



Calendar of Events

◆ **State of the Garden State**

April 17th, 9:30-3:00. Register at www.acacampsnj.org

◆ **New Director Orientation**

May 7th, 9:30am-5:30 pm, Livingston, NJ

Learn more and register at www.acacampsnj.org

◆ **Associate Visitor Course**

April 5th-6th, 2008

Brewster, NY

contact Alex at 800-777-2267

or

April 14th-15th Bushkill, PA

contact Tim Nielsen at

t.nielsen@sandycove.org

◆ **Standards Course**

April 14th Bushkill, PA

Contact Tim Nielsen at

t.nielsen@sandycove.org

◆ **ACA-NJ Board Meeting**

April 30th, 10-1pm,

All Members Welcome.

G.S. of the Jersey Shore,

Program Activity Center,

Farmingdale, NJ 07727

In This Issue

- ◆ NJ Delegates Report on ACA (cover story)
- ◆ President's Message p.2
- ◆ New Camp Skin Cancer Intervention Program p.2
- ◆ George Novick honored at Tri-State p.3
- ◆ New Directors Orientation p.3
- ◆ Accreditation Visit Tips p.4
- ◆ State of the Garden State p.4
- ◆ Council of Delegates Report p.5
- ◆ ACA Partners With Outdoor Ethics Group p.5
- ◆ Pre-Camp Staff Training Dates p.6/7

NJ Delegates Report Major Changes At ACA

The February assembly of the ACA Council of Delegates in Nashville was unlike any in recent memory as the national board sought input from all 24 ACA sections regarding a dramatic new proposal for ACA governance.

The association's new 20/20 mission goal – to increase the number of campers nationwide from 10 to 20 million and to increase professional participation in ACA to 20,000 by the year 2020 – is going to take a monumental effort by every segment of ACA. Our current governance structure was not designed for such a task, so changes must be made.

The national Board had been receiving input for several months on its proposed restructuring, but it wasn't until the 140 ACA delegates met for two days in Nashville that broad input from every section of the country was heard comprehensively.

It all boiled down to the realization that too few youth attend camp in our country, that too few camps are accredited and too few people are aware of the value of the camp experience. To correct this -- to reach the 20/20 goals – is a huge undertaking.

Tweaking the structure of ACA governance isn't enough. So the new structure – debated by the delegates and approved by the Board of Directors – changes the Board from one made up almost exclusively of camp professionals into one with a large number of nationally prominent members of the public – business leaders, marketing experts, media dynamos, youth development executives – who know that camp is an essential experience for all youth and who have the means and the ability to change the way our country views camp.

There is now an action plan to match our dream and it's kicking into gear at this moment. If you've been frustrated that we never seem to get the camp message out to enough people, if you believe that every child should be able to go to camp, then you should watch this 20/20 plan very closely, including ways that you can get involved. This is big stuff.

Your NJ Section delegates – Judy Trigg, Scott Lantzman, Bob Jones and Tom Riddleberger – along with our Section Executive Mary Ellen Folsom – attended this watershed meeting in Nashville and would be pleased to speak with you more about this. You'll also find information on the national ACA website and in upcoming ACA publications and e-mails.

Submitted by Tom Riddleberger

National Convention Delegate and ACA-NJ Board President

President's Message

We've just come back from the Tri-State Camp Conference, a huge community of camp professionals where we made new friendships and renewed many old ones. It's invigorating and gives us an energy boost as we return home to make final preparations for the summer season.

As much as I love Tri-State, it can feel like a crazy montage of sound bites, quick conversations, lots of "we'll have to get together sometime", fast-moving videos and bright lights. Nevertheless, Tri-State is an important community in the lives of camp professionals, the ultimate community builders.

What we most have in common – these 2,000 plus Tri-State attendees – is our expertise as builders of values-centered communities for our campers and staff. While the world at large seems to be in a mad rush to tear apart the fabric of its communities, what we provide is, in contrast, life affirming and world changing.

We come to Tri-State - the big event - to strengthen our skills and reaffirm that what we do has support outside of just our individual camps. But we don't want to forget that an important part of our camp world is our own ACA-NJ Section, where the scale is less overwhelming than a huge conference and where we can return to our reliable friends and colleagues for ideas, support and friendship, year in and year out.

I hope that ACA-NJ feels like a community to you and that you have found your place in it. If not, then I hope we'll connect with you during the coming year to see what we can do for you and to help you find a way to do something for others. We have many wonderful volunteers working selflessly to carry out the mission and programs of our section, but we won't be the kind of community we want to be until all of our members have found their place.

