Maine Awards Highlight of 92nd ACA New England Conference

From camp security to body language to new technology and beyond, the recent American Camp Association/NE conference had a menu of sessions for everyone. Over 100 representatives of Maine camps attended the conference in Manchester, NH from March 21-23.

Several Maine camp directors were honored by ACA -- Jason Silberman of Matoaka was given the Distinguished Service Award for his exemplary work with ACA/NE. Jean McMullan, consulting director of Alford Lake Camp, received ACA's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award, for a lifetime of involvement, mentoring and inspiration within the camp community. Sarah Seward of Nashoba North gave tribute to Jean’s remarkable career in camping, which started at age 15 when she turned a babysitting job into a day camp! After a long stint at Camp Wyonegonic, Jean & her husband Andy acquired Alford Lake Camp in 1962. Jean is a past president of MYCA, ACA/New England, and was National ACA President. And these are only a few highlights of her accomplished career. Jean’s family and grandchildren traveled from great distances to share this honor with her. Peg Smith, Executive Director of the ACA also joined Jean to celebrate. (See more on page 2).

The semi-annual membership meetings of Maine Summer Camps and MYCA were held, with a focus on changes to the J-1 Visa program for international non-counselor staff.

Maine Summer Camps Spring Meetings
Tuesday, April 30, 2013
Holiday Inn By the Bay, Portland

In partnership with SYSCO Food Showcase

9 - 10:45 a.m. Board Meeting
All are welcome to the following events:

11 - 12 noon Open Membership Meeting with special guest: Dr. Stephen Sears, State Epidemiologist.

SYSCO Food Show is on-going from 10 am. - 4 pm

April 30 -- Spring Meetings features Food Show & Health Update

The annual SYSCO Food Showcase provides the backdrop for Maine Summer Camps’ spring meetings on April 30 at the Holiday Inn by the Bay, in Portland.

At the Open Membership meeting (all welcome) Dr. Stephen Sears, a Winona alumnus and currently State Epidemiologist with the Maine Division of Infectious Disease, will speak briefly about this summer’s health concerns for Maine camps, and will answer your questions about health issues.

Bring your food service manager for the SYSCO show. They can check out the food show while you attend a meeting or two, then everyone can graze for lunch at the show!
Inspirations
Once again, I write on the heels of the annual American Camp Association New England Conference in Manchester, NH on March 22-23. The conference always provides needed inspiration to push through the final months of preparing for camp. I find inspiration in both reliable and predictable ways as well as from some new and surprising sources.

I can anticipate receiving a boost from seeing my camping friends and colleagues. We all work pretty hard at running our camps and often work in relative isolation during the winter months. It's always fun to have time with our peers to network, catch up, and share a few laughs. The workshops and speakers always provide valuable ideas and insights. Chris Thurber and Scott Arizala brought new energy to Saturday morning with their general session Three for Free. I'm still savoring my chocolate!

This year, I brought along key summer leaders for their first conference and received tremendous inspiration from their energy, enthusiasm and fresh perspectives. In the past I've struggled with transferring all of the conference information into the hands of my key staff; this year these four key staff leaders were there to take it all in and put new ideas into practice this summer.

The greatest source of inspiration was the time we spent honoring Jean McMullan of Alford Lake Camp as the recipient of the ACA Distinguished Service Award. Jean is one of the biggest camping mentors in my life. As a 13 year-old, I mowed her lawn while she was away directing Alford Lake. The following summer, Jean encouraged me to enroll in Alford Lake’s seven-week Appalachian Trail backpacking expedition. That summer remains one of the most formative experiences in my life as it introduced me to the power of an extended wilderness camping experience. Since then, Jean always encouraged me to develop my leadership skills through camping. Here are a few of Jean's inspiring words from her speech that evening:

"Camp leaders must continue to cooperate, to continue to benchmark ACA Standards, to expand their Professional Development and to share in ways that positively affect our nation’s youth. More than ever, there is a need to focus on the future of our nation’s camps... camps have a huge opportunity to teach and enrich and support our nation’s youth..."

Thank you, Jean for a lifetime of service to camping. We in Maine have benefitted tremendously from your vision, kindness and positive energy. Your speech reminded us that we have a unique opportunity this summer to touch the lives of thousands of children in powerful ways. May we all draw inspiration from you to do our important work.

