March 25th and 26th passed fast for the 825 of us who gathered in Manchester, NH for the 90th anniversary of our New England Conference and the 150th anniversary of the summer camp movement. Our 2011 Conference offered something for everyone. New presenters like Kim Aycock (with a simple, creative, and practical focus on training) and Marc Wayshak (with inspirational activities and boardbreaking) were a smashing success. Favorite returning presenters were on hand with brand new material and innovative sessions to share. You may have been one of the dedicated crafters who has been following our own Jen Hargrave the last several conferences. Perhaps you got “Ditterized.” It’s likely that you dashed to sessions led by Thurber, Ebner-Erceg, Schafer, Maguire, or Forster, choosing from an array of options that proved daunting at times. Uplifting words in Norm Bossio’s keynote on Friday afternoon boosted us all, and the grand opening of our CampEXPO that followed Norm’s inspirational talk sure kept the excitement alive.

HIGHLIGHTS!

The ECP’s Manch Vegas event Friday evening capped off an exciting day with a full agenda of fun and frivolity in the form of Karoke with our illustrious DJ, Greg Jutkiewicz, a Blackjack tournament with ACA New England staff dealers Bette, Jenny & Donna, entertainment, table games, refreshments, and prizes. Six State Meetings on Saturday morning and a lively dinner banquet marking the transition of our board’s leadership, honoring several key volunteers, new board members and award recipients, and celebrating Bette Bussel’s twenty years as our Executive Director were wonderful bookends of the day. This edition of Communicate contains quite a bit of conference-related content. Relive this year’s special event with us! Many, many volunteers are involved in organizing and hosting New England’s largest and most comprehensive educational event of the year for summer camp professionals. ACA New England has benefitted from your volunteer efforts at all stages. Many, many thanks for making our 90th possible and for making it memorable! If you’ve not yet sent us your FEEDBACK, please take a moment and do so now!

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I feel tremendously honored to assume the role of President of ACA New England. For many years our association has represented the place where I come to seek information, guidance and support in my career as a camp professional. As we marked the 90th anniversary of our spring conference last month, it was humbling to realize just how many others have benefitted from their connection to ACA New England. Joining together as a larger community through a conference and as an association is how we succeed at extending our impact to an even wider audience, and that is my continued hope for this organization in the coming years.

As you may know, our Board recently completed the development of a clear set of Strategic Priorities that will guide the upcoming work of our association. They are to:

- Develop and implement a growth strategy
- Diversify and strengthen our fiscal model
- Collaborate and participate in nationwide ACA efforts

As members of this association and as a group of individuals unified by the shared belief in the deep and long-lasting value of a quality camp experience, I ask and challenge each of our members to join together to achieve these growth-oriented goals. Whether it’s within your own organization, your community, or through the many volunteer opportunities with ACA New England, I encourage you to be guided by the following as we pursue growth:

- Seek out new connections, new partnerships, new relationships, and cultivate them. You never know what doors they will open.
- Maintain an open mind and demonstrate a willingness to innovate. Act upon new ideas by pushing beyond your comfort zone.
- Remain true to your beliefs, guided by your own experience and perspective, while being accepting of differing viewpoints.
- Find, fuel, and spread your inspiration for our mission, for it will have incredibly contagious consequences.

If we all dedicate ourselves to these common goals – not only within our own organizations, but also beyond - I believe we will achieve significant growth towards making our Strategic Priorities, and more importantly, our vision a reality... a society that values the camp experience as an essential component of human development.

Nat Saltonstall, Camp Director, Beaver Summer Programs, Chestnut Hill, MA

Education: Ed.M., Harvard University, BA, Middlebury College; Years at Beaver: 12

I loved summer camp as a child: archery, sailing, swim lessons and ceramics in day camp... waterskiing, woodworking, tent inspections, and campfires at overnight camp. My many summers at camp were formative experiences for me, and to now have shaped a career in camping is a dream come true. My professional experience combines classroom teaching (math), program leadership (community service/admissions/athletics/summer programs), coaching (soccer/lacrosse/skiing), and non-profit management. Over time, my interest in youth development and education has veered away from the traditional classroom and academic setting and directly towards experiential learning through summer opportunities. MORE...
Volunteers

Many hands make light work! Thanks to all the volunteers who made our 90th Conference possible!

