

SPRING 2001



BUCKO

Welcome to the Camp BUCKO Newsletter

Dear Campers,

We are excited to send you a copy of our brand new newsletter. We want to keep in touch with you, your families, and our volunteers, and let you know what is going on with Camp BUCKO. Inside you will read stories from a camper and a volunteer about last year's camp and hear updates about BUCKO. Our newsletter needs a name and we want our campers to help us out. Be sure to check out the contest info in this edition.

We plan to send the newsletter out twice a year and we invite our campers to participate. In the fall, we will be looking to you for stories about camp and invite you to be creative, like writing a poem or drawing a cartoon, for a section called Camper's Creative Cabin that will appear in our fall newsletter. Thanks to everyone who contributed to our first edition. We hope you all enjoy the newsletter!

Nancy Sinclair & Megan Davies

Newsletter Committee

Name the Newsletter

Contest

OK campers, here's the challenge: Come up with a fun, catchy, cool name for the newsletter. Write your idea on a piece of paper and be sure to include your name.

Send your entry by June 30th to:

Newsletter Committee

c/o

Nancy Sinclair

107 Greybeaver Trail, Toronto, ON

M1C 4V4

The chosen name and winner will be announced at camp this year. You better plan to attend so you can pick up your prize!



Tyler Cairns attended the National Burn Camp which was held in Washington, D.C in September of last year. Here is Tyler and his chaperone, BUCKO volunteer Bezer Armstrong, standing at the Canadian Embassy.

Camp BUCKO 2001

Camp is scheduled for August 19th to the 25th and we are looking forward to an exciting week of camp. The dance, for the teens, and the chat sessions, with Dennis, were so successful last year that they will be part of the program again this year. We are working on some new additions for this year and you'll have to come to camp to find out! If you haven't registered yet, please call Wendy McCann at 519-472-7485. We hope to see YOU at camp!

Camp BUCKO Regional Contacts

Hamilton	London	Thunderbay	Toronto	Windsor
Wendy Johnson	Gwen St. John	Deborah Blaikie	Laura Beaune	Joan Fuerth
905-527-0271 ext. 46259	519-685-8500 ext. 57493	705-935-2262	416-813-8332	519-973-4444 ext.2648

My Camp Experience at BUCKO

Last year at Camp Bucko 2000, I had the best time ever. I have been going to camp for five years and last year was by far the best! The time that I spent at camp was a chance for me to be myself. The people in my cabin and the friends that I made were very supportive.



Charmaine & friends at Camp BUCKO 2000

The camp provided me with many types of activities that made me feel like a “normal” person. Some of the things I got to do were climb the wall, zipline, go on our overnight with the boys (in separate tents of course), and canoe wars against the boys. A new event this year was the dance for the

older campers. I was also able to reunite with friends that I had met previously.

I think the volunteers were a big part of making my camp experience that much better. They talked with us, listened to us if we had a problem, lent us their clothes and shoes when ours got soaking wet on the overnight (thanks ladies!) and, most importantly, became our friends. John and Dennis, you are the BEST, thanks!!! I think that the campers really bonded this year and are sure to keep in touch throughout the year. If I had not gone back last year, then I would not have the friends that I made, the camp memories and the confidence in myself which is far greater than I had before.

My love goes out to all the people who made this experience possible, campers 2000, and to the campers I have yet to meet.

**THANK YOU,
Charmaine Noels**

PICTURES FROM BUCKO 2000



BUCKO BULLETIN BOARD

VOLUNTEERS

Would you be interested in volunteering at Camp BUCKO? If so, for more information, please call:
Megan Davies
416-813-5887
Laura Beaune
416-813-8332

EVALUATIONS

Thanks to everyone who completed and returned the evaluation forms. The response was great and we appreciate your comments.

"Camp BUCKO is special because it allows kids to interact with each other and it's like one big happy family."

BUCKO 2000 camper

PENPALS

If you would like to exchange letters or email with a kid from another burn camp, please let me know.
Nancy
416-281-3169
email
njsinclair@attcanada.net

A very special "THANK YOU" to my entire camp family for allowing me to share in a beautiful dream come true once a year called BUCKO!

