



News In Brief

December 11, 2009

EDUCATION & TRAINING

NEED HELP CONVINCING THE POWERS THAT BE THAT YOU SHOULD GO?

- Quality, professional conference (raises the bar above “so what do you do the rest of the year?”)
- No airline ticket needed (saves money, travel time, stress)
- Pre-Conference sessions will include New Director Orientation, Standards, Camp Tecumseh Tour and more! (nothing like added value to a great professional development opportunity!)
- Thirty six plus educational topics covering a wide variety of interests- day camp tract, technology, programming, facilities, children & nature, risk management, administration and much more. Topics to meet a variety of positions– Directors, Program staff, Facility, Food Service, Health & Wellness, Youth Workers/Counselors (don't we all want more knowledge)
- Exhibit hall of 70+ vendors representing an expanded variety of products and services (start your shopping now!)
- Expanded networking opportunities- attendees will include Indiana Parks & Recreation Association members, American Camp Association Indiana members, as well as professionals in youth development, out-of-school-time, environmental/outdoor education, natural resources, students and more. (discover some new partnerships)
- Exciting theme of “Wellness Through The Ages” will capitalize on the history of our location, as well as the historical contributions of members of the industry and direction for the future. (Wellness for ourselves, our staff, our campers/clientele)
- Pinewood Derby... Evening Social in the Recreation Center...need we say more about FUN? (ok, this might not be influential to the budget but all work and no play makes for stressed staff)
- CEU's available for educational sessions (help keep your certifications up to date) deadline December 18th.... <http://www.inpra.org/conference.html>

TECH TIPS

ACA has partnered with Xerox FreeColorPrinters to provide eligible ACA camps with a free color printer.

The Xerox FreeColorPrinters program helps camp leaders inform, educate, and entertain campers and their families using cost-effective, vivid, color-printed materials.

<http://www.freecolorprinters.com/default.cfm>

(ACA)

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The 10th annual AYS Mardi Gras Mambo, presented by AYS, Inc., will take place on February 13 in Indianapolis and Noblesville.

The AYS Mardi Gras Mambo is a multicultural parade celebrating Central Indiana children and families. A new theme is chosen each year. This year's theme, Karneval, commemorates the German “Season of Fools.”

The parade began in 2001 on the sidewalks of Massachusetts Avenue in Indianapolis and was an opportunity for children in AYS afterschool programs to showcase the multicultural arts that they had studied. Over the years, community groups, local businesses and floats have joined the celebration, making the AYS Mardi Gras Mambo an exciting winter event.

www.ayskids.org/mardigras

(Office of faith based and community initiatives)

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Kroger funds a **wide range of nonprofits** in communities where Kroger grocery stores are located.

Grant range: varies.
Deadline: none.

<http://www.thekrogerco.com/corpnews>
(Indiana Youth Institute)

MGMT & LEADERSHIP

Excerpt from Trouble at the Top
Case Study No. 4: FAILING TO USE THE BOARD
What's wrong: The chief executive fails to use the time, talent, and treasure of the board for constructive purposes.

Why this is a problem: As the authors of Governance as Leadership have observed, board members provide necessary capital to organizations: intellectual, reputational, political, and social capital. An organization that is not using its board productively is missing out on opportunities. The board of directors and the chief executive are members of a team, with a shared responsibility to achieve the mission of the organization. When the team is not working together effectively, the organization's results and reputation can suffer.

By Katha Kissman. 73 pages. 2009. (#370) \$34.00 members; \$51.00 nonmembers <http://jtyler.bmdeda2.com/c/l?A1-539702758>

(Board Source)

RISK MGMT/ STANDARDS

A critical part of maintaining ACA accreditation is submission of the **Annual Statement of Compliance** - your affirmation of your camp's compliance with laws and regulations, and ACA standards and ethics. *Besides being a requirement for camps to maintain their ACA accreditation, the [Statement of Compliance](#) is additional evidence of your commitment to providing quality camp experiences for your campers and staff.*

For your convenience, you may fill out the form online at our Web site at www.ACACamps.org/soc.

You will need your user name and your password. Please have the person responsible for the operation of each camp in the ACA-accreditation program submit this form immediately.

If this critical document is NOT received by December 31, your ACA Accreditation will be removed! If you would prefer to have a paper copy of the form sent to you, please let us know at rmickelson@ACACamps.org.



ACA continues efforts to fund the Outdoor Advertising Association of America, Inc. (OAAA) national public service partnership. To date, we have received commitments from eighteen of the twenty-four sections, for a total of \$23,800 (equating to approximately 68 billboards). In addition, ACA has received approximately 26 billboards through individual donations. Support ACA's efforts to share the message: Camp - It's Good for Life!

<http://www.acacamps.org/becauseofcamp/billboards/>

GREEN SPOKEN HERE

Leave No Trace Education is now brought to you in a multitude of platforms. Attend a [workshop](#). Read a [blog](#). Watch an [instructional video](#). Take an [online course](#). Our goal is to continue to adapt the ways that we offer programming, and increase both the number and diversity of Leave No Trace community members.

When you are faced with disposing of human waste on the lands you enjoy or manage, do you know where to turn for resources and strategies you trust? Look no further... The Education Department tackles this issue with a nationwide focus.

<http://leavenotracecommunity.blogspot.com/2009/12/dear-education-department-disposing-of.html>

<http://www.lnt.org/training/educationaltraining.php>



SITE & FACILITY

Going Gaga – “I very much enjoyed both of your sessions at November’s YMCA Key Leaders conference. I’ve been a board member and volunteer for Mystic Lake Camp for over thirty years. I was a camper and counselor there back in the 1940’s. A couple of years ago Ricky Wright came back from one of your conference talks and said we needed a Ga-Ga pit at camp. I had never heard of one but some web surfing showed many models from all over the world.