Program Committee
Greg Jutkiewicz - Chair
Becky Gilles
Amy Willey
Susan Chenet
Sarah Gianfriddo
Mary Strom

Steering Committee
Marijean Legnard Parry - Chair
Mike Drumm, sponsorship
Amanda Choiniere, volunteers
David Platt, sponsorship
Amanda Zoellner
Greg Jutkiewicz
Penny Kerns
Ian Moorhouse
Doug Sutherland
Kate Seeger

Exhibits
Doug Sutherland

Speaker Liaison
Beth Johns-Thomas

Congratulations to Marijean Parry!

Thanks to the generosity of Amerasport, Marijean can treat herself to a fabulous vacation with the $1000 travel voucher she won in this year’s raffle!

Thank you Amerasport!

Bring us back something nice, Marijean!

Volunteers Amanda Choiniere (L) and Beth Johns-Thomas take a moment to smile for the camera.

We had so many fantastic volunteers this year, and we wish we could list you all! You helped to make this Conference one of the best yet! We couldn’t have done it without you, and for that we cannot thank you enough.

Our 90th Annual Conference was brought to you by these wonderful sponsors:

Amerasport
Brands for Active Lifestyles

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Screen Printing - Embroidery - Premiums
1-800-330-1477 • www.bolducs.com

C.C. Creations

S&S Worldwide

Brands for Active Lifestyles
Maine State Camp Foundation Meeting News — Saturday, March 26 – 7:45 am, Manchester, NH

87 people attended the Maine State Meeting. Garth Altenburg, President of the Maine Youth Camping Foundation (MYCF) presided. Highlights were discussion of a marketing plan for Maine camps and the launch of year 3 of the Maine Sustainable Camps Initiative. Steve Sudduth, President of the Maine Youth Camp Association, discussed pressing legislative issues, including MYCA's own effort to make changes to the state license inspection process. Questions/inquiries? Contact Mary Ellen Deschenes, Maine Youth Camping Foundation (207) 518-9557.

The Junior Maine Guide staff attended the ACA New England banquet Saturday to be recognized by their New England colleagues and to celebrate receiving the ACA Eleanor Eells award for program excellence. The award was presented in San Diego in February. Junior Maine Guide is in its 75th year and is sponsored by the Maine Youth Camping Foundation. Submitted by Mary Ellen Deschenes.

Massachusetts Camping Association Annual Meeting News - Saturday, March 26th – 8 am, Manchester, NH

MCA is active and growing! We welcomed four new Board Members at our Annual Meeting in Manchester in March. Joining our leadership is Joanna Lenahan, Outdoor Program Manager, GS Eastern MA, Beth Johns-Thomas, Director of Summer Programs at Fenn School, Jackie Kane, Director of Pompositticut Farm Day Camp, and Scott Brody, Founder of Everwood Day Camp. In addition to our active and growing board leadership, our membership is also reaching for greater heights. New Membership Initiatives are allowing greater opportunities for camps through out the state to join. We are stronger together! Submitted by Nancy Hartmann, President.

Vermont Camp Association State Meeting News—Saturday, March 26 — 8 am, Manchester, NH

We had a good turn out for the VCA meeting. We discussed our new website and getting things finished to make it fully functioning. We also talked about creating a new gathering of our membership for educational sessions. On another note, we’re going to explore the possibilities and cost of hiring a part time lobbyist to keep an eye on legislative issues that might have an impact on our camps. We are also looking for ways to get the word out about Vermont camps in general and will explore different ways to do so. All in all it was a great meeting. Submitted by Ellen Flight, President.
Distinguished Service Award

JUNE GRAY received ACA New England’s Distinguished Service Award, our highest honor. It is awarded to an individual who has given outstanding leadership and service to ACA New England for at least ten years. The award was presented by Carol Sudduth, Owner and Director of Camp Wyonegonic. June has been volunteering for ACA New England and Maine Youth Camping since the seventies. She served on the MYCA and ACA New England Boards and chaired the education committee for both of these organizations. She was a frequent presenter at conferences and also on the Founding Faculty for the New Camp Director’s Workshop. In 1999 she was the recipient of the Halsey Gulick Award, Maine’s highest recognition. From ACA New England she received the Outstanding Service Award. For ACA National, June was on faculty for the certified Camp Director Course, planning committee for a national conference, and an anchor for the Editorial Committee of Camping Magazine, where she was at the heart of changes that took place. We are so pleased to acknowledge June’s invaluable contributions to ACA New England with this award.