Warmest Regards,
**Baxter State Park Limits Group Size**

Beginning with the 2013 camping season, the Park will limit hiking groups to a maximum of 12 persons. This acknowledges their long standing regulation requiring one person at least 18 years of age for every five individuals under 16 years of age, allowing 10 youth plus two leaders to hike together. Groups of 12 or more can still make a camping reservation for a group site, but will need to break into groups of 12 or less for hiking.

**Trip Leader Permits**

Changes in the Trip Leader permit process are underway, following a year long review by a MYCA committee chaired by Greg Shute of Chewonki. Rules and qualifications will be clarified for the Trip Leader permit and for the Trip Leader Safety Course Instructor. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is reviewing the new rules and it is expected they will go into effect for summer 2014.

**J-Visa for Camp Support Staff**

International staff on J-1 visas who work in support roles such as camp kitchen, office and maintenance have always been subject to minimum wage. This year, the manner in which minimum wage is calculated is being handled in various ways by the numerous sponsor agencies, so camps may experience some changes. Camps should check with their sponsoring agency about how minimum wage will be calculated for summer 2013.

MYCA is the sister organization to Maine Summer Camps. It focuses on governmental relations for summer camps in Maine. It is a 501c4 non-profit. For more information on any items listed, contact MYCA at 207-518-9557.

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**MSC Members Support Gun Controls**

A survey of MSC members taken in January revealed that the majority of respondents favor additional gun control measures. Ninety four (94) members responded.

MYCA has been guided by these results in determining appropriate action on the many pieces of gun legislation introduced into the current legislative session. Overall, the respondents favored action when gun legislation impacts camp operations (57-63%), and favored increases in restrictions (73-84%). The majority favored background checks for all gun sales and better reporting to enhance background checks, along with restrictions on assault type weapons & magazine sizes.
Sylvia Silverman, wife of Marty Silverman, founding owner of Camp Kippewa for Girls in Monmouth, passed away in December 2012 in Scarborough, ME of natural causes.

Martin Silverman, husband of Sylvia Silverman, founding owner of Camp Kippewa for Girls in Monmouth, passed away in December 2012 in Scarborough, ME of natural causes.

May is Tick Awareness Month

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection that is spread through the bite of an infected deer tick. More than 1,100 cases of Lyme disease were reported in Maine in 2012, occurring in all 16 counties.

The most common early symptom of Lyme disease is an expanding red (bull’s eye) rash occurring 3 to 30 days after being bitten. Fever, joint and muscle pains may also occur. Lyme disease is treatable, and most patients recover after receiving appropriate therapy.

To prevent Lyme disease, Maine CDC recommends following the “No Ticks 4 ME” approach:

1. Wear protective clothing
2. Use repellent
3. Use caution in tick habitats
4. Perform daily tick checks

Ticks must be attached for 24 hours to transmit Lyme disease, so prompt removal of ticks using tweezers or a tick spoon is important.

Anyone with a known tick bite, or who has been in a tick habitat, should watch for symptoms for at least 30 days after the exposure. If symptoms develop, contact your provider.

Additional information:

More Honors for Maine!

June Gray of Camp Wawenock was posthumously awarded the ACA National Honor Award at the ACA National Conference in February 2013, for tirelessly working throughout her career to make ACA a powerful educational organization. She wore many hats and filled many roles including long service on the Editorial Advisory Committee of Camping Magazine.

Congratulations to Business Member Northeast Tour & Charter for winning the American Bus Association’s “Green Operator Award” in January, for their environmentally friendly practices in all aspects of their operations. From L-R: Mike Ouellette, Scott Richio (NETC president), Pat Ziska, Todd McCollough.

Welcome New Camp Members

MESSY- Maine Environmental Summer Session for Youth
Contact: Jenny Robish, UMaine Machias, 116 O’Brien Ave. Machias, ME 04654. Email: jennifer.robish@maine.edu; Phone (207) 255-1214; Weekly; coed.

Maine Robotics Summer Camp
Contact: Thomas Bickford, 167 Bennoch Rd., Orono, ME 04473. Email: camps@mainerobotics.org. Phone (207) 866-4340. One and two week sessions.