*Again, THANK!
Dennis Gardin*

After the Burn, Easing the Pain

**Fundraiser - May 5th
Live Auction, Buffet Dinner, Dance
HiRo Shrine Club Building
St. Thomas, ON**

**INFO: Call John Watters
519-765-3850, or
519-670-8659**

WEBSITE

Our new website is now under construction. Stay tuned.....

Camp BUCKO Merchandise

There are t-shirts, baseball hats, and sweat shirts available with the Camp BUCKO logo. To find out what is available or to place an order please call Nancy at 416-281-3169.

The Fifth International Burn Camp Conference - Learnings from Seattle 2000

What a great opportunity it was for Ted and Darlene Yard (owners of Camp Hollyburn who host Camp BUCKO) and I to fly to Seattle to spend a weekend at Camp Waskowitz with burn camp directors, counsellors and volunteers from all over North America. It was especially exciting to see that there are now 6 Burn Camps in Canada (2 in Nova Scotia, 1 in Manitoba, 1 in Ontario, 1 in Alberta, and 1 in British Columbia).

The conference gave us the opportunity to hear about other burn camps, to learn about new ideas and to share with others some of the joys and challenges of offering a great camping experience. We came away with many new ideas such as; new activities for teen campers, developing a counsellor in training program, starting a website and improving the role of the volunteer counsellor.

We are also excited about the possibility of joining a newly formed group called the Federation of Burn Camps, which will help to standardize burn camp procedures and policies.

Thanks to Camp BUCKO for sponsoring our trip so that we can continue to work on making Camp BUCKO the best for our campers.

Laura Beaune, Director



What Volunteering for Camp BUCKO Means

When you volunteer for something, to me, it means giving of yourself freely, I'm a married father of two children. I gave up a week of tie to gain a lifetime of memories.

My immediate family members at BUCKO were Gage, Paul, the two Andrews, and Harry. We had fun from the time we got off the bus on arrival at Camp BUCKO until we got back to Sherway Gardens. It feels good to be wanted. I truly believe that the theme of the week for my group was, "Ill do it, if Wayne does it first". We did spend a lot of time fishing and knitting. I believe Paul set a record for how fast you can tangle up a fishing reel!

Now I've only talked a bit about my immediate family at BUCKO. There were some 8 or 9-year-old ladies who taught me how to launch a canoe the proper way! Once we were in the water and I had been placed in the middle of the canoe on my bottom, they instructed me in power paddling. It was a great learning experience! My knowledge of music was increased thanks to the counsellors, Mesha and Blair. The boys explained you can only appreciate the music if the volume is set to vibrate the cottage. For best results play music after lights out – this encourages the sharing and bonding with the other Camp BUCKO staff, volunteers and campers!

As the week progressed one could hardly hear the volunteers counting down: four more early morning dips, three more, two more, etc. I found out that you can get forty adults, twenty counsellors (soon to be adults), two campers and one mouse, in a 12ft. by 15ft. room, to watch a final episode of a TV contest featuring who has to stay at a camp the longest! There were also two campers invaluable as antennae directional holders. A little advice to the uninitiated (choose your seat carefully, then never leave it!) I learned that if you see a red pail turned upside down under a tree, don't try and pick it up, there might be a beehive under it. I believe an upside down red pail is now an international symbol for bees, keep away!

One of the joys of Camp BUCKO, for me, was the wildlife. In the last thirty years, frogs have gotten a lot quicker, fish are smarter, mosquitoes are bigger than I remember and rocks are harder too! The highlight of the week, to me, was the Synchronize Swim Challenge. The older campers challenged their female counter parts to an Olympic style aqua battle. While the girls displayed great grace and rhythmic co-ordination, the boy's masculine display of strength and courage prevailed! I mean not many girls could run on water if they saw that snapping turtle. He was big! I don't know that their movements were choreographed to the music, as much as the turtle's movements!

The best thing about camp was the new friends I met, my good friends in my cabin, big bad Billy, my fellow counsellors and the owner operators of Camp Hollyburn (BUCKO)

Wayne Buckingham
Camp BUCKO Volunteer