Peter Kerns Award for the Advancement of Professional Development

NANCY HARTMANN, Director of the Brooks School Day Camp, was honored with the Peter Kerns Award for the Advancement of Professional Development. The award was presented by Liz Young, Director of Pleasant Valley Camp. This award celebrates both the careers of individuals who have shown extraordinary commitment to the development of camp professionals and the life of Peter Kerns, who inspired and challenged us to continually enhance the camp experience for all. Nancy began her involvement with ACA in 1984, has been the Membership Chair of ACA New England, an ACA Standards Instructor, President of the Massachusetts Camping Association, and a member of the ACA National Board Development committee. Nancy now serves as our Standards Chair.

Meritorious Service Award

ERIC ARNOLD, outgoing President of ACA New England’s board of directors and Executive Director of the Hale Reservation, received the Meritorious Service Award. The award was presented by Pam Cobb Heuberger, Owner and Director of Camp Runoia. Eric received the Appreciation Award in 1999, the Leadership Award in 2000, served as Day Camp Chair many years ago, participated in the Long Range Planning Committee of ACA New England, the Strategic Vision Committee, served as a board member of ACA New England, a Vice President of ACA New England, has been President of Massachusetts Camping, served on the ACA National Board, and has now completed his three year term serving as President of ACA New England.
Community Honor Award

**JACK ERLER**, Maine Youth Camping Foundation/Maine Youth Camping Association’s legal counsel and lobbyist, was awarded the **Community Honor Award**. This award is given for outstanding contributions to organized camping or to ACA New England. Steve Sudduth of Wyonegonic presented the award. Jack first attended camp at age 8 and never stopped! His professional camp career began at Wyo. As an attorney, he has represented individual camps of every type, on a broad range of issues. He has been an educator and trainer for camps on duty of care, alcohol and drug laws, staff training, transition planning, and many other topics. Jack recently assisted ACA New England on policy issues, and is a featured presenter for Expert On-line Training.

Transition of Presidents

**ERIC ARNOLD** gave his **final remarks as outgoing President of ACA New England, welcoming incoming President** and Executive Director of Beaver Summer Programs, **NAT SALTONSTALL**. “I’d like to thank all of you who have been helpful, friendly, supportive and engaged during my term as President,” said Arnold. “It has been a pleasure to work on behalf of ACA, and while it absolutely takes commitment, it is incredibly rewarding and fun. Of course, it is also great when you know the person stepping into the role is even more qualified than you. Our incoming President has spent plenty of time at ACA board meetings and knows in depth the workings of this association. He is exceptionally good at asking thoughtful and poignant questions and has a keen eye towards some exciting things for ACA. It is a great pleasure to introduce to you my good friend and your new ACA New England President, Mr. Nat Saltonstall.” Thank you, Eric, for your service as President for the last three years. Congratulations, Nat, on your new role!

CLICK HERE TO READ ERIC’S SPEECH IN ITS ENTIRETY.

Bette Bussel’s 20 Years of Service to ACA New England

**BETTE BUSSEL**, Executive Director of ACA New England, was one of the guests of honor for the evening, being recognized for her **20 years of service** to the organization. Outgoing Board President Eric Arnold celebrated Bette’s achievements, acknowledging her for embracing New England’s role within the camp movement across the country, navigating the sale of a building, a capital campaign, and the purchase of a new building. Over the years, Bette has expanded both the influence and size of ACA New England and has been key to the association’s ability to weather even the most difficult of economic times in our country. Thank you, Bette, for all that you have done for ACA New England over the past 20 years!
Launching in the summer of 2011, the American Camp Association’s Explore 30 Camp Reading Program addresses summer learning loss by providing youth with at least 30 minutes of reading time per day. Explore 30 is a FREE program involving a variety of camps and other youth development organizations interested in starting either a formal or informal reading program.