You don't have to wait. Give me a call or contact Mary Ellen at our section office. We'd love to hear what's on your mind and help you partake of all ACA-NJ has to offer. In the meantime, best wishes as you work long days and nights to make the upcoming summer the best one ever. What great work we do! What a difference we are making!

Tom Riddleberger
President, ACA-NJ Section
tom@campuskids.com
973-845-9260

Here Comes the Sun

We are seeking summer camp programs to participate in SCREEN—the Skin Cancer Reduction Early Education Network—a valuable intervention program which will run this summer. This is an innovative sun safety program sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and New Jersey's Office of Cancer Control and Prevention. The camps we are looking for should be located in the following counties: Cape May; Ocean, Monmouth, Morris, Sussex, Warren and Hunterdon. The main objective of SCREEN is to increase sun safe knowledge and behaviors in children and summer camp staff members.

Participants will receive free sun-safe marketing materials to be used at each camp location. These may include informational posters, sun-safe reminder signs, t-shirts, temporary tattoos, and A-frame signs showing the daily UV-level. Camp staff will be trained on how to use social marketing techniques and how to provide sun-safe lessons for children. SCREEN staff will conduct on-site assessments prior to the program launch and once again after program completion to determine the intervention's effectiveness. This assessment will include observing and interviewing patrons on their sun-safe behaviors.

For more information on SCREEN contact Dr. Steven Godin, 908-439-2482; Marc Katz, 908-237-7159; or Deb Levinson, MPA, 732-418-3232.



Wild
FLOUR

We design unique cakes.

973-857-7418
www.CakesbyWildflour.com

A portion of every Wildflour sale goes to the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

New Jersey Tri-State Award Honoree

George Novick, retired owner/director of Mill Road Day Camp, was honored at the 2008 Tri-State Camp Conference for his dedication, hard work and long standing commitment to the camping profession and ACA.

One of our most skilled and enthusiastic veterans, George first became involved in camping way back in 1961.

His 1972 move from New York to New Jersey brought him to Mill Road Day Camp in South Brunswick, where he became an owner/director just five years later. He successfully continued in that role until his retirement last year.

George has been an incredible asset to the section for the amount of work he has done over the last 20 years, and the skills that went along with it. His contributions have included making a significant improvement to our accounting procedures as section treasurer, helping to successfully transition the Tri-State Camp Conference from New York to Atlantic City, organizing an effective phone campaign to increase New Jersey Tri-State participation, and providing unmatched hospitality assistance to conference attendees. As a member of the Tri-State Steering Committee, George also helped negotiate a new agreement among the three sponsoring Tri-State sections.

George taught middle school social studies in New York City for 32 years. He retired from teaching in 1996. He was also a coordinator of the magnet admissions program at his school, and served as a union delegate and a union chapter chairperson for 15 years.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, George and his wife Beverly currently reside in Pennsylvania. George and Beverly have been married for 43 years. They enjoy spending as much time as possible with their adorable three year old grandson, their daughter Sari, her husband Howard and their son David and his wife Danielle.



Harold Breene introduces George Novick Tri-State Award Honoree

Is There a Way to Brush Up on Camp Management?

Glad You Asked.

New Directors Orientation is Planned for Early May

Q: Is the camping experience new to you?

Q: Are you a supervisor who has just hired a new team member to fulfill a leadership position at your camp?

Q: Are you returning to the camp arena after an extended absence?

A: Attend the New Directors Orientation. This is an educational opportunity aimed at seasonal or new camp directors, assistant directors, program directors, or other administrative personnel. It is an interactive ACA National course providing an overview on key aspects of the camp director's job. The course covers core areas with special focus on leadership, risk management, camper behavior, staff training, recruitment, and staff supervision.

The New Directors Orientation is being taught by Scott Lantzman and Sue Goldberg, Sue and Scott are seasoned camp professionals with many years of experience in both day and resident camp operations. They will share their experiences and review what needs to be done to get camps operating at peak performance. They will introduce you to many of the tools needed to develop your team and improve your own management skills. This one-day orientation will prepare you to think clearly and openly about what is needed to get firmly on the road to this coming camp season—even if you need to modify your ideas from the past. It will also allow you to network with colleagues. Participants will engage in small- and large-group activities throughout the course.

The course will be held at the Geshar Summer Program (at the Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy, 110 South Orange Avenue, Livingston, NJ 07039) on Wednesday, May 7, 2008, from 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required. See the insert in this newsletter or register on-line at www.acacampsnj.org. The cost, which includes materials and lunch, is \$55 for ACA members, and \$65 for non-ACA members.