North Yarmouth Academy Summer Programs
Contact: Leslie Durgin, 148 Main St., Yarmouth, ME 04096; Email: information@nya.org; Phone (207) 846-9051. Weekly: 8 sessions.
Spotlight:
Gander Brook Camp

Gander Brook Christian Camp wasn’t always a camp, and wasn’t always in Raymond, Maine. The first Gander Brook Camp was in Jackman, Maine, next to a stream called Gander Brook on a site that was loaned to the camp. In 1960, the camp moved to a site in Raymond previously occupied in the 1920’s by the Wilson Hotel which had a prolific natural spring to attract visitors. The hotel burned down and was replaced by a restaurant and later a hunting lodge with cabins. In 1958, the camp purchased the remaining cabins and re-established Gander Brook Camp there. The current camp has about 230 acres of beautiful pine and hardwood forests and is about 25 miles north of Portland, Maine.

Park Linscomb, one of the members of the camp’s board, has been associated in various capacities with the camp since 1974, first as an assistant director and later as director and president. During his tenure, he has seen many changes and challenges. In 1974, a tornado touched down and did extensive damage at the camp. In 1985, funds were raised to erect a big indoor barn space to use for rainy days. The camp has kept a marginal softball field usable until recently when an alumnus donated money for a full renovation of the field with new drainage and a smooth surface – making a huge improvement for the camp’s “capture the flag” games and sports activities.

Gander Brook, like many religiously affiliated camps, depends hugely on volunteers. To complement their paid staff and counselors, the camp has an extensive network of volunteers from churches all over New England. Each week of camp, 5-6 volunteers help provide the camp’s meal service along with volunteers in the canteen and laundry. Four teachers volunteer each week for programming duties. For their annual Work and Worship Week, 60-80 people come to help with work projects around the camp, and are provided with fellowship and evening speakers. Donations are requested “in the amount you would spend on groceries” for the week.

Gander Brook has several fun and revered traditions – one is “The Gander Brook Hand Clap”, a camp song, which is a sign of appreciation used throughout the summer, but especially at opening and closing ceremonies. Also, a moose is Gander Brook’s mascot — their lodge has a big double fireplace flanked by two stuffed moose heads. On Wednesdays, campers have to be really careful about putting their elbows on the table at lunch – for those who forget, the penalty is to “kiss the moose”!

The camp has been fortunate to have one very special camp volunteer, Cecil Perkins, who has returned every year since 1973, wearing hats as a counselor, teacher, bus driver and jack-of-all-trades.

Campers come from all over New England, some from very urban Boston and others from very rural Maine or Vermont.
Spring Trainings

Wilderness First Aid and First Responder

Chewonki- Wiscasset, ME
May 29-June 1  Wilderness Advanced First Aid (WIFA); $400 or $525 w/lodging
June 3-6    WFR to WFR Bridge (Wilderness First Responder); $400 or $525 w/lodging
Special for both classes: $675/$900 w/lodging
FMI or Registration: Greg Shute, gshute@chewonki.org, (207) 882-7323

Camp Agawam- Raymond, ME
June 8-9  SOLO Wilderness First Aid & Wilderness First Responder recertification. $175 or $195 resident.
WFR recertification-add $15.00
Registration: Karen Malm, mander@campagawam.org, (207) 627-4780

Outward Bound LL Bean Mt. Center-Newry, ME
May 4-11  Wilderness First Responder; $775 w/lodging
June 1-3  Wilderness First Responder Review; $325 w/lodging
Registration: Andy Bartleet abartleet@hiobs.org, (207) 706-6290

Camp Winnebago- Fayette, ME
June 11-12  SOLO Wilderness First Aid; $165 w/lodging
Registration: Andy Lilienthal, andy@campwinnebago.com or (207) 767-1019

Camp Winona-Bridgton, ME
June 12-13 or  Wilderness First Aid w/Wilderness Medical Assoc. $195/$215 w/lodging
June 15-16  CPR/AED for Health Care Provider (AHA); $60
June 19    ARC Lifeguard Instructor; $315/$415 w/lodging
Register: http://www.winonacamps.com/pdf/13_Training_Clinic.pdf; (207) 647-3721