Camps that sign up have the opportunity to join in advocacy efforts to increase the recognition of and support for the value of the camp experience as a vital component in the development and education of the whole child. Camps will commit to the goal of incorporating academic enrichment into their program — specifically by encouraging daily reading to support building literacy. Camps will also be encouraged to integrate reading in ways that support self-regulation and the development of positive reading habits.

For more details and information on how to participate, CLICK HERE!

Dear Camp Directors - ACA Needs Your Information!

During April we ask directors to share their projections for this coming summer for camper enrollment and staff recruitment. This year your information is especially critical as we try to assess the potential impact of the current economic environment on the 2011 summer. Your spring projections provide us with a unique current "snapshot" of perceptions about increases and decreases in camper enrollment and staff recruitment! The information from this survey will provide critical data from which we can make evidence-based statements about the state of camper enrollments as we approach the summer.

Please help us have the most accurate information possible by completing the survey before April 22nd. The survey is completely anonymous and will take approximately six minutes to complete. The new camper enrollment and staff recruitment survey is available at HTTP://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/S/LPNM2T3. Your input is extremely important to accurately answer questions about camper enrollment and staff recruitment from the media and our ACA members!

Results from the survey may be accessed via HTTP://WWW.ACACAMPS.ORG/RESEARCH/IMPROVE/ENROLLMENT-RECRUITMENT-SURVEY.

Thank you for your help!

Child Protection Improvements Act Needs Your Support Today!

The Child Protection Improvements Act has been reintroduced into both the Senate (S 645), and the House of Representatives (HR 1360)! This bipartisan bill expands and makes permanent a background check pilot program created in the PROTECT Act of 2004, which allows youth-serving organizations access to timely, inexpensive fingerprint-based checks of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's criminal records database. ACA is calling the youth development community to action to advocate for swift passage of this important child protection bill.

LEARN MORE

Continuing Education Credits Available Now for our 2011 Conference!

Our conference has been granted educational endorsement by the American Camp Association’s Educational Endorsement Review Committee. Educational Endorsement means that the program has been reviewed by a qualified panel to verify the goals, learner outcomes, presenter qualifications, and evaluation requirements are relevant for this educational program. Continuing education credits (CECs) are available for this endorsed program. Participants completing this program and requesting CECs must petition the appropriate certifying body regarding acceptance of these CECs.

Request CECs from Kim Brosnan KBROSNAN@ACACAMPS.ORG or Andrea Stearley ASTEARLEY@ACACAMPS.ORG
My camp is due for an ACA accreditation visit this summer, is there anything I should be doing to prepare?

YES!

Be sure to have a current Statement of Compliance on file.
Spend time this spring updating your written documentation.
Be sure your Accreditation Process guide is up to date. Updates can be downloaded at: HTTP://WWW.ACACAMPS.ORG/ACCREDITATION/RESOURCES-TOOLS
Also note that HR4B is NOW mandatory

Your Visitor will be contacting you this month to set up a time for a Written Document Preview and the date of the visit.

Visitors are the heart and soul of the ACA standards program.

As a way of thanking our visitors for their hard work, Migis Lodge graciously donated a 2 night stay at their fantastic facility. All those who visited during the summer of 2010 were entered into the raffle. The winner was Lin Walsh of Connecticut!

Would you like to host the next Associate Visitors Course?

We are seeking a facility to offer the fall Visitors course. We would like to offer the course in the Hartford or Springfield area. If you are interested, please contact ELIZABETH@ACAENNEWENGLAND.ORG

As many of you know, the Standards are being reviewed, reformatted and revised for 2012. The National Office is in the process of a test run of some of the proposed adaptations. Watch for notices from ACA to Review the New Standards. This is a great opportunity to give feedback.

WE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME OUR NEW VISITORS TO ACA NEW ENGLAND!

Todd Lennig, Merrimack YMCA Camp Lawrence
Janet Ridneour, Girl Scouts of Connecticut
Carrie Kashawlic, Fleur de Lis Camp
A Simple Way of Giving to ACA New England That Will Really Add Up

If you do any online shopping at these 810+ stores, ACA New England could benefit...