“When I count my blessings, I count you twice.” —Irish Proverb

I found a site showing kids having a grand time with a Ga-Ga pit made up of 2”x6” planks just staked in the ground. (Print out Gary’s drawings and rules at <http://www.garyforster.com/library.php>). With 2 foot high walls even the smallest kids can step over, and the benches on top are a good height for sitting and talking to friends.

Several of our pits are on paved surfaces so we put 2”x4” lifts around the bottom so it’s easy to sweep sand and dirt from the pit. (Now THAT’s clever! – Gary). The eight foot sections are easy to prefab and transport. Fun and friends for under \$200.” – Bill Turney, Lansing MI

(Gary’s Camping Newsletter)

HEALTH & WELLNESS/ FOOD SERVICE

In response to an inquiry from another section about states trying to collect taxes on beds/meals, Rich Swartwood of Pyoca Camp, Conference and Retreat Center had the following response- Thanks for sharing:

We had the Department of Revenue visit us about 5 years ago looking for nickels, specifically regarding unrelated business income.... They were looking for bed/meal tax for all **for-profit** organizations that we were serving (there were only 8 at the time)... My board voted at the time to no longer serve for profit organizations, and focus our ministry on non-profits... Yes, Indiana can collect meal/bed tax for for-profits... they haven’t yet, but it is coming.

See Information bulletin #10 regarding sales tax...

My former program director is now an auditor with the Indiana Department of Revenue... I posed the hypothetical question to him recently, and he did verify that yes, if we do serve for profits, we need to be collecting tax for for-profit groups (which incidentally does include family reunions...)

PROGRAMMING

The American Canoe Association has posted 7 of it’s most popular safety education videos on Vimeo for public viewing.

To find the videos, the easiest way is to go to www.americancanoe.org/additionalresources

You can also go to vimeo.com and search American Canoe Association to find them.

Titles posted include:

- Lifejackets Float. Do You? (Winner of a 2009 Telly Award)
- SmartStart for Paddlers

- A Guide to Paddling - Coastal Kayaking
- A Guide to Paddling - Whitewater Kayaking
- A Guide to Paddling - Whitewater Rafting
- It’s Your Turn (a defensive boating primer)
- Decide to Return

You can order DVD quality copies from the ACA. 540.907.4460 x107

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The [Youth F.I.L.M. Project](#) has released curriculum for the Blind Side, a film that tells the true story of All-American football star Michael Oher. Use it to inspire youth in your organization to overcome obstacles. [Click here.](#)

(National Assembly)

A Preview of Free Training Opportunities in January 2010

When all of those holiday cookies and fruit cakes have seen the bottom of your stomach (or the trash can if New Year's resolutions kick in on schedule), it will be time to turn your attention to two activities:

- Following up with your lovely 2009 donors and supporters
- Looking ahead to 2010 in terms of your online fundraising and email marketing strategies and goals

Consider this your first "save the date" for big things to come in 2010 from Network for Good and the free Nonprofit 911@ training series! Keep an eye on your inbox for upcoming issues of *Tips* and a training alert or two with specific dates and times, or just go ahead and block 1 p.m. Eastern time every Tuesday in January and February just to be safe. (OK, we don't really expect the latter, but we know there are a number of serious Nonprofit 911 fans out there!)

Happy fundraising in the next couple of weeks!
<http://www.fundraising123.org/training>

FROM THE SECTION OFFICE

Intelligent Staff Recruitment

ACA's online employment center offers resources to help you find, recruit, and retain staff.

- Summer Jobs at Camp - Camps can post seasonal job openings and reach thousands of camp professionals.
- Year-Round Jobs at Camp - E-mail listings of your camp's year-round job postings are distributed to job seekers twice a month.
- Job Fairs - Comprehensive lists of job fairs and organizations that specialize in international staffing.

<http://www.acacamps.org/jobs/>

Thanks to Bohemian Beverages, LLC for providing us with some tasty frozen beverage treats for the board & committee meetings! Contact Amber Core at 317-374-3203 or bohemiانبeverages@yahoo.com or www.bohemian-beverages.com

NEWS YOU CAN USE

RGK Foundation: Has recently projects aimed at building capacity. Average grant size is \$25,000. Areas of focus include; education, community, and medicine/health. Letters of inquiry should be sent via the foundation's website. The next grant meeting is in December. You can contact the foundation at: RGK Foundation, 1301 W. 25th St., Suite 300, Austin, TX 78705, #512-474-9298. Email: shaffey@rgkfoundation.org . www.luminafoundation.org

JM Foundation: The foundation has three focus areas of public policy, entrepreneurship, and education. Recent funding has included projects aimed at leadership development. The foundation accepts unsolicited inquiries and proposals only by regular mail. Grant meetings

are usually held in May and December. The foundation can be contacted at: JM Foundation, 54 Madison Ave., Suite 1605, New York, NY 10065, #212-687-7735. Email: infor@gillfoundation.org Website: www.foundationcenter.org/grantmaker/jm

Captain, My Captain! The **Captain Planet Foundation** funds **youth programs about the environment**. Grant range: **\$250 - \$2,500**. Deadline: **December 31, 2009**. <http://www.captainplanetfoundation.org/default.aspx?pid=3&tab=>

(Office of Faith Based & Community Initiatives)