Camp Wyonegonic-Denmark, ME
June 17  First Aid and CPR Certification; $65
Register: http://wyonegonic.com/contact-us/certification-trainings/ (207) 452-2051

Girl Scouts of Maine-Bridgton, ME
June 10-11  SOLO Wilderness First Aid; $165 w/lodging
Registration: info@gsmaine.org, (888) 922-4763

Camp Arcadia-Casco, ME
June 9-11  SOLO Wilderness First Aid; $350 w/lodging
Registration: laura.monica@camparcadia.com, (804)-346-5082

State YMCA Camp-Winthrop, ME
June 15  Basic Wilderness First Aid; $130 includes lunch
Registration: info@mainecamp.org, 207-395-4200

Watercraft
*FIT=Fundamentals of Instructor Training
*ARC=American Red Cross

Camp Winona-Bridgton, ME
June 10-11 or  US Sailing Counselor; $150; $170 w/lodging
June 12-13  Safe Power Boating-NSFBLA approved $150/$170 w/lodging
June 14-16  Small Craft Safety Basic/Instructor-Sailing with FIT (ARC); $140/$185 w/lodging
June 14-16  Small Craft Safety Basic/Instructor-Sailing with FIT (ARC); $140/$185 w/lodging

Camp Wyonegonic-Denmark, ME
June 1  ACA Instructor with Introduction to Canoeing; $80
June 2-4 ACA Canoe Instructor; $410
June 12-14  Windsurfing Instructor w/intro to windsurfing; $225
June 13-14  Windsurfing Instructor for experienced windsurfers; $175
Register: http://wyonegonic.com/contact-us/certification-trainings/ (207) 452-2051

Girl Scouts of Maine-Bridgton, ME
June 12 or 13  ARC Small Craft Safety; $60
or 18 or 19  ARC Lifeguard Instructor; $315/$415 w/lodging
Registration: http://wyonegonic.com/contact-us/certification-trainings/ (207) 452-2051

Tennis
Camp Wyonegonic-Denmark, ME
June 12-13  Tennis Instructor; $125; $145 w/lodging
Register: http://wyonegonic.com/contact-us/certification-trainings/ (207) 452-2051

Ropes
Camp Manitou- Oakland, ME
June 10–12  High/Low Ropes training with climbing tower; $475 w/lodging
FMI and Registration: jon@campmanitou.com, (800) 326-1916

Camp Wyonegonic-Denmark, ME
June 4-6  Low Ropes Facilitator-$335
June 7-10  High Ropes Facilitator-$495
June 4-10  Challenge Course Combined-$695
Register: http://wyonegonic.com/contact-us/certification-trainings/ (207) 452-2051

Girl Scouts of Maine-Bridgton, ME
June 13-14  Low Ropes Facilitator; $190 w/lodging
Registration: info@gsmaine.org, (888) 922-4763

Lifeguard Training and Water Safety
*ARC=American Red Cross Trainings
*FIT=Fundamentals of Instructor Training

City of Portland Aquatics-Portland, ME
May 11-June 9  ARC Lifeguard Training- Sats and Suns various times $200/Portland res.; $215 non-res; + $90 materials
May 13-23  ARC Water Safety Instructor Training $302/Portland res.; $332/non-res; +$85 materials various times and days.
FMI and Registration: eglepage@portlandmaine.gov; (207) 874-8456

Camp Winona-Bridgton, ME
June 2-6  ARC Water Safety Instructor; $295/$370 w/lodging
June 2-7  ARC Lifeguard Instructor; $315/$415 w/lodging
June 11-15  ARC Lifeguard Training w/waterfront module (First Aid, CPR, AED for Prof. Rescuer); $250/$330 w/lodging
June 17-18  ARC Lifeguard w/waterfront module review/update $130 w/lodging

Camp Wyonegonic-Denmark, ME
June 7-11 or  ARC Lifeguard Training w/waterfront module (1st Aid, CPR, AED for Prof Rescuer); $330
June 12-16  ARC Lifeguard Instructor; $315/$415 w/lodging
June 7-11  ARC Water Safety Instructor w/FIT; $370
Register: http://wyonegonic.com/contact-us/certification-trainings/ (207) 452-2051
Spring Trainings

**Trip Leader**

**Windfall Rafting - Jackman, ME**

- **June 14**
  - Trip Leader Certification Course at Camp Brookwoods, NH
  - $60-Bring lunch.