Sign Up and ACA New England will receive a $5 BONUS DONATION WWW.IGIVE.COM/WELCOME/WARMWELCOME

Make your first purchase through iGive! within 45 days of joining, and earn a $5 bonus on top of the usual donation to American Camp Association, New England!

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Blanche Aurora Camp Consulting
Providing Guidance & Support to Camps Seeking or Maintaining American Camp Association Accreditation
Empowers Camps to Successfully Navigate the ACA Accreditation Process & to Incorporate the Standards into Their Camp Operations

Vivianne Holmes
Blanche Aurora Consulting
239 East Buckfield Road
Buckfield, ME 04220-4209
207-336-2484 (h) 207-939-6607 (c)
vholmes@maine.edu

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Conference Photo Gallery

L-R: Elizabeth Snell (ACA New England), Nancy Hartmann (Brooks School), Todd Lenning (Camp Lawrence)

Sue Fullerton (Left, YMCA Camp Huckins) poses with her daughter, a vendor in our EXPO hall.

Recognized for their service to the board, from L-R: Gus Planchet, Marijean Parry, Eric Arnold, Danita Ballantyne (not pictured: Sarah Seaward)

Jamie O’Connor poses with her adorable son Sean Patrick.

L-R: Pat Smith (Camp Wawenock), Barbara Steward (Former Director of Membership & Accreditation at ACA New England), June Gray (recipient of 2012 Distinguished Service Award), Bette Bussel (Executive Director, ACA New England)

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU!

There are a lot of wonderful opportunities out there for camp professionals, and we want to share them with you!

JOBS, JOBS, JOBS!
Did you know that the [ACA NEW ENGLAND WEBSITE](#) has a whole section devoted to *specialized camp jobs*? Whether you’re looking to post a job opening or trying to find a position for the summer or year-round, make sure to check out our [JOBS PAGE](#)!

TRAININGS & CERTIFICATIONS
*Summer 2011 is right around the corner,* and the ACA New England website has you covered if you’re looking for opportunities for trainings and certifications. Take a look at our [EDUCATION PAGE](#), [CERTIFICATION SCHOOLS PAGE](#), and our [PROFESSIONAL CALENDAR](#) for more information!

90th ANNUAL CONFERENCE FEEDBACK
We’re so glad you could make it to the 90th Annual ACA New England Conference! While everything is still fresh in your mind, *we would love your feedback on all things Conference 2011.* We value your opinions, whether they be rave reviews or suggestions for improvement. [FOLLOW THIS LINK TO TAKE OUR SURVEY](#)!

NEW CAMP DIRECTOR WORKSHOP
ACA New England and Massachusetts Camping Association are bringing you another fantastic New Camp Director Workshop. *The NCDW is a “Boot Camp” for new camp directors or those planning a camp career.* In a small, supportive atmosphere, you’ll get the tools you’ll need for running a successful day or resident camp. This NCDW will be held at [Boston College on Friday, May 13th, from 8am to 5pm](#). [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)!

BULLYING FORUM
You’re invited to the premiere screening of *Words Can Work’s Bullying: True Stories* and educational forum on bullying. This [FREE](#) event, presented by Partners Healthcare, will be held at the [Massachusetts State House on Thursday, April 28th from 9:30am to noon](#). [CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE INVITATION AND RSVP](#)!

2011 RESIDENT CAMP CONFERENCE
Join ACA New England and ACA New York & New Jersey for the 2011 Resident Camp Conference in [Freeport, ME](#). The even will take place [Monday, September 12th through Wednesday, September 14th](#). The Conference will feature Camps Runoia, Vega, Laurel, Takajo, Mataponi, and Laurel South. [CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE REGISTRATION FORM](#)!
RAFFLE WINNERS!

It was a great raffle this year! We raised over $6,500 for the ACA New England Annual Fund! The following is a list of items that were raffled and who the lucky winners were. The names of our generous donors are listed in parentheses after each item.

If you have not picked up your prize, please CONTACT ELIZABETH to arrange getting your items.