Questions? Please contact Scott Lantzman, Professional Development Chair, 973-597-3699/director@GesharFun.org

Great Tips for Your ACA-Accreditation Visit!

1. Make sure you have the most recent version of the Standards and all the updates! To print all the updates go to: <http://www.acacamps.org/accreditation/hyes.php>.
2. *READ your Accreditation Process Guide!* By this we mean, read through all of the applicability boxes, the fine print and interpretations. Contact your Lead Visitor with any questions, or call the section standards chair (see below).
3. Make sure that the person who is preparing your materials and meeting with the visitors the day of the visit has attended a Standards Course! Contact Mary Ellen in the Section Office for course dates.
4. Organize and document! Organize and document! Answer the questions! Organize and document!
5. Divide and conquer— involve key staff members as you prepare for the visit. Include your maintenance and kitchen staff for the site/ food service section and your program director to help with the various program areas, etc.!

Questions??? Contact NJ Section Standards chairpersons: Judy Trigg at 908-362-8217 or Wendy Saiff at 973-846-381 or 973-663-2732

Keep This # Handy ACA Camp Crisis Hotline

The ACA Camp Crisis Hotline is a 24 hour a day service to all ACA camps. The Hotline serves as a resource for camps in crisis and provides callers the opportunity to talk through their crisis with a trained third-party. While the hotline is not a medical nor legal "expert" call line – it can help you think through your issues and discuss options.

Contact the Hotline anytime at
800-573-9019.

What: State of the Garden State

When: April 17th, 2008,

Where: Camp Kiddie Keep Well,
Edison, NJ

Come to State of the Garden State and hear speakers from New Jersey statewide departments, the American Red Cross, and private companies share their expertise and most up-to-date information on a variety of important topics. It's a veritable who, what, where, why and when of summer camping!



Topics include ACA Standards and NJ State Regulations, Red Cross Certifications, EPI-Pen usage, fire safety, food codes ... and what's going on in Trenton. Learn about the exciting developments that will exempt NJ ACA Accredited Camps from state and local health inspections.

Choose from a variety of sessions that will be of interest to you. If you'd like, bring along some staff members so that, in essence, you cover all the sessions on behalf of your camp!

For more information and to register, please visit:
www.acacampsnj.org

Thank you Markel Insurance, for sponsoring this wonderful event!

MARKEL INSURANCE COMPANY

american **CAMP** association
Mission Partner

Partnering to create a better camp experience

COD, Today, Tomorrow... and Beyond 2008 NJ Delegates Report, Part II

It's a heck of a challenge, but I know we can handle it. What am I talking about? Well, not since Campaign '07 was initiated in 2002 has the Council of Delegates (COD) had so many important issues to consider at once for all ACA sections and their members.

Here's a sampling:

- The National Standards Commission asked the COD to engage in critical discussions on the availability of AEDs at camp. Although no decision was reached, it is likely that the COD will take action in 2009 that will revise the current standard and require camps to have AEDs.
- With more and more children playing less outdoors and losing touch with nature and outside activities, a public policy position statement on the issue was approved by the Board in December 2007 and discussed at the COD meeting. More to follow.
- "Dreams about the future of the camp experience" was a very intriguing and important topic presented to us which required several small group discussions.
- The National Board asked attendees to start thinking about what the COD might look like in the future. No decisions were made, with the exception that it will be the COD and not the National Board that will decide the council's future. [Please see the Notes posted on <http://acacamps.org/volunteers/delegatescould> for more information.]

Stay tuned for more COD news, issues and decisions by reading the articles in the Camping Magazine and checking back with the ACA website from time to time.

Bob Jones-2008 Delegate

DEALING WITH DIFFICULT BEHAVIOR

The Girls Scouts are offering this workshop designed to help handle difficult behaviors in children presented by Susan Fee, M.Ed. The cost is \$5 per person.

Date: June 2, 2008

Time: Session I: 10:30 AM-12:00 PM (adults only)

Session II: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM (adults and girls 14+)

Session III: 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM (girls only 5-13 Yrs)

Place: 127 Yellowbrook Rd., Farmingdale, NJ.

Registration form available on www.acacampsnj.org

ACA and Leave No Trace

The ACA and the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics have a unique partnership to promote responsible enjoyment and active stewardship of the outdoors. This partnership provides ACA members with a host of opportunities to provide environmental awareness for your campers.

