

# The Acorn Highlights

February 2004

**The quarterly newsletter of the American Camping Association®, Rocky Mountain Section**

## President's Letter

### Rocky Mountain Section Office

*Betsy Thamert,*

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Dear Friends,

Happy 2004 to everyone! I know that you are all knee deep in preparations for next summer and hope that your efforts are going well. It always seems like there are too few days in the winter to accomplish everything that needs to be done before summer, but hopefully you will take some time to reflect on the contributions you make.

I am writing this during the week before the National Conference in San Francisco, although you probably will receive it while the conference is underway. It will be wonderful to see many of you at the Conference. I expect that some major decisions will be made in San Francisco that affect the future of the American Camping Association, including a possible name change to the American Camp Association. These decisions will be made by the Council of Delegates, a gathering of representatives from each Section which is convened each year. This year, Gail Albers and I are the Rocky Mountain Section Delegates, and we will make a full report about the Council's deliberations after the conference.

Last fall at the Annual Meeting, as most of you know, we elected Carole Cheley to the office of President-Elect for the section. Carole has decided, for personal reasons, that the time commitment required for this office is too large considering her other responsibilities and she has resigned. Carole continues to serve ACA and the section in many ways—she is a member of the National Conference Planning Committee, a Standards Visitor, and one of the planners for the AIC meeting in San Francisco. She is also working

with Marty on our Annual Meeting next Fall. We appreciate Carole's many contributions and know that this was a difficult decision for her.

The Board has appointed Nancy Atkinson to fill the office of President-Elect. She will become President in January, 2005. Most of you know Nancy, who is co-director of Geneva Glen Camp. We are fortunate that someone with Nancy's qualifications is willing to commit the time and effort to this position. She has served on the section board for many years and has also served as President. She will assume her duties immediately.

Education Chair Marty Ferguson has a wonderful Spring training lined up and is making plans for a truly outstanding Fall Conference. I hope to see you all at these valuable events.

Sincerely,

*Jane*

## From the Section Office

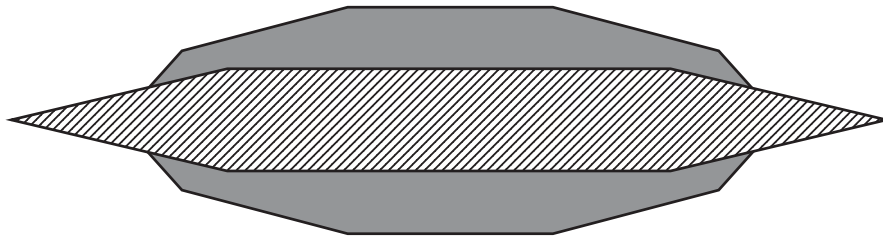
The ACA, Rocky Mountain Section website ([www.acarockymountain.org](http://www.acarockymountain.org)) is a resource available not only to the public but also to camp professionals. The website provides information on accredited camps within the section as well as information on the benefits of the camp experience. Educational events and trainings for camp staff are also listed on the site.

Thank you to those who have sent updates for your camp listing on the website. The listings have been updated and will be updated again at the end of the year. If there are changes that need to be made between now and then, please let me know and they will be made. Modifications to the website are continuing. Planned improvements include a listing of the items available for checkout through the section library. Contact me if there is something you would like to see on the site or if you have ideas for changes or improvements.

If you are hosting upcoming trainings or educational events that are open to camp staff other than your own staff, please send me the information so it can be posted on the site. I would also appreciate hearing from you if you have staffing needs that you would like to let others know about. I especially want to hear from you if you have surplus applicants for tough to fill positions (cooks and nurses)! This information will be shared via section updates or the website.

My best to you as you prepare for camp.

*Betsy*



Check out the many products and services offered by the ACA-Rocky Mountain Section Business Members as you plan for summer. They know camp and can help you take care of your campers, staff and facilities.

