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JAN / FEB 2008

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REGISTER NOW!



CampWest Conference 2008

April 2-5, 2008
Alexis Park Resort, Las Vegas, NV

**CampWest 2008
*Building Connections:
Creating Camps That Make a Difference***

Join us as the best of the west meet together in fellowship, learning and fun! CampWest is the premier Camping Conference west of the Rockies. Hosted by ACA Evergreen, Northern California, Oregon Trail, Rocky Mountain, Southern California/Hawaii, and Southwest sections.

The 2008 CampWest will be held at the:

Alexis Park Resort
375 E. Harmon
Las Vegas, NV 89109
(800) 582-2228

Find out more at www.CampWest.org

It's not too late! Register for the ACA National Conference!



*the strength
of many Voices*

NASHVILLE 2008
FEBRUARY 12 - 15

Discounted rates are available through February 8.

COMING
SOON!



CampWest Conference 2008

April 2-5, 2008
Alexis Park Resort, Las Vegas, NV

Building Connections:
Creating camps that make a difference

www.campwest.org

We need your help!



CALL FOR ACTION!

ACTION NEEDED:

If your camp uses public lands for program, we need your help.

Dear Camp Directors:

For the last few months Inside ACA has featured an article about ACA's response to the US Forest Service's proposed changes to the Outfitter Guides program. We formally voiced our support for the changes as they are in line with the goals expressed in our Public Lands Position Statement. We asked members to submit their support as well.

We are at a critical juncture right now as we have heard from the US Forest Service that commercial outfitters and river guide organizations are exerting considerable pressure in opposition to the changes. We have connected with our friends in the US Forest Service and they tell us that due to the pressure, the public comment period has been extended to mid-February. They have advised us of the critical importance to have individual camps submit their comments to the US Forest Service. They tell us that it is important that camps submit their own comments and not just a straight template letter format.

We need you to submit comments. We have made the process very simple by providing a copy of ACA's response and a 'key message' sheet to help camps submit their own comments. It is all online and has simple directions to submit online.

{ We've been told that if even only 25 camps submitted their comments, they would make a positive impact with the US Forest Service. Please do what you can to help us reach that goal. }

All the materials are online at:

<http://www.acacamps.org/publicpolicy/publiclands.php>

Please phone Susan Yoder in the national ACA office - 800-428-2267- if you have any questions!

MANY THANKS



NOTICE OF OPEN BOARD POSITIONS

Official Call for Nominations

Official call to the Northern California Section Membership for the following elected positions to the Board for the term beginning in March 2008, ending March 2011:

1- TREASURER

3- BOARD MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Members of this section may nominate fellow members with their permission, or submit their own name to be considered by the nominating committee to be placed on the ballot. To give ample time for processing, **names should be submitted as early as possible, but not later than February 2.**

DUTIES OF THE BOARD:

Adopt policies and direct the affairs of the section

Hold title to any property

Employ personnel

Adopt a budget for the Section

Fill vacancies occurring between elections (except for the president which is filled by the President elect, if there is one, or by the Vice President).

The **TREASURER** is someone who has experience in financial management and budgeting, as well as the practical aspects of invoicing, reconciliations, writing checks, and keeping accounts current.

BOARD MEMBERS-AT-LARGE serve on the board and would be appointed to areas of their specialty or interest to represent, encourage, and support the section membership in one or more of the following areas: Standards, Education, Finance, Membership, Complaint Resolution, Day Camps, Religiously Affiliated (RAC), not For Profit Camps, Special Populations, Independent Camps, Nominations (create the nominations list for the available positions in our section), Legislation (keeping track of state issues and legislation that affects or impacts camps), and Marketing (includes Public Relations, Quarterly Newsletter, Camp Fairs, the Directory, and the website).

NOMINATIONS

Names should be submitted to the Board Development Chair and include the following information:

Candidate's Name

Camp or Business Affiliation

Nominated for: Treasurer or Board Member-at-Large

E-mail address

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Send the above information to: Terry Bolton – Board Development Chair
PO Box 400; Grizzly Flats, CA 95636
terry@leonimeadow.org

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>)

Standards Training Courses 2008

Camps to be visited in 2008 must have a representative who has attended a standards course in the past year.