- Plan a PEAK (Promoting Environmental Awareness in Kids) Program
- Host an Awareness Workshop for your staff
- Grant Opportunities for Camps from Leave No Trace
- Request a visit by the Traveling Trainers
- Discounts on Leave No Trace materials for ACA members – receive up to a 20% discount on Leave No Trace materials

For more information about the partnership and additional information on Leave No Trace please visit <http://www.acacamps.org/education/oe.php>

SCOPE Dinner Is A Huge Success

This year's SCOPE (Summer Camp Provides an Edge) Dinner at Tri-State raised a record setting amount of money to send economically disadvantaged children to camp. The event brought in \$200,000 which will send 400 children to accredited camps in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware in the summer of 2008.



A donation of \$500 sends a child to a non-profit resident camp for a two week session and gives that child an experience that would otherwise be unachievable. To make a donation or to find out more information go to www.scope-ny.org.

A great big THANK YOU to each and every NJ member who attended the SCOPE dinner and contributed to the phenomenal fundraising success of the evening.

PRE-CAMP STAFF TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES – SPRING 2008

As additional postings become available they will be listed on our website
www.acacampsnj.org under the Training Calendar link.

Lifeguard Training

Camp Riverbend, Warren
908-580-CAMP – robin@campriverbend.com
June 22nd - 27th 1:00-6:00 pm
Fee: Call for details

Camp Sacajawea, Farmingdale
Joan Basilotto jbasilotto@girlscoutsjs.org or
call 732-938-5454 x127

Barbara at bacruz@girlscoutsjs.com or
Call 732-938-5454 x156

Saturday, May 31st, 9am – 5pm

Sunday, June 1st, 9am – 5pm

Monday, June 2nd, 6pm – 10pm

Tuesday, June 3rd 6pm – 10pm

Wednesday, June 4th 6pm – 10pm

Thursday, June 5th 6pm – 10pm

Fee: \$250.00

Bring: bathing suit, towel, change of clothes, paper
and pen, water bottle and meals and/or snacks.

Course includes ARC First Aid, CPR and AED,
classroom and pool time, books and certificates.

JCC MetroWest N.J. –West Orange
April 28th – May 18th, Sun. 9:30am – 5:30pm &
Wed, 6pm – 10pm
Fee: \$240M/\$280 Guest

Camp Deeny Riback Aquatics School- Flanders
June 15-9am-5pm & June 16-19 – 12pm to 8pm

Lifeguard Instructor Class - Fee: \$250M/\$290 Guest
June 16-19 – 12pm to 8pm WSI is NOT included.
973-929-2772 or dmcnamara@jccmetrowest.org
Fee: \$240M/\$280 Guest

Lifeguard Management Course

Raritan Bay Area YMCA
American Red Cross Training
Middlesex County College
732-442-3632 www.rbaymca.org
Monday, April 21st 5:00 – 9:00 pm
Thursday, April 24th 5:00 – 9:00 pm
Fee: \$150

Lifeguard Update Course

Raritan Bay Area YMCA
American Red Cross Training
Middlesex County College Fee: \$185
732-442-3632 www.rbaymca.org
Pre-test Tues. April 1st @ 4:30 pm
Classes: Tues: April 22nd, 29th @ 4:30-8:30pm
Tues. May 6th, 13th @ 4:30-8:30pm

Lifeguard Re-Certification Course:

Camp Sacajawea, Farmingdale
Joan Basilotto jbasilotto@girlscoutsjs.org or call 732-
938-5454 x127 or Barbara at bacruz@girlscoutsjs.org
732-938-5454 x156
Thursday, June 5, 2008
6pm – 10pm
Fee: \$75.00
Bring bathing suit, towel, change of clothes, paper
and pen, water bottle
Course includes ARC CPR, classroom and pool time
and certificates.

WSI -FIT Course

Winnwald Day Camp, Lebanon (heated pool)
908-735-7334 or ccrane7334@embarqmail.com
Friday June 6th - 4 pm - 8 pm / Sat. 7th - 10 am –
5pm
Sun. June 8th – 11 am - 5 pm
Fee: \$125. Must attend all classes

JCC MetroWest N.J. –West Orange/Whippany and
Camp Deeny Riback Aquatics School – Flanders
WSI & FIT 973-929-2772 or
dmcnamara@jccmetrowest.org

Whippany- March 30 (FIT) April 6 & 13 – 12pm -
6pm Tues. April 1 – 15 & Thurs. April 3 to 17 - 5:30
- 9pm

West Orange – Sun. April 16 (FIT) May 4, 11, 18 &
June 1 - 9:30am-1:30pm & Wed. May 7, 14, 21, 28
& June 4- 5 -9pm

Flanders, Camp Deeny Riback - June 15 - 19 from
9:00 am -5:00pm
Fee: \$300M/\$350Guest

Challenge Courses

Low Ropes

Camp Sacajawea, Farmingdale

732-938-5454 x127

Friday, May 16th 6:00pm – 10:00pm

Saturday, May 17th 8:00am – 6:00pm

Fee: \$175.00

Bring bag lunch, water bottle, water bottle, paper and pen, long pants, hat and comfortable sneakers or boots.

