



What is a woodpile? It is that which is at the base of all great campfires. In it's written form, a woodpile is the ideas and connections between camping professionals that provide the spark of yet another amazing camp experience for our campers.

The WOODPILE

DO WE CARE ENOUGH TO CHANGE?

by Jack Kooyman, MA Ed

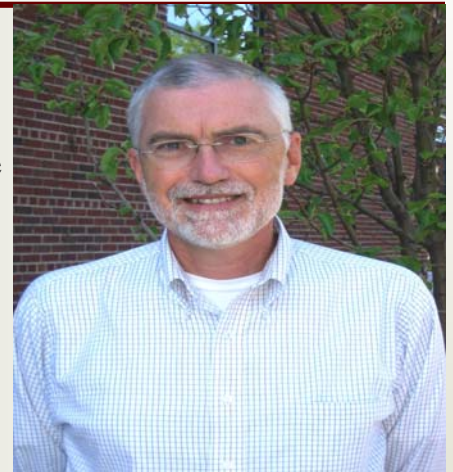
Perhaps you've heard the saying, "The only constant these days is change." All around us things are changing and the pace of change seems to be occurring more rapidly than ever before ... and I'm not just talk about technology.

There have been and continue to be changes in how we as a nation do and provide education for our children—consider the home education movement, charter schools, and year-round schools. Additionally, in recent years, many schools and communities have reduced or eliminated community education programs, public sponsored recreation, arts programs, and more.

Additionally, the demographics of our country are also experiencing some significant shifts and changes. Consider the nearly exponential growth of families in the U.S. with total household incomes at or below the federal poverty level. Additionally, consider the tremendous growth in the number of Hispanics, African Americans, and Asians in our country:

- ⇒ By 2050, Latino and Asian populations will double, and the Black population will grow by 71%.
- ⇒ The US will attract 1 million immigrants a year, most of Latino or Asian origin.
- ⇒ By 2030, 1 in 4 US residents will be Latino or Asian.

As a community of camp professionals, we need to be aware of these societal changes and explore together how we can and should address them. We do not need, nor should we attempt, to do it all and to do it on our own. Together, as camp professionals, we can and should support each other in this effort for the sake of all the children, youth, and adults in our society. Knowing the long-term and life long impact that the camp experience can have, just imagine the positive impact we could have on our society and the world. The question is more one of our desire and will than possibility. Do we care enough about our society and its future to change? I hope so.



Jack Kooyman, MA Ed

Jeff Glick Memorial Award

The American Camping Association, Michigan Section, created the Jeff Glick Memorial Community Service Award January 12, 1998. The award was created to honor Jeffrey Glick Ph.D., former director of Camp Miniwanca of the American Youth Foundation. Dr. Glick died while in service to the ACA, Michigan Section as the Vice President for Program.

This award will recognize a camp or camp professional for creative, quality programming in the area of community service that promotes the camping industry to the community at large. The specific working of the criteria for selection states the award will recognize "a Michigan Camp or Camp Professional(s) who have made a significant contribution to knowl-

edge, practice, and/or public impression of community service as a program of camping organizations."

See page 6 for nomination form or for a downloadable form visit www-acamichigan.org

*Award Nominations Due ~
October 26, 2007*

WON'T YOU JOIN US?

Today nearly 7,000 members strong, ACA leads the way in helping camps provide enriching and safe experiences for millions of campers each year.

ACA supports camps and camp professionals in delivering programs that teach children and adult lessons for a lifetime: skills such as leadership, independence, cooperation, and teamwork. We know that by promoting the camp experience, we lay the foundation for building happy and productive lives for tomorrow—and a better world for us all.

Make ACA an investment in your fu-

ture...

Joining ACA can be the most important investment you can make in yourself or your camp. It's an investment in your future that begins paying dividends today.

ACA accredits more than 2400 camps. ACA-accredited camps meet up to 300 standards for health, safety, and program quality.

For more information on membership, contact ACA at 800.428.CAMP (2267) or email membership@ACAcamps.org

Camper Enrollment & Staff Recruitment Survey

ACA Michigan encourages all Michigan Camp Directors to go to <http://www.acacamps.org/research/camprecruit.php> and complete the 7—10 minute survey. As many of you know, this information is extremely important when answering questions about what is going on in Michigan related to the numbers of children attending camp and the ability of camps to recruit the staff members they need to run quality programs. We are asking for 100% participation so your help is critical AND much appreciated. **The survey is open for business until October 19th !! Thanks for your help.**

ASSOCIATION NEWS

ACA and CampProfiles.com Collaborate to Share the Message About ACA Accreditation

In a new collaborative venture between ACA and CampProfiles.com, an online networking utility that connects parents, campers, camp staff, job seekers, and vendors, ACA is getting the word out about the importance of ACA accreditation to broader audiences. With an ACA banner link on CampProfiles.com's homepage that links to an ACA-branded landing page (www.aca.campprofiles.com), ACA provides information to promote accreditation and key messages about the Association. A search mechanism to locate ACA-accredited camps is prominently featured on the page, as well as parent-specific links to articles on everything from expert advice on choosing a camp to making the most of camp visits. Additionally, at least three ACA-accredited camps are featured on the page at any given time; the featured camps are rotated regularly.