$1000 TRIP VOUCHER (Amerasport)
Won by Marijean Legnard Parry

2 ADMISSIONS TO THE CURRIER MUSEUM (Barbara Case of Currier Museum of Art)
Won by Sharon Porter

MANCHESTER PACKAGE
2 DINNER ENTRÉES AT MARGARITAS (Margaritas)
FLEX VOUCHERS TO THE MANCHESTER MONARCHS (Griffin Spencer of Manchester Monarchs)
TICKETS TO THE MANCHESTER FISHER CATS (Kim Elefante of New Hampshire Fisher Cats)
Won by Gus Planchet

2 HAND-KNIT HATS (Jen Hargrave)
HANDMADE SOAP (Terrie Campbell)
Won by Amanda Zellner

OUTDOOR PATIO FURNITURE AND COOLER (Anonymous)
Won by Bruce Kabel

MAINE TREATS FROM MAINE'S PANTRY (State of Maine)
TICKETS TO THE MAINE RED CLAWS (Sarah Seaward of Camp Nashoba North)
Won by Liz Tulley

BIG GREEN MOUNTAIN GIFT BASKET (State of Vermont)
Won by Gus Planchet

BIKE (Doug Sutherland)
Won by Valorie Rykowski

EXPERT ONLINE TRAINING (Chris Thurber)
Won by Carla Messer

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES (Girl Scouts of Eastern Mass)
TICKETS TO THE WORCESTER SHARKS (Worcester Sharks)
Won by Lisa Bates

MAGELLAN GPS (Anonymous)
Won by Gus Planchet

GRILL (Anonymous)
Won by Matt Hanson

LAMINATED FIELD GUIDES (Mass Audubon Publications Department)
Won by Lisa Beth Sanford

LL BEAN GIFT CARD (Nobles Day Camp)
VEST (Generals Camp Gear)
Won by Alex Thomas

LUGGAGE SET (Bette Bussel)
Won by Beth Packard

CAMP DIRECTOR'S KIT
TUG OF WAR ROPE (S&S Worldwide)
MOBILE TOOL KIT (Anonymous)
ROLLING BACKPACK (CC Creations)
WATER JUG & BACKPACK (ACA New England)
Won by Theresa Smith

continued on next page
RAFFLE WINNERS  
(continued)

**MOVIE TICKETS** (Anonymous)  
Won by Krystine Flythe / Matt Hanson

**ONE YEAR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP TO MASS AUDUBON** (Mass Audubon Membership Department)  
Won by Lisa Bates

**PARTY AT JILLIAN’S OF NEW HAMPSHIRE** (Jillian’s of Manchester)  
Won by Krystine Flythe

**RED SOX TICKETS** (Nat Saltonstall)  
Won by Zachary Bissonnette

**RESOURCE ITEMS OF GROUP FACILITATION** (Jen Stanchfield of Experiential Tools)  
Won by Pam Cobb

**ROCKING CHAIR** (Anonymous)  
Won by Paul Davis

**RUG** (Bruce Kabel of Tandy Leather Factory)  
**TV** (Anonymous)  
Won by Scott Brody

**SKYVENTURE TUNNEL TIME** (SkyVenture)  
Won by Matt Hanson

**HANDBACED BOOKS & PAPER STORE GIFT CARD** (Amanda Zoellner)  
**ITUNES GIFT CARD** (Greg Jutkiewicz and Concord Academy)  
Won by Rae Ratcliff

**$100 GIFT CARD TO JORDAN’S FURNITURE & 6 IMAX TICKETS** (Jordan’s Furniture)  
**$50 TOKENS** (Fun Spot of Weirs Beach New Hampshire)  
Won by Matt Hanson

**KRINGLE CANDLES GIFT BASKET** (Ken Dawley)  
Won by Lisa Carlin

**NEW HAMPSHIRE GIFT BASKET** (State of New Hampshire)  
**CAPITAL CENTER FOR THE ARTS PERFORMANCES** (Capitol Center for the Arts)  
Won by Beth Packard

**DINNER AND A MOVIE**  
**HARLOW’S PUB GIFT CERTIFICATE** (Harlow’s Pub)  
**REGAL CINEMAS 4-PACK OF MOVIE TICKETS** (Wildwood)  
Won by Meredith Dean