UPCOMING COURSES:

March 1:

Sierra Health Foundation - Mezzanine
1321 Garden Highway
Sacramento, CA 95833

Standards Course: 10am – 4pm

For those new to the accreditation process

Standards Update Course: 10am-2pm

For those experienced in the accreditation process and who have guided a camp through an accreditation visit in the past.

April 2: prior to CampWest Conference

Alexis Park Resort
375 East Harmon
Las Vegas, NV

Standards Course: 9am – 2pm

For those new to the accreditation process

Standards Update Course: 9am-1pm

For those experienced in the accreditation process and who have guided a camp through an accreditation visit in the past.

There is no charge for these courses but participants will need to bring a lunch or plan to go out and eat on their own.



Bring your camp Accreditation Process Guide to the course.

Register by emailing info@acanorcal.org

Interested in becoming a standards accreditation visitor?

The requirements to become a visitor include:

- Be at least 21 years of age
- Be a member of ACA
- Have previously attended a standards course (2007 standards)
- Be willing and able to complete a minimum of one visit during the summer months
- Be willing and able to accept the role of an ambassador of ACA

Successfully complete an ACA Associate Visitor training course (approximately 10-12 hours)

Join ACA's Media Resource Team!

Do you speak passionately about the value of camp in the lives of children and youth? Does your camp have a unique program to share? Do you offer specialty activities that are cutting-edge? Are you willing to help ACA be the voice of the camp experience?

ACA gets hundreds of media requests each year, and we look forward to expanding our media resource list to include more camps and more voices who can share with the media the depth, breadth, and importance of the camp experience. With your help, ACA can influence print and broadcast stories that appear throughout the country.

Please join Harriet Lowe, director of communications, and Jane Rulon, media specialist, in Nashville at the ACA National Conference on Tuesday, February 12, from 1:00-2:30 p.m. (room assignment TBA) for a mini-media training session and the opportunity to sign up as a member of ACA's Media Resource Team.

If you can't attend, but want to participate—or if you have any questions—please contact Jane Rulon (jrulon@ACAamps.org) or call 765-349-3317.

360 Athletics Offers Online Ordering for ACA Members Only

360 Athletics is now offering online ordering for ACA members. Visit the ACA section of 360 Athletics Web site (<http://www.360athletics.com/aca>) and fill out a simple form. Be sure to have your ACA member number handy. The company will send you log-in information to view competitive pricing and order information. Sign up now!

Camp Fairs

FAIS Summer Camps Fair

Saturday, February 2, 2008

9:30am - 12:30pm

FAIS School Gymnasium

150 Oak Street, San Francisco

Contact: Mark Yesayan: campfairs@yahoo.com

2008 Summer Resource Fair for Parents

Sponsored by the American Camp Association and Seven Hills School

Saturday, March 1, 2008

10am - 1pm

Seven Hills School

975 N. San Carlos Drive, Walnut Creek

Contact: Susie Canchola: 925-933-0666

Family Summer Resource Fair

Saturday, March 8, 2008

10am - 3pm

Concourse Fair Exhibition Center

8th & Brannan Streets, San Francisco

Contact: Mary Boyle: mboyle@dcyf.org

AAUW Summer Opportunities Fair

Sunday, March 9, 2008

1pm - 4:30pm

Scottish Rite Center

1547 Lakeside Drive, Oakland

Contact: Marilyn Little: marilynjlittle@aol.com

San Ramon Community Fair

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

6pm - 8pm

Iron Horse Middle School

12601 Alcosta Blvd, San Ramon

Contact: Scott Gerbert: sgerber@srvusd.k.12.ca.us

Central California Parent Magazine Camp Fair

Thursday, April 3, 2008

5pm - 8:30pm

People's Church Gym

7172 North Cedar Avenue, Fresno

Contact: Sally Cook: 559-435-1409

Save the Date 2008

FEBRUARY 12-15 - ACA National Conference

APRIL 2-5 - CampWest Conference

OCTOBER 13 - ACA Northern California Fall Conference



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES...

