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## Calendar of Events

- **November 17th and January 5th Standards Training**  
**The Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council Office.**  
**Westfield, NJ (details inside)**
- **Holiday Party/Annual Meeting - Monday December 5 at Venetian Grill, Somerville**
- **Camp Fairs January 2006**
- **February 7—10, 2006**  
**ACA National Conference**  
**Chicago, IL**
- **March 9—11, 2006**  
**Tri-State Conference**  
**Atlantic City, NJ**

## Fun and Philanthropy at Hoe-Down

On a warm fall evening, members arrived at Camp Riverbend in Warren, to the upbeat sounds of a strumming banjo, laughter and the delicious smell of barbequed chicken. In their arms many carried children's books, stuffed animals or diabetic snacks, the reasons why, unfolded in the days after Katrina.

Immediately, in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, camps across the United States opened their doors to provide shelter and relief to evacuees. Amazed, but not surprised, at the efforts of camps in the South, our Professional Improvement Committee wanted to reach out and support their efforts.



Through contact with Wanda DeWaard, ACA Executive Director in the Heart of the South, I learned of the efforts of camp director Ray Cecil of the LA Lions Camp, in Leesville, Louisiana. Ray, his family and staff, responded immediately to the victims of Katrina by providing shelter and full use of the Lions Camp facilities in to evacuees from New Orleans.

When we asked Ray how we could help, he explained that his diabetic guests were in need of sugar-free snacks. To comfort the children and help occupy their minds, he agreed that Teddy Bears and beautiful, imaginative children's books were a winning combination. Usborne book Sales Supervisor, Lynn Coates and Tenna Block, Sales Manager for PLUSHPUPS, wholeheartedly agreed.

Lynn quickly coordinated a Hoe-Down Book Fair, donating her commission to the cause. Tenna secured a generous donation of Teddy Get Ready make-a-bear kits and stuffing from PLUSHPUPS. With Tenna's guidance, children and adults alike had a wonderful time stuffing Teddy Bears. Members wrote heartfelt messages inside cards that will accompany each Teddy Bear into the arms of a waiting child. A generous donation from Camp Horizon helped cover the shipping costs.

Two days after the Hoe-Down, Ray's camp sustained a direct hit from Hurricane Rita. He lost one building, many trees and all power for over a week. Fortunately, no one was hurt.

On Monday, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Ray received six boxes containing diabetic snacks, 65 Teddy Bears and over 100 children's books! In Ray's words, "When the levees broke and the continuous outpouring of news from New Orleans, was all bad, I remember telling some of the evacuees that a little ways down the road, things will turn around and that we would start seeing and hearing good news, which we have. The sharing from New Jersey is part of that good news, and is part of what camp is all about."

Continued on page 6...

## ACA NJ Section Board of Directors

<b>Bob Jones</b>	President	908-735-8336
<b>Jerry Waldron</b>	Past President	732-821-9155
<b>Colleen Rountree</b>	Vice President	908-537-4594
<b>Ruth Hall</b>	Treasurer	908-725-1226
<b>Nancy Walters</b>	Secretary	856-697-3900
<b>Geraldine Bownick</b>	Historian	732-774-2768
<b>Peggy Mellors</b>	Standards Chair	908-232-3236
<b>Carol Bruno</b>	Member at Large	732-390-6797
<b>Scott Lantzman</b>	Member at Large	973-597-3699
<b>Tom Riddleberger</b>	Complaints Resolution Chair	973-635-2300
<b>Dave Parfitt</b>	Member at Large	908-832-5315
<b>Wendy Saiff</b>	Member at Large	973-663-2732
<b>Gina Stravic</b>	Member at Large	732-257-4114

## President's Message

Dear Fellow Members,

During October the Board will be evaluating the Section's 2005 goals and establishing goals for 2006. Should you have any suggestions, please forward them to Mary Ellen.

This is a busy time of year for the Section. Keep in mind that the nominating committee will be presenting a slate for the coming year. With help from National you will be able to vote electronically for the first time. The professional improvement committee has a terrific meeting planned for November 1 and the hospitality committee is busy planning for our annual meeting on December 5. Now that Tri-State has returned to NJ we are anticipating a large turn-out of NJ camps. Spread the word to your colleagues. Your support and attendance is very important to the success of these events and to the section.

Bob Jones, President

## Standards Update Accreditation News

**Camps Visited in 2005** – Score results and accreditation notification letters will be mailed the first week of November.