**HANDBACED CUTTING BOARDS AND BOWL** (Ron Hall)  
Won by Bette Bussel

**OUTDOOR FIRE PIT** (Anonymous)  
**4 BLANKETS** (Charles Aikin of Bourbon’s)  
Won by Sandy Valine

**KINDLE** (Summer Fenn)  
Won by Chrissy Dyball

**$25 TRIP TICKET** (ACA New England)  
Won by Elena Morales

**2 JACKETS** (Acadia Insurance)  
**5 WINDBREAKERS** (Discounter)

We could not have had such a wonderful raffle and event without the donations of so many giving people, organizations, and businesses.

**THANK YOU!**

from

American Camp Association

New England
MEET OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBERS

Here is your chance to get to know the newest members of our Board and to refamiliarize yourself with the Board members who have been elected to new positions! Congratulations to the following fresh faces of the ACA New England Board!

**MILISA GALAZZI**, Board Member at Large. Chief Financial Officer and Director of Brewster Day Camps, Misa also directs a Program that was named “Top 10, for Supporting Diverse Families,” by the National Association of Education of Young Children in 2010. Misa is a new member of the National ACA Awards Committee, and she’s been a member of the Massachusetts Camp Association Board since 2007. Forty-two of her 45 summers have been spent at camp. Misa, a fine artist who exhibits and sells her work regionally and nationally, is eager to contribute energy to the work of ACA New England and its many efforts to support camps and the camping industry.

**JOHN JACQUES**. Treasurer. As treasurer, John will work to ensure that the association continues to be financially stable so that it can remain a vital force to support camps and keep them safe, accessible, and relevant to the families of New England. Currently he’s the Manager of the Environmental Education Center of W. Alton Jones Campus at the University of Rhode Island and Director of the Alton Jones Camp. Areas of expertise for John are: Environmental/Outdoor Education, Adventure Education, and Marketing. John is the former president, vice president, and board member of the Rhode Island Association of Camps.

**MARIJEAN LEGNARD PARRY**, Board Member at Large. A recent member of the Executive Committee and the Board, Marijean has unique knowledge and perspective of the opportunities and challenges that face our organization today. She currently directs Camp Aloha (VT). She’s a former director of Adventure Camp at Sargent Center (NH) as well as Camps Wabasso, Runels, and Northwoods. Marijean is a Standards Visitor, the Chair of our Conference Steering Committee and a past member of several committees. She was a recipient of ACA New England’s Special Recognition Award in 2001 and our Meritorious Service Award in 2007. Marijean’s areas of expertise are planning, event planning, and education.

**JASON SILBERMAN**, Board Member at Large. Jason is the owner and director of Camp Matoaka (ME). Prior to owning Camp Matoaka, he owned and operated Camp Manitou. During his previous term as Board Member at Large, he chaired the public outreach committee and participated on the website task force initiative for the New England section. Jason is a Standards Visitor for ACA New England and the recipient of our Leadership Award for dedicated service. He’s a member of the Board of the Bright Spirit Children’s Foundation, which helps to provide distractive entertainment to seriously-ill children in hospitals across the U.S.
ALEX THOMAS, Board Member at Large. As someone with extensive history working with both for-profit and not-for-profit/agency camps, many years of board membership experience, and a hand on the pulse of public education, Alex brings a well-rounded perspective to the board table. She is a former owner/director of Delaware Outdoor Adventure Center. Currently a Camp Manager with the Girl Scouts of CT, Alex’s areas of expertise are camp management, adventure programming and delivery, and staff training. She’s a Visitor and Instructor of ACA Standards and Associate Visitor Training – 1999 - present – and a past member of our Membership and Steering Committees. Alex is a recipient of the ACA New England Leadership Award. She is the Past President, Board Member and Nominating Chair of the Connecticut Camping Association.