- **June 27**
  - Trip Leader Certification Course at Windfall Rafting, Jackman, ME
  - $60-Bring lunch. Housing available.

**Camp Cedar-Casco, ME**

- **June 11**
  - Trip Leader Certification Course-Instructor Ron Furst; $65

**Camp Winona-Bridgton, ME**

- **June 14**
  - State of Maine Trip Leader Safety Course. $60

**Camp Wyonegonic-Denmark, ME**

- **June 5-6 OR**
  - Leave No Trace Trainer Course; $75

**Girl Scouts of Maine-Bridgton, ME**

- **June 10-13 or 10**
  - ARC Waterfront Lifeguard; $290 w/lodging

**Camp Arcadia-Casco, ME**

- **June 8-11**
  - ARC Lifeguard Training; $450 with lodging

**Shooting Sports-Archery and Riflery**

**Camp Cobbossee-Monmouth, ME**

- **June 8 – 9**
  - NADA/USA Archery Certification-Meets ACA standards; $125; $150 w/housing

**Camp Winona-Bridgton, ME**

- **June 8-10**
  - Rifle Instructor-Civilian Marksmanship Program; $150/$180 w/lodging

**Camp Wyonegonic-Denmark, ME**

- **June 12-13 or 12**
  - Level 1 Archery NAA Certification. Instructor Lucy

**Camp Cedar-Casco, ME**

- **June 14**
  - Level 1 Archery Instructor; Meets ACA standards for archery instruction; $160 lunch included

**Bryant Pond 4-H Camp-Bryant Pond, ME**

- **June 14-16**
  - 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Training-meets ACA standards; $50/Maine Residents; $65/others w/lodging

**Girl Scouts of Maine-Bridgton, ME**

- **June 10 or 15 or 21**
  - Level 1 Archery Instructor; Meets ACA standards

**Camp Manitou – Oakland, ME**

- **June 13**
  - Level 1 Archery Instructor; meets ACA Standards

**State YMCA Camp-Winthrop, ME**

- **June 21**
  - Level 1 Archery Certification; $160 includes lunch

**Opening for the Season-Drinking Water Safety**

Maine Rural Water Association (MRWA)-Richmond, ME

Ensure that your water stays clean. Come into compliance with Maine’s Safe Drinking Water Rules. Various dates and locations in Maine. No Charge.

- **April 10**
  - Chewonki, Wiscasset

- **April 19**
  - Salmon Falls Camping Resort, Lebanon

- **April 23**
  - Sebago Lake State Park, Casco

- **April 25**
  - Fort Knox State Park, Prospect

- **April 30**
  - Eustis Community Center, Eustis

- **May 2**
  - Di’s Kitchen and Beyond, Greenville

- **May 9**
  - Lakeview Restaurant, St. Agatha

**Pottery and Ceramics**

**Portland Pottery Studio – Portland, ME**

- **June 15 or 21**
  - Pottery and ceramics counselor training

  - $75/person includes lunch

  **FMI and Registration:** chris@portlandpottery.com, (207) 772-3273
April 30 --MSC Spring Meetings & Sysco Food Show-- Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland, ME.

Welcome
New Business Members

Dick Thomas Associates
Contact: Dick Thomas, 41 Cushman Point Road, Wiscasset, ME 04578
Email: dickthomas41@gmail.com; (207) 607-1640
Camp consulting, parent education, referral services, and “Your Camp App” creation.

Calendar of Events
Save the Date!

April 30, Tuesday
Spring Board Meeting & Open Membership Meeting w/ SYSCO Food Show, Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland, ME

July 9, Tuesday
Christopher Thurber Staff Training, Camp Wawenock, Raymond, Maine

July 10, Wednesday
MSC and MYCA Annual Meetings. Camp Cedar, Casco, ME.

July 17, Wednesday
Annual MSC/Norway Savings Bank Camp Spelling Bee Portland, Maine

July 23-27, Monday-Friday

September 18, Wednesday
Fall Board Meeting & Fellowship. Education Session with Gary Forster. Location TBA.