### **Camps to be Visited in 2006**

- Camps to be accredited for the first time or
- If your last visit was the summer of 2003

Check your mail – the registration form for the Standards Course is on the way. Each camp being visited must have a person who has attended this course.

If you are interested in becoming an Associate Visitor you will also need to attend this course. To register contact Mary Ellen at the ACA Section office.

The course is being offered on November 17<sup>th</sup> and repeated on January 5<sup>th</sup> at The Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council office in Westfield, NJ from 9:00 to 2:00 pm. Lunch is provided.

**Want to be a Standards Visitor?** We are currently gath-

## Annual Holiday Party



ACA Members, Friends, and Staff

Monday, December 5th  
6:00 - 9:00 pm  
Venetian Grille  
128 Main Street  
Somerville, NJ. 08876

Join us for an evening of fun, fellowship and festivities. Accreditation recognitions, Awards, "I Believe" Silent Auction and Raffle, Presentation of new officers, and much more. Bring your significant other and your co-workers. Registration form enclosed.

## Camp Fairs

For the second year ACA-NJ will be sponsoring camp fairs around the state. The fairs this year will be held on Saturdays and Sundays in January in the following locations:

- Saturday, January 14 at the Holiday Inn in Jamesburg
- Sunday, January 15 at the Bridgewater Marriott;
- Sunday 22 at the Teaneck Marriott at Glenpointe
- Saturday, January 28 at the Prime Hotel & Suites in Fairfield; and
- Sunday, January 29 at the Ramada Inn and Conference Center in East Hanover.

All fairs are from Noon to 4 p.m.; the public is invited to attend free of charge. All attending families receive a booklet summarizing the programs of all participating camps and how the camps may be contacted. If you did not receive registration information or you have additional questions please contact Barbara Rubin 732-469-8910 or [BKRubin@aol.com](mailto:BKRubin@aol.com) Check out the camp fair web site at [www.acanjsummercampfairs.org](http://www.acanjsummercampfairs.org)



## Bits and Pieces

### For Sale

Skateboard equipment -contact Bob Jones (908)735-8336 /winnesday@ptd.net

### Camp Health Person

Summer 2006 day camp staff RN/EMT Bob Jones (908)735-8336/winnesday@ptd.net

### Outdoor Program Specialist / Resident Camp Director

Seeking team-oriented individual to develop, promote and provide on-site direction and administration of ACA accredited Resident Camp. Ability to work flexible hours including weekends and evenings. Hiring Range: \$27,800 – \$32,800 with generous benefits. Send resume to: Girl Scouts of Limberlost Council, 2135 Spy Run Ave, Fort Wayne, IN 46805



## Call for Volunteers

The American Camp Association needs you! Your voice, experience, expertise, and energy are crucial to the future of ACA. Become a volunteer and help guide your association community by working on various committees and task forces that advise the national and local boards and influence the services and products ACA offers and the directions in which the association is moving.

Please let us know your areas of interest by completing a very short interest form at: [www.ACAcamps.org/volunteers/volunteerform.php](http://www.ACAcamps.org/volunteers/volunteerform.php). Your information will be made available to your local section executive but will be protected and not provided for public use.

The range of volunteer experiences available is very diverse and provides opportunities to serve and influence in every area of the association, at both the local and national levels. Participating as a volunteer also offers you the chance to develop and practice your leadership skills, expand your professional network, and help your profession.

Volunteers, like you, are the core of ACA's success. Without the hard work, dedication, leadership, and knowledge that our volunteers bring to the association, ACA could not be the influence it is in the camp profession nor the field of human development. We look forward to hearing your voice and to your valued participation in the American Camp Association.

Best regards,  
Ann Sheets  
President, ACA

## Volunteer Opportunity...

Do you have experience and talent with graphic design and layout?? A volunteer is need to assist with the graphic layout of our quarterly newsletter. All written content will be provided, I need your help to make us look our best. Please call me, at 877-488-2267. Mary Ellen Folsom, Section Executive.

### Fun and Philanthropy at Hoe-Down continued from page 1

Thanks to each and every member who supported our partnership with the LA Lions Camp. I will be staying in touch with Ray and with you as recovery continues. - Mary Ellen Folsom



Al Anderson, a member of the Rutherford Police Dept. shared his personal experiences as a volunteer in New Orleans relief efforts.

ACA members, Jeremy Berse, Alicia Hanson, and Ruth Hall stuff bears donated by Teddy Get Ready.



Books, bears and diabetic snacks waiting to be mailed to Louisiana.

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