <http://www.acacamps.org/conference/standards.php>

Donations Made Easy!

ACA is a public charity and needs your help. Currently, only 34 percent of the operating budget is funded by membership dues and camp fees. The rest is dependent on the generous contributions of many to promote the work you do. Now it's easier than ever to donate! Log on to www.ACACamps.org/support and give through our easy and secure online donation form.

ACA Comments on the New Regulations from the US Forest Service Regarding Public Lands Use Permits

The US Forest Service (USFS) has developed new directives regarding outfitting and guiding special use permits for public lands. The USFS has provided a public comment period (until January 17, 2008), and ACA took the opportunity to review the directives and provide comment. We support the proposal as it incorporates many of the goals set forth in our Public Policy Position Statement on Public Lands. We encourage all members to also provide comment and have placed key messages and links to the relevant documents on our Web site at: <http://www.ACACamps.org/publicpolicy/publiclands.php>.

Special thanks to Jane Sanborn and Steve Shively of the Public Policy Committee for leading our efforts in this area!

ACA Basic Camp Directors Course (BCDC) January 11-15, 2008 (post Southwest Conference)

Hoblitzelle Camp & Conference Center - Midlothian, TX

April 6-10, 2008

JCYS Camp Henry Horner - Ingleside, IL

Additional courses will be listed online as details become available.

Registration is available online (<https://www.acacamps.org/education/bcdc/bcdcva.php>). You'll need to choose the specific geographic course you would like in order to get the registration form.

Upcoming Events

Board Meeting Salt Lake City.....Jan 14-15 08
Annual Meeting Salt Lake CityJan 15 08
National Conference Nashville Feb 12-15 08
CampWest Las Vegas, NV.....April 2 -5 08
Section Training offerings Website

Updates From the Research Team

Just a very quick check-in with you all before the holidays! Here are a couple of important items: * Please help us remind your folks that the Emerging Issues survey is open only until Dec 6th! The information from your folks on these important issues that they are facing will help us track the issues AND perhaps more importantly, give us direction for the development of needed materials! Please encourage them to go to http://www.acacamps.org/research/emerging_camp_issues.php and complete the survey!

* Thanks for encouraging your members to complete the Enrollment survey and the Site, Facilities, and Program survey! We had good response rates and are about to finish data analysis. Look for new information on the website, articles in Camping Magazine, and sessions at national and regional conferences! Don't forget that most of our survey data can be used for more detailed breakdowns specific to your section!

* Thanks to the input from many of you, the Core Member Services Survey is available for Sections to use!! Remember you can administer it online through your Section's Survey Monkey account (or another online provider), through National's Survey Monkey account, or even print from the PDF so you can mail it.

Membership Update

Southwest Section's current camp membership is 52 of which 48 are accredited. Our current membership is 142. If you know of someone interested in becoming a member or who may be interested in having their camp accredited have them contact Ginger Pauley, Executive Director, at 1 800 265-1917 or swcamps@qwest.net.

Students have a specific category at a discounted membership fee. Visit www.ACACamps.org for an application.

State Camp Regulations

Check out this site, www.ACACamps.org/publicpolicy, for complete information about camp-related regulations in each state. The data provides active links to the regulations and information in each state. You will be able to sort by state and the information indicates whether the state allows FBI records checks and information on how to access driving checks in each state complete with costs and links to forms



Southwest
2474 E. Oakland St.
Gilbert, AZ 85296-9137



SAVE THE DATE

CampWest 2008
April 2 - 5
Las Vegas, NV

Who are and How do you contact your Southwest Section board? The following is a current list of Board members. If you have a need that is not being met, a question, an idea or concern, please contact any of the board members. We are here to serve you and we'd like to hear from you. The Section Board meets three times a year to serve the needs of its membership.

Southwest Section Roster-ACA

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