ACA encourages any ACA-accredited camps listed with CampProfiles.com to confirm that your ACA accreditation is part of your customized profile features—please take advantage of this expanded opportunity to share the message of your camp's commitment to providing children with a safe, healthy, and nurturing environment.

This opportunity with CampProfiles.com not only increases ACA brand awareness to a large audience but forges a unique gateway to educate campers and parents alike about the value of accreditation.

Increasing Diversity Through FUN

By Kim Ross, Diversity Chair

For thousand of years, people have played games to teach or increase skills, bring communities together, celebrate accomplishments or just to have fun. Like folktales, celebrations, music and dances, games can also teach us about other cultures. We learn new customs, at times the history surrounding a game's creation are the beliefs of the people who have created them.

Hopefully these games will lead to further exploration of different cultures.

Nim: place of origin (China)

Skills: counting, creative thinking and planning skills

Two players ~ Age 8 and older

Materials: 21 toothpicks, beans, or other small makers

This is the thousand-year-old Chinese game of Nim. It doesn't have any set patterns or rules. Here is one way it might be played.

Players will need 21 toothpicks or other small game pieces. Arrange the sticks in one row. Taking turns, the players pick up 1, 2, or 3 sticks at a time. The player to pick up the last stick loses.

111111111111

111111111

El Reloj: place of origin (Guatemala)

Skills: jumping, timing, counting, coordination and rhythm skills

13 players

Age 6 and older

Materials: jump rope or other rope approximately 18 feet long

For thousands of years, adults and children have been jumping rope and using the skills needed to play this game-running, leaping, hopping- for survival. This game, El Reloj (pronounced reh-loh) which means the clock, comes from the lower region of North America .

Twelve players form a circle. They are numbers on the clock. A thirteenth player stands in the middle and holds the rope. This player acts as the clock's hand. On the count of 12, the middle player slowly begins to sweep the rope around the "clock". The Numbers jump over the rope as they shout out their numbers. Each time the hand makes a complete turn, it starts moving faster. Players who touch or stop the rope are out of the game. The last person left, wins.

So, my challenge to you is to increase diversity through fun.



Michigan Cyber Safety Initiative

For more information visit: www.michigan.gov

Keep Safe,
Keep Away,
Keep Telling

Getting Ready For An Accreditation Visit in 2008 or 2009?

By Mary Walker, Standards Co-Chair

HERE ARE SOME EASY STEPS TO FOLLOW:

- Sign up for a Standards Update course. ACA requires that each camp have a person on-site who has completed the Standards course and who has assisted in the preparations for the visit. Typically, this is the camp director. Because the Standards have undergone a major revision, all camp directors who previously have taken a Basic Standards Course must take a Basic Standards Update Course. New directors, or those who have never taken a Standards Course must take the Basic Standards Course.
- Start preparing the required written material. Many standards require written documentation. There are no short cuts here, and it is a time-consuming task. Start early and engage staff such as health officer, food service supervisor, maintenance personnel, waterfront director or other program staff in the process. The Standards Chairs and experienced Visitors are available to answer questions as you prepare.
- Request a Written Document Preview. When you have completed your written material, you may request a Visitor to review it. This can be done before your summer visitor is assigned, or can be arranged with the visitor who will be making your accreditation visit. This provides you with the opportunity to correct or add to written materials as needed before the actual accreditation visit. Camp directors find this step to be a stress reliever, and it gives all parties a chance to focus on program on the day of the visit.
- As staff are hired, make copies of their training cards and certifications.
- Complete the information sheet sent by the Standards Chair. The Lead Visitor will contact you to establish the date of the visit.
- On the day of the visit, you will have the opportunity to show your Visitors all elements of your camp including site and program. Volunteer Visitors, most of whom are current or retired camp directors, will talk with staff and campers as you take them on a tour of your camp. Then, the standards are scored. The whole process takes an average of 8 hours.