**American Camping Association®,  
Rocky Mountain Section  
Business Members**

LIP IVO - Dawn Kohlman - [www.lipivo.com](http://www.lipivo.com)  
Wilderness Aware Rafting - Joe Greiner - [www.inaraft.com](http://www.inaraft.com)  
Callippe Solutions - Wynne Whyman - [www.callippe.com](http://www.callippe.com)  
Fletmeyer and Lee Associates, Inc. - James Fletmeyer - [www.flaboulder.com](http://www.flaboulder.com)  
Leahy & Associates - Tom Leahy - [www.leahy-inc.com](http://www.leahy-inc.com)  
Rocky Mountain Sunscreen - Davide Erickson - [www.rmsunscreen.com](http://www.rmsunscreen.com)  
Ouray Sportswear - Dean Bassett - [www.ouraysportswear.com](http://www.ouraysportswear.com)  
Lowe Alpine - Gareth Richards - [www.lowealpine.com](http://www.lowealpine.com)  
Real American Action Wear Inc. - Glen Dotter - [www.raawear.com](http://www.raawear.com)  
This Generation Presents - Russ Fox - [www.thisgenerationpresents.com](http://www.thisgenerationpresents.com)  
Digital VoiceXchange - Robert Shinn - [bshinn@cvxtel.net](mailto:bshinn@cvxtel.net)  
Four Iron Apparel - Jim Gallup - [www.fourironapparel.com](http://www.fourironapparel.com)  
Camp Channel - Eric Beerman - [www.campchannel.com](http://www.campchannel.com)  
The Duck Company - Bud Doyle - [www.duckco.com](http://www.duckco.com)

# Mountains, Kids and Camp

18<sup>th</sup> Annual Workshop for Camp Nurse

Date: **Friday June 4 - Saturday June 5, 2004**

Location: Sanborn Western Camps at Colorado Outdoor Education Center  
Florissant, Colorado 80816



Cost: \$65 For ACA Mmembers  
\$95 for Non-ACA Members

The fee includes course materials, CEU's for RN's, meals and lodging

Continuing Education: The educational activity for nursing contact hours for Colorado nurses is provided by the Colorado Department of Education. A Certificate of verification will be given to participants who attend all sessions.

Contact Information: Betty B. McLain, RN, MSN, Coordinator  
719-748-3435, McL26@direcway.com

The course is designed for RN's, with continuing education units provided for nurses. The ACA-Rocky Mountain Section continues to sponsor the Camp Nurse Workshop, with the firm belief that specific education is needed for nurses to provide the best care they can for campers and staff. Curriculum includes the basics of camp nursing, medication management, as well as an overview of the state regulations that specifically impact health care. There will also be discussions about the emerging trends in camp health care.

## Camp Professionals Spring Workshop

Continuing our tradition of rich and informative Spring Educational Workshops, Education Chair Marty Ferguson is putting together another "don't miss" event. Held again at the Link Recreation Center in Lakewood, this year's workshop will feature Tom Leahy of Leahy & Associates and Dr. Bill Porter of Creating Caring Communities. Tom will address challenge courses topics including training standards, certifications and current legal issues. Bill will speak about bullyproofing, including issues of setting the tone and interventions.

The goal of the workshop is to provide timely, valuable, skills-based training for camp professionals that can be used right away this summer. Join us for a great day of practical learning. The workshop will be held on **Wednesday, April 21**. The cost is \$40 for ACA members and \$50 for non-members.

For more details and to sign up contact Marty Ferguson (970-887-2152, x4172, mferguson@ymcarockies.org) or Betsy Thamert (rmexec@yahoo.com, 888-926-2267) or fill out and return this form with payment.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$40 ACA Member

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Non Member

Mail registration form with payment to: Betsy Thamert; PO BOX 2566; Estes Park, CO 80517

Make Checks payable to **ACA Rocky Mountain Section**

## **Section Tidbits**

### **Vail Mountain School to Host "Summer Stuff"**

"Summer Stuff", a one-day expo featuring representatives from over 35 summer activities and camps for kids ages 5-18 will be held on Sunday, March 14, 2004 at the Vail Mountain School in Vail, Colorado. The event will be held from noon until 4:00 p.m. For information on exhibiting, contact Kathy Scanlan at 970-926-6622 or Nancy Young at 970-476-3850.

### **Volunteers Needed**

As many of you know, YMCA Camp Shady Brook was hit by the one-two punch of the wildfires of 2002 and subsequent flooding in 2003. In preparation for 2004 they are organizing a volunteers day this Spring to help get everything in top shape for the summer. What better way to show the spirit of our section than by pitching in a helping hand. Contact Tara at (719) 329-7266 to volunteer and for all the details.

### **Sponsor the Acorn!**

Advertise in the Acorn Highlights and get into the hands of camp professionals across the Rocky Mountain Region and beyond. Prices are very reasonable. If you are interested in advertising or know someone who is, contact Mike MacDonald (pg.6)

### **Public Relations**

Do you have a friend or contact in your local news media (print or television)? Zim Zimmerman, our Public Relations Chair, is developing a media contact list to better spread the word about camping in the Rocky Mountain West. We want ACA to be the place to go for writers and producers doing stories about camping. Developing media relations is vital for that to happen. If you know individuals in these positions or people who could help in our efforts, please contact Zim (pg. 6)

Has your camp been the focus of a newspaper article or news piece? Jo is also working on creating an archive of articles and other pieces about Rocky Mountain Section camps. Please contact Jo if you have something (or think you might have something!) that would be of interest.