LANI TOSCANO, Vice President. ACA New England will have a crucial role in helping to define strategies to maintain camping’s magnificent and essential role in society. Lani is energized and excited to help lead ACA New England in this new era. She’s currently a Co-Director of Camp Runoia (ME) and the former director of Center Day Camp and Assistant to the Director of Alford Lake Camp. Her involvement with ACA New England has been on our Conference Program Committee, as a Board Member at Large, and as a Standards Visitor. Lani is a recipient of the ACA New England Appreciation Award. Camping, Education, Child Development, Strategic Planning, and Fundraising are areas of expertise for her. Lani is currently a member of the Maine Youth Camping Foundation Board.

AMANDA ZOELLNER, Secretary. Amanda’s unusual ability to keep track of information and to remember almost everything she reads allows her to make connections between pieces of information—highly valued skills for our new secretary. Amanda serves as the Administrative Director of Mass Audubon’s Wildwood Camp (NH) where she administers two financial aid programs, for Wildwood and for funds available to day camps from Mass Audubon’s education department endowment funds. Amanda has served as an ACA New England board member since 2008, a member of the ACA New England conference steering committee, a Presenter at ACA New England and ACA Tri-State Conferences and as a Standards Visitor. She serves as New Hampshire Camp Directors’ Association board member, secretary, and conference chair.

OTHER NEW APPOINTMENTS

SARAH SEAWARD, Board Stewardship Committee. Sarah was recognized for her work on behalf of ACA New England as a Vice President of the Board. Sarah is the owner/director of Camp Nashoba North (ME). She served from 2001 - 2010 on the National Board Stewardship & Awards Committee. She’s the former chair of several ACA New England committees as well, including Services, Public Awareness, and the Camp Fair Task Force. Sarah is also a Standards Visitor. Sarah is a recipient of the National ACA Service Award, the ACA New England Special Recognition Award, and the AIC Honor Award. She enjoys the camaraderie of New England camping professionals and is honored to volunteer once again.
Since its founding, the Wildflower Camp Foundation has shown that renewed spirit and creativity can come out of great loss. Established in memory of a father who passed away at far too young an age, the Foundation set out to provide the support and return to normalcy that so many children lack after the loss of a parent. One of the best places to do this is at summer camp, where children are free to chase their imaginations and find a break from the often harsh realities of the world they leave behind at home. This also provides a welcome respite for the surviving parent who may feel burdened not only by grief but also by the demands of single parenting.

With this in mind, Wildflower aimed to restore the “Promise of Summer” to children who had suffered the loss of a parent. The Foundation began modestly in 2004, sending just 5 children to the summer camp of their choice, but as the years passed and the message was spread, more children have received scholarships. Wildflower was very pleased to send 32 children to camp last summer. To support this cause, Wildflower has also had to grow and evolve to meet the demands that come with supporting more families. The organization has been successful in this endeavor, steadily increasing its development effort and correspondingly increasing the number of children it supports every year.

In 2010, Wildflower faced both its biggest challenge and opportunity when a generous supporter offered to donate an additional $10,000 if the Foundation raised $100,000 in cash and in-kind donations. Through the hard work and dedication of many board members, volunteers, and old and new friends, Wildflower met and exceeded the fundraising goal, securing funds to send even more children coping with loss to camp in the future. Among the biggest supporters of this initiative were the many ACA New England members who provided generous tuition reductions for our campers, which contributed significantly to the final tally. With the incredible generosity of so many, Wildflower is able to send its campers to wonderful camps all over New England, where the “Promise of Summer” is truly fulfilled.
Bette’s Shirts for Kids Project was launched during the recognition of Bette Bussel’s 20 years as our Executive Director. Because Bette is the type of person who would give you the shirt off her back, camps are being asked to donate shirts to this new project. Bette was presented with a box of t-shirts that were collected from members of our board of directors. All shirts will be donated to a shelter in the fall on behalf of Bette and ACA New England’s members and ACA accredited camps, benefitting children in need. Contact our office about making a shirt donation.

Pictured above with Bette is Greg Jutkiewicz of Concord Academy Day Camp, Chair of our Conference Program Committee, and Banquet Emcee.

ALREADY LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR’S CONFERENCE?

So are we!

ACA New England’s 2012 Conference will be held March 30-31.

KEEP AN EYE ON OUR WEBSITE. Details will be posted soon!

Questions about next year’s conference? Or this year’s? No problem! EMAIL DONNA JOHNS-THOMAS.