February 12-15, 2008

ACA National Conference
Opreyland Hotel
Nashville, TN

March 1, 2008

ACA Standards Course & Update Course
Sacramento
Email: executive@acanorcal.org

March 11-13, 2008

The North American Camp Food Service Conference
YMCA Camp Chingachgook on Lake George, NY
contact: George Painter: gpainter@cdymca.org

March 18-20, 2008

The North American Camp Maintenance Conference
YMCA Camp Chingachgook on Lake George, NY
contact: George Painter: gpainter@cdymca.org

April 2, 2008

ACA Standards Course
Alexis Park Resort
Las Vegas, NV
Email: executive@acanorcal.org

April 2-5, 2008

ACA CampWest Conference
Alexis Park Resort - Las Vegas, NV
[More Information](#)

April 6-10, 2008

Basic Camp Directors Course (BCDC) Camp Henry Horner -
Chicago, IL
[More Information](#)

April 23, 2008

ACA ServSafe Certification Course
YMCA Camp Whittle - Fawnskin, CA
[More Information](#)

April 24, 2008

ACA Food Service Conference
YMCA Camp Whittle - Fawnskin, CA
[More Information](#)

April 25-27, 2008

Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (AEOE)
Statewide Conference: *UNLESS We Care*
Camp Hess Kramer - Malibu, CA
[More Information](#)

May 5-9, 2008 + May 10 Optional Certification Test

Challenge Course Training ([more info page 9 of newsletter](#))
Challenge Works partnering with Girl Scouts of Northern CA
Skylark Ranch near Santa Cruz, CA
register online at: www.challengeworks.com

May 24, 2008

ACA NAA Level 1 Archery Certification Course
Cheviot Hills Recreation Center - Los Angeles, CA
[More Information](#)

May 25, 2008

ACA NAA Level 1 Archery Certification Course
Woodley Park - Van Nuys, CA
[More Information](#)

May 31, 2008

ACA NAA Level 1 Archery Certification Course
San Diego, CA

Are You Prepared?

On January 17, the Northern California section hosted our Winter Conference at Camp Bothin in Fairfax. Northern California camp professionals gathered to hear our keynote speaker, Dan Gelinaeu, discuss crisis response planning and implementation.



Dan gave a great presentation, starting with lessons learned from recent natural disasters in our section and beyond. Discussing how camps and schools responded to fires and floods illustrated how proper preparation and implementation of a crisis plan can enable a camp to survive a crisis. Dan provided a few models of crisis response teams for organizations of various sizes, though his message was to find a structure that works for you; build your response team, educate and train your team members, then rehearse and practice your plan.

In the afternoon, Dan led a breakout session going into further detail of evacuation plans. He answered questions and helped tailor plans to individual camps needs. In another breakout session, Sari Van Otegham discussed another model of crisis response teams, and demonstrated a crisis drill, a wonderful training tool to use with your staff. Also, Sharon Kosch presented information on MRSA. What's MRSA? You will have to read the article on page 9 for important information on this topic!

Stay tuned to the the Northern California ACA website for more educational events and to help you prepare for another wonderful and safe summer!

Congratulations!

Camp Monte Toyon and the WOLF School have gone green!

This summer, Monte Toyon Camp and the Web of Life Field (WOLF) School were certified "green" by the Monterey Bay Area Green Business Program. Monte Toyon Camp has been a long time ACA accredited member camp. Great job Monte Toyon and the camp staff!

INTERESTED IN GOING GREEN? For your county's green business program or for one near you, you can visit <http://www.greenbiz.ca.gov/CountyCoordinators.html>.

MRSA:

Be prepared for this health problem in summer 2008

Sharon Kosch gave an excellent workshop on MRSA at the ACA Northern California Winter Conference. Here are a few tips:

What is MRSA?

MRSA is a type of staphylococcal (staph) infection that is resistant to most commonly used antibiotics. It is responsible for skin infections and occasionally severe invasive disease, transmitted primarily by contact with contaminated items and through direct physical contact. Most MRSA infections occur in medical facilities such as hospitals, however they are on the rise in community settings. Staph or MRSA infections in the community are usually manifested as skin infections, such as pimples and boils, and occur in otherwise healthy people.



How is it spread?

- Crowded conditions
- Direct contact with the skin
- Compromised skin - always keep wounds clean and covered
- Cleanliness problems
- Contaminated items or surfaces - wash towels & clothing with detergent

Are there any special risk factors?

Children and older people. Certain populations are also more susceptible, see 'More Resources' below for further information.

How is it treated?

- Draining the abscess
- May/may not require antibiotics-does respond to some medications
- Person with infection/lesions should seek medical treatment/screening.

How is it prevented?

- Good hygiene especially HAND WASHING
- Covering skin trauma--band aids
- Not sharing personal items (towels, razors, etc)

More resources?