### **Thanks to All Our Vendors**

The exhibit hall at the Fall Conference had many vendors with products for us to see and taste. We wish to thank those who participated.

Omega Marketing, Vincent Fletter, (303) 322-9200  
Callippe Solutions, Wynne Whyman, (719) 591-7307  
Camp Channel, Eric Beermann, (970) 728-7035  
Leahy Inc., Kat Harvey, (303) 673-9832  
Institutional Purchasing Service, Kip Brandon, (206) 547-5758  
Hobby Whalen Marketing, Kevin Fratzke, (303) 283-0000 Ext 1020  
Kerpatric Brokerage, Ellen Balak, (303) 458-7281  
US Foods, Cheryl Ricketts, (719) 686-8483  
Four Peaks Inc. (General Mills)

### **Webmaster Help Needed**

The Section is in need of some help with our website updates and general upkeep. As part of our communications committee, our web master will help keep the site current and share ideas to make it as useful to members as possible. This is a great way to give some time to the Section and help fill a great need. Please contact Mike MacDonald. ([mikemac@sanbornwestrencamps.com](mailto:mikemac@sanbornwestrencamps.com))

### **Newsletter Contributions**

The Acorn Highlights is the official newsletter of the American camping Association Rocky Mountain Section. It is YOUR newsletter and hopefully is important to you and something you look forward to receiving four times a year. When you come across articles or information that you think might be useful to others in our camp community, please pass it on to Mike MacDonald (pg. 6). If you want to write an article, or if you have an idea about a possible submission, please contact Mike. It is our newsletter. Let's keep it rich and beneficial.

## Section Tidbits

# 2004 Fall Conference

Mark your calendar! Hold that date! Make your plans! The 2004 ACA - Rocky Mountain Section is set for **November 16 and 17** at the The Nature Place Conference and Retreat Center in Florissant. You may be wondering “where exactly is Florissant?” and/or “that’s a new place for the conference - what’s going on?” Great questions...

Florissant is about 35 miles west of Colorado Springs on Highway 24. It is just about dead center in the middle of the state. The Nature Place is about 5 miles south of town and shares land with Sanborn Western Camps. The conference site was moved for a number of reasons including doing something new and having the opportunity to use the conference as a means to visit other Rocky Mountain Section sites each year.

We are all excited about the change and more importantly about the plans underway for the educational sessions, the “I Support” auction (see below) and the chance to get together as a section once again. Keep your eye on your mail and e-mail for updates and announcements as we work toward November.

If you would like to learn more about The Nature Place, its facilities and more, visit their web site at [www.thenatureplace.net](http://www.thenatureplace.net).

### **“I Support” Auction and ( 1<sup>st</sup> Annual) Raffle!!**

I know it sounds crazy (yes, it is February) but we are starting to plan our 2004 Fall Conference “I Support” Auction and Raffle! Our goal this year is to have really terrific, unusual, exciting items – sports memorabilia, vacation escapes, lift tickets, theme baskets, sports tickets, concert tickets, wine, food, spa packages, art work, furniture, brewery tours, and much more! We are also adding a raffle/door prize component this year with all kinds of camp paraphernalia (clothing, travel mugs, caps, crazy creeks), restaurant certificates, manicures, facials, grocery certificates, coffee certificates, etc...

So, what does this mean to you? We are asking you to start thinking now about your ability to donate something out of the ordinary to support our Rocky Mountain Section! If most of us think about it, we know someone or do business with some organization that could support our Auction. We hope that by getting you thinking about the Auction now, you may find a really unique way to offer support.

Do you have a friend that manages a ski area? Could she donate a 2004/2005-season pass? Does your brother-in-law build furniture? Could he donate a coffee table? Do you have a condo, a timeshare, season tickets to the AV’s – Bronco’s – Symphony? Does your Aunt run a travel agency? Could she donate a cruise?

All donations to the Auction are tax-deductible and written verification will be provided to every donor. All funds are used to support Section projects (travel for delegates to National Conferences, speakers for our Annual Conference, speakers for Spring Workshops, Education programs like visitor training and summer training courses, the Acorn publication, Section support for National CAMPAign07, visitors travel to accreditation visits, and more). All the work that goes into running our section benefits from a solid financial base and the Auction is a fun, exciting, unique way to support the Section efforts.

If you have any questions or are ready for a donation form or corporate donation request letter, please call or email Molly Robison – 303-697-4621 ext. 13 or [molly@genevaglen.org](mailto:molly@genevaglen.org). Thanks in advance for your support!

**The Acorn Highlights**  
American Camping Association®,  
Rocky Mountain Section  
PO Box 2566  
Estes Park, CO 80517

*Address Correction / Forwarding Requested*

*First Class Mail*

## Who's who??

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