High Challenge Course

Lord Sterling School, Basking Ridge

April 24-25 / May 8-9 9am – 3pm

908-766-1786 x 119 or outdoors@lordstirling.org

Fee: \$180 – Lunch included

Certified Pool Operator

Pool Operation Management

The National Certification Course

Courses located throughout NJ, NY, Mass, CT, NH, ME, and PA

Call 732-451-1040 or register on line at www.pooloperationmanagement.com credit cards accepted.

Fee: \$295 – early registration (includes shipping of CPO book prior to class)

\$320 – late registration (within 2 weeks of class)

Boating Safety Course

15 years & older

Camp Sacajawea, Farmingdale

732-938-5454 x127

Wednesday, June 11th 5:00pm – 9:00pm

Fee: \$50.00

Bring bathing suit, towel, change of clothes, paper and pen, water bottle, and meals/snacks. Course includes classroom and lake time, books and certificates.

Wilderness First Aid including CPR

SOLO, May 17-18th

Mohican Outdoor Center, NJ 908-362-5670

Mohican@mindspring.com

Several PA and NY locations listed on SOLO website at www.soloschools.com

Fee: Call or email for prices

Rocketry

Winnwald Day Camp, Lebanon

Rocket Age Enterprises, 908-439-3559

Wednesday June 18th 5pm-7pm

rocketage@patmedia.net

Fee: \$25 ACA member - \$40 non ACA-member

Archery Certification:

Camp Sacajawea, Farmingdale

Joan Basilotto jbasilotto@girlscoutsjs.org or call

732-938-5454 x127 or Barbara

bcruz@girlscoutsjs.org 732-938-5454 x156

Sunday, April 13, 8:00am – 6:00pm

Bring: Lunch, beverage and water bottle, paper and pencil. Dress for both indoor and outdoor weather. Course includes classroom and fieldwork, certificates, all course materials and archery equipment will be provided.

Fee: \$175.00

New Jersey Health and Safety Institute

Pinelands Center @ Mt. Misery – Burlington County

609-267-9595

www.healthandsafetyinstitute.org

June 13-22

Aquatics Instructor Level, Aquatics Instructor re-entry, crossover/upgrade/orientation, Aquatics basic, Aquatics basic review and challenge, CPR and First Aid Instructor level, CPR and First Aid Instructor Level re-entry/crossover courses and CPR, First Aid Basic level and review courses, Babysitter Instructor Course, and Health and Safety Services Management Seminar

Fees vary please call or visit the web site

Have you enrolled in the Healthy Camp Study? Why wait?

Ever wondered how your camp's illness and injury rates compare with other camps?

Would you like to learn strategies for reducing injuries and illnesses at your camp?

Getting involved in ACA's Healthy Camp Study of camp injuries and illnesses can provide you with these answers and more. There's still time to enroll if your camp can participate in the study for the next three summers.

The purpose of this multi-year study is to monitor illness and injury among campers and staff at U.S. summer camps, so that preventive strategies can be identified and integrated into camps.

ANY day or resident camp may participate (both ACA and non-ACA camps). Each camp receives an annual confidential report of their own camp data as well as a copy of the national data report for their type of camp (day or resident). Your individual camp's data is strictly confidential and is never reported to anyone but you. No insurance company knows your camp's data; ACA does not have your camp's data. Only you and the academic research team (at Ohio State University) have that information.

Participation in this study involves about 20 minutes of a summer staff person's time per week to complete an online survey about camp illnesses and injuries. There is no cost to you.

To see how the study works or to enroll, visit www.ACAcamps.org/research/healthycamp.php.

The Healthy Camp Study is funded through the generosity of Markel Insurance Company

Questions about the study can be directed to Dr. Barry A. Garst (bgarst@ACAamps.org) or Sheila Dannemiller (sdannemiller@ACAamps.org). You may also contact Tom Riddleberger (tom@campuskids.com), our section president

The Jersey CAMPER is published by The NJ Section of the American Camp Association 877- 488 -2267
Executive Director, Mary Ellen Folsom, executive@ACAampsnj.org P.O. Box 672 Pittstown, NJ 08867.
Special thanks to volunteer editor, Joel Samberg and layout artist Rich Sheer



American Camp Association
New Jersey Section
P.O. Box 672
Pittstown, NJ 08867