- Center for Disease control www.cdc.gov
- California Department of Public Health www.cdph.ca.gov

OPEN ENROLLMENT TRAINING: Level 1 with Challenge Works

Working in partnership with the Girl Scouts of Northern California we'll be hosting a Level 1 Open Enrollment training from May 5-9 with the optional certification day scheduled for May 10th. More information regarding certification will be available after the 2008 ACCT Conference which is being held in Portland, OR from January 31 (Pre-conference day) until February 3rd. For more information on the conference check out the ACCT website, www.acct-info.org

This training will last 40 hours and cover the following:

Sample activity sequence and group experience
 Philosophical and conceptual approaches to the challenge course
 Facilitating
 Team challenges
 Debriefing
 Sequencing
 Set-up and take down
 Spotting
 Course components
 Course operations
 Daily inspection / knowledge
 Equipment inspection / knowledge



Instructor access
 Course set-up
 Course take-down
 Presenting the course
 Participant equipment
 Operating the course
 Pre-climb check - both climber and belayer
 Belaying
 Dynamic belay
 Static belay
 Transfers
 Specialty elements - AS APPROPRIATE TO TRAINING LOCATION
 Documentation

DATES: May 5-9, with optional certification exam on May 10th

TIME: Approximately 8:30AM-5:00PM each day with some evening hours required

LOCATION: Skylark Ranch (located in the Santa Cruz mountains)

Meals and Lodging are included in the price. Participants are required to stay on site as we'll have evening sessions throughout the course of the week. Additionally, there is great value to you as the participant to network with other members of the training group. We'll use meal times and evenings to build community within the training group...you won't want to miss out on that. Who's more fun to be around that the boys from Challenge Works?

Our Price: \$ 550 per person

Those of you who wish to take the certification exam there is an additional \$100 testing fee.

[Register online NOW](#)...when you get to the Challenge Works training page look for the "Register Online" button. Don't wait, space limited to 10 participants.

FREE PUBLICITY!!!

Feb 4 is the deadline for submitting your summer camp listing in the Marin Independent Journal.

Remember to include that your camp is ACA Accredited!

If your group or organization is planning on offering a summer camp program for kids, the IJ wants to know. A special Summer Camps Guide will be published Feb. 28 in IJ Weekend, and the listings will include everything from outdoor sports and theater to music and the arts.

Send the information by Feb. 4, including name of the camp, a brief description of what the camp offers, dates, times, location, age group of children served, and cost to: IJ Summer Camps, Lifestyles Dept., 150 Alameda del Prado, Novato 94948. You can send an e-mail to calendar@marinij.com or send a fax, Attn. IJ Summer Camps, to 884-1478. For more information, call 382-7282

Job Announcements

Resident Camp Director – YMCA Camp Jack Hazard is looking for an experienced Camp Administrator, to lead dynamic team for the summer in the Sierra Mountains at a Backpacking Camp. Please contact Phil McGovern at pmcgovern@ymcastan.org for more information, job posting and job description.

Associate Site Director, Grounds—Enchanted Hills Camp in Napa. This position is Full-Time, Ex-empt. Salary + Housing + Benefits. Equal Opportunity Employer. Visit our website at www.UCCR.org or contact Cynthia Diggs at 707/251-1548

Cook—Community of the Great Commission. Cook for our beautiful camp located in Foresthill (near Auburn, CA) Qualifications: 6 mo training and 1 year exp, or two years experience in cooking for large groups in camp or institutional setting. Hourly wage. Equal Opportunity Employer. Visit our website at www.UCCR.org or contact: Melissa @ (530) 367-2370.

Camp Tuolumne Trails, near Groveland is hiring for the following positions this summer: **Cooking staff, housekeeping, and lifeguards**. Camp Tuolumne Trails is a new facility. We will begin hiring throughout the season – lifeguard training is available. We are seeking upbeat, motivated individuals to support our mission and the groups we serve. Candidates must have customer service experience, and excellent references. Equal Opportunity Employer. Visit our website at www.UCCR.org or contact John: at 209/962-7534.

Village Leader / Assistant Director—Small (90 campers), coed, traditional, residential summer camp seeks male or female village leader. Position can be summer only, or transition to year-round employment as assistant director. Visit our website at www.campaugusta.org . Website has over 180 pages of information and

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