If your camp is not listed and you are expecting to be visited or if your camp is listed and you are not expecting to be visited, please contact Mary Walker at 231.587.0511 or trailwalker@torchlake.net

Camps to be Visited 2008

AL GON-QUIAN
ANNA BEHRENS
BLACK RIVER FARM & RANCH INC
CAMP AU SABLE
CAMP BEECHPOINT
CAMP HENRY
CAMP KINAWIND
CAMP MERRIE WOODE
CAMP OAK HILLS
CAMP PLAYFAIR
CAMP WALDEN
CIRCLE PINES CENTER
GREENWOOD PREBYTERIAN CAMP
GSMD CAMP INNISFREE
INDIAN TRAILS CAMP INC
LAKE ANN CAMP
LEELANAU KOHAHNA CAMPS
LINDEN
LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP
LITTLE PINE ISLAND CAMP
NCCS CAMP NEWAYGO
SKYLINE CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER
TWO MOOSE CAMP
YMCA CAMP ARBUTUS-HAYO-WENT-HA
YMCA EBERHART
YMCA CAMP NISSOKONE
YMCA CAMP OHIYESA
YMCA CAMP TIMBERS

Camps to be Visited 2009

ADVENTURE LEARNING CENTER
BROOK CHERITH CAMP
CAMP O'FAIR WINDS
CAMP ROGER
CAMP SHAWADASSEE
CAMP TALL TURF
CAMP TUHSMEHETA
CAMP WESTMINISTER HIGGINS LAKE
CEDAR LODGE
HAWTHORN HOLLOW
MIDLAND COMMUNITY CENTER
MYSTIC LAKE YMCA CAMP
SANCTA MARIA
SHERMAN LAKE YMCA OUTDOOR CENTER
SPRINGHILL CAMP
SPRINGHILL CAMP 44
TAMARACK CAMPS
TANNADOONAH
THE ADVENTURE CENTER
THE FOWLER CENTER
WILLOWAY DAY CAMP INC
YMCA CAMP COPNECONIC
YMCA CAMP HAYO-WENT-HA
YMCA CAMP MANITOU LIN



STANDARDS TRAINING SCHEDULE 2007—2008

ACA MICHIGAN'S 2007—2008 STANDARD TRAINING SCHEDULE

Because the Standards have undergone major revisions, all camp directors who have previously taken the Basic Standards Course, must take a Basic Standards Update Course prior to the accreditation visit. Emphasis in this course is on newly adopted standards along with changes made to previous standards. New camp directors are asked to contact Mary Walker co-standards chair, to make arrangements for the Basic Standards Course at 231-587-0511 or trailwalker@torchlake.com.

Register online at <http://aca-michigan.org/training.php>. Courses are free and open to all. You will be sent a confirmation letter which will include driving directions. Bring your copy of the Accreditation Process Guide. If you do not have a Guide, or if you need further information, contact Theresa Walker, ACA MI Executive Director at 616.245.5255 or executive@aca-michigan.org

Thursday, November 29, 2007 12:30 to 4:30	Basic Standards Update First Christian Reformed Church 650 Bates St. SE Grand Rapids
Wednesday, December 5, 2007 9:00 to 1:00	Basic Standards Update Camp Merrie Woode Plainwell, MI
January 23-24, 2008	Basic Standard Update will be offered at the ACA Michigan's Winter Conference held at Sherman Lake YMCA. Day and time TBA.
March 3-5, 2008	Basic Standards Course and Basic Standards Update will be offered at the CCCA Conference YMCA Geneva Conference Center Holland, MI Day and time TBA.
March 7, 2008 9:00 to 1:00	Basic Standards Course and Basic Standards Update as needed. Camp Hawthorn Hollow 1046-B Mayer Rd. Columbus, MI 48063
March 7-8, 2008 1:15 March 7 to 4:00 March 8	Associate Visitor Course (for those wishing to serve as Standards Visitors) Camp Hawthorn Hollow 1046-B Mayer Rd. Columbus, MI 48063 Prerequisites: Basic Standards Update & Visitor Application

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!!!

Basic Camp Director Course

October 22—26, 2007
Front Royal, VA

January 11—15, 2008
Midlothian, TX

April 6—10, 2008
Ingleside, IL

For more information visit acacamps.org

Standards Instructor Course

December 6—9, 2007
Bonclarken Camp & Conference Center
Flat Rock, NC www.bonclarken.com
For more information visit acacamps.org

ACA Michigan Winter Conference
January 23—24, 2008
Sherman Lake YMCA
Augusta, MI
Registration coming soon...

ACA National Conference

February 12—15, 2008
Gaylord Opryland Hotel
Nashville, TN
For more information visit acacamps.org

Mid States Camping Conference
April 10—12, 2008
St. Charles, IL

ACA, MICHIGAN AWARDS

Nominations due by October 26, 2007 (date extended)

Distinguished Service Award—*plaque with inscription.*

Qualifications: Membership in the American Camping Association for a minimum of five years of outstanding continuous service to the Michigan Section, whether it be monetary, physical, or advisory, either board service or member service. The service would enhance campers, camp members, or section operations.

Requirements: Two written endorsements and board approval, completed nomination form.

Honor Award—*plaque with inscription "Thanks for Service to ACA, Michigan Section"*

Qualifications: Membership in American Camping Association for two years. Outstanding contribution of service during that period for either distinguished work on a committee or special program over and above their commitment to do the job.

Requirements: One written endorsement and board approval, completed nomination form.

Appreciation Certificate—*certificate*

Qualifications: Special thanks to members, benefactors, camps, businesses, individuals, organizations, anyone connected with camping or non-member assisting programs.

Requirements: One written endorsement and board approval, completed nomination form.

Jeff Glick Memorial Community Service Award—*plaque with inscription*

Qualifications: This award will recognize a camp or camp professional for creative, quality programming in the area of community service that promotes the camping industry to the community at large. The specific working of the criteria for selection states the award will recognize "a Michigan Camp or Camp Professional(s) who have made a significant contribution to knowledge, practice, and/or public impression of community service as a program of camping organizations."

Requirements: One written endorsement and board approval, completed nomination form.

Section Newcomer Award—*certificate*

Qualifications: Awarded for outstanding involvement in Section activities. Awarded to a current ACA member who has been involved in ACA for less than three years.

Requirements: One written endorsement and board approval, completed nomination form.

ACA, Michigan Section Nomination Form

*Awards will be presented at our annual winter conference (January 23—24, 2008)

Award Name: _____

Nominator _____ Nominator Phone (_____) _____

Nominator Address _____

Name of Candidate/Organization: _____ Phone: (_____) _____

Fax: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____



PRO WEAVE® SWEATSHIRT BLANKET



Heavyweight 11 oz. 80% cotton/20% polyester
fleece blanket. Available printed and rolled with
customized hangtag. Size 54" x 84."
Standard print area: 17" x 12.5"
Now in 33 solid colors.
style 3300

88 Spence Street • PO Box 9171
Bay Shore, NY 11706-9171
1.800.367.7900 • Fax: 631.435.8018
www.mvsport.com • info@mvsport.com



ACA Business Resources

Need Help Reducing Your 2008 Camp Budget?

ACA/Consorta can put a little green back into your bank account! Save time and money by taking advantage of the power of group purchasing. Sign up today (<http://www.acacamps.org/partners/consorta.php>) for FREE and start accessing hundreds of contracts.

All the management software you need in one easy-to-use product

Online applications (registration, payments, staff, etc.)

Fully integrated conference/treat module

Real time credit card processing


Activity scheduling

Camp Management

Campwise is more than a vendor to Camp. In every aspect of registration and administration, **CAMPWISE** is a critical part of our team. I cannot say enough about their commitment to excellence.

— Kimberly Brown, Cho-Neh Camp and Conference Center.

Backed by a company committed to serving its customers



CAMPWISE

CAMPWISE by RecSoft www.campwise.com 866-207-7111

A D V E R T I S E

American Camp Association, Michigan Newsletter: THE WOODPILE

WHY?

The Woodpile is one of the main vehicles for getting the ACA's (Sectional and National) news, events, training, and information into the hands of our members, camps and other sections. Members and camps rely on the newsletter for up-to-date news.

Reach an audience of:

- 250 plus Members—Camping Professional—Camp Executives, Directors and Staff—the purchasing decision-makers for camps
- Nearly 80 Accredited Camps in Michigan
- ACA Sections across the United States

Deadline for the next issue of The Woodpile is October 26, 2007.

Call for current rates—\$77.823.0005.



PO Box 6177
Grand Rapids, MI 49516-6177

Phone: 616.245.5255
Toll Free: 877.823.0005
Fax: 616.245.5259
Email: executive@aca-michigan.org

We're on the Web!
www.aca-michigan.org

BOARD MEMBERS

Section President*

Jack Kooyman
jkooyman@iserv.net

Immediate Past President

Kathy Treiber

Vice President of Operations*

Amy White
awhite@umich.edu

Treasurer

Curtis Britcher
Curtis_britcher@usc.salvationarmy.org

Secretary

Jill Laidlaw
cavell@greatlakes.net

Standards co-Chair*

David Long
david@wildwoodranch.org

Standards co-Chair

Mary Walker
trailwalker@torchlake.com

Complaint Resolutions Chair

Jim VanWingerden
jrv8@calvin.edu

Education Chair

Nicole Beutler
Nicole.m.beutler@gmail.com

Membership Chair

EB Maynard
Eb.maynard@gmail.com

Independent Chair

Blake Compton
blakecompton@gmail.com

Members-At-Large

Lorrie Syverson
lorries@ymcasl.org

***Denotes Council of Delegates**

ACA, Michigan Executive
Theresa Walker
executive@aca-michigan.org

ACA, Michigan Office
PO Box 6177
Grand Rapids, MI 49516
Toll Free: 877.823.0005
Direct: 616.245.5255
Fax: 616.245.5259

Office hours:
M, W, F 9—11 am 1 - 3 pm
T & Th 1—4 pm