



SPRING 2004

SURVIVOR

GET READY!

Wow! Hard to believe that we are getting ready for BUCKO 2004! It doesn't seem like it has been that long since last year, our first at the Kinark Outdoor Centre. What an exceptional camp week it was with all of the special activities we did. I loved seeing all of you, catching up with friends and making new ones. Thanks so much for making my experience at camp awesome. I loved the challenges even though, I didn't win one, but I had fun just the same. I only made it half way up the climbing wall but for my first try ever, I am pretty happy about it. Thanks for all of the encouragement! Every year I become a stronger and better person because of my involvement with you all, you guys inspire me! The BUCKO Spirit gets stronger every year! This year is very special, it's BUCKO's 10-year anniversary. Plans are already underway for this year and we have some fun and exciting things planned for our 10th year. I am looking forward to seeing all of you again!

Nancy

Newsletter Committee

BUCKO Cup Challenge – Contest Winner

Best Challenge - Chase thought the challenge between the Wolverines and Bruce, KOC manager, was the best challenge! The Wolverines challenged Bruce to dress like a girl and swim in the lake because he had never, ever been in the lake before, even though he has worked at Kinark for years.



Mike, Rob, Will, Bruce, & Chris looking very pretty & getting ready to jump in the lake!

For his entry, Chase received a hand-held electronic football game and a back pack.

[Congratulations Chase!](#)



Here's Chase in disguise!

Welcome to the BUCKO Family!



Allison, Mina & Tiffany with Jodie at camp in 2002

Jodie Lalonde has joined the BUCKO team as our Managing Director and we would like to welcome him aboard! Some of you may remember Jodie when he came to camp and gave a paddle to every camper and 2 beautiful canoes to BUCKO.

Watch for Jodie at camp this year!

BUCKO Spirit

Camp BUCKO is a fun-filled week when people who have experienced a burn injury come together and have the opportunity to build friendships with others who understand. The BUCKO spirit is all about having a great time, feeling like you belong, supporting one another, including others in the fun, learning & growing, and making good friends. This happens when we all do our best to make sure everyone is enjoying camp. We can encourage another camper to try something new, make friends with a first-time camper, and support each other because we share similar feelings and experiences. This is what is so special about BUCKO, we are all there for each other, no matter what. Each and every one of you is a part of the **BUCKO Spirit!**

BUCKO Friends



2003



BUCKO Spirit Contest

Share your ideas about the **BUCKO Spirit** and tell us what camp means to you. Mail your entry by May 15st to **SURVIVOR**, 107 Greybeaver Trail, Scarborough, ON, M1C 4V4 or email it to nancycampbucko@rogers.com.

Your entries will be read at camp and all campers who enter have a chance to win one of these fantastic prizes: Fishing Rod & Tackle, Birdhouse Workshop, Beads & Bracelet Kit, 12 in 1 Game Set, or 1000 piece Car Puzzle.

Meet The Camp BUCKO Committee

Hi my name is Wendy Johnson, known to some of you as 'Wendy Bird'. I am an occupational therapist on the Hamilton Firefighters Burn Unit. I have been involved with Camp BUCKO since 1996. Looking back, boy has camp grown and improved and I have met so many amazing people (committee people, campers and their families). I fell in love with the Camp BUCKO family my first year at camp in 1997. I kept coming to camp (fly fishing off the dock, juggling in the cabin and cookin' on campouts) until baby Gillian arrived in 2000 and Larissa in 2002. My last time at camp was with Gillian, she came to camp for staff orientation and to meet some of you when she was 4 months old (the youngest visitor there I think). My young family has kept me busy and away from being at camp but my heart and thoughts are always with you during the week and I have found other ways to stay involved with BUCKO behind the scenes.

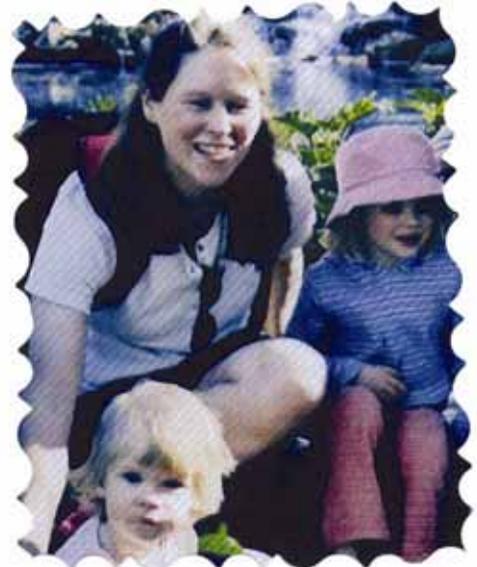
Playing dollies, reading stories and lots of tea parties take up most of my time. I sometimes find time to read a good book, scrapbook, be part of a show for the Players Guild of Hamilton, go camping or relax to some good tunes while doing yoga.

I look forward to a time when I can be part of the BUCKO family at camp again but in the meantime I will do all I can to help make it the best experience it can be for you. You can find me behind the BUCKO website at www.campbucko.ca, click on questions, or call 905-690-7051.

Some things I have been working on behind the scenes:

Camp RESEARCH: Thanks again to all of you who participated, we found out that the younger campers at camp have a better overall self-concept at the end of the week and the teens have improved sense of social support and friendship. We can say that the numbers show what we knew all along, that camp is a great thing.

Volunteer In Training Program: The **VIT** program will be entering its third year - open to 16-19 year olds. It is a chance for you older campers to learn to be leaders, help the younger campers, have fun with your peers and learn to be part of the volunteer group. This year we are introducing a scholarship for **VIT** graduates to get paid some money to help them return as volunteers until age 21. We see one of the strengths of camp as the support you give each other. The **VIT** program is about still having fun at camp but also about being able to give back to the BUCKO family. We want to help have our experienced campers come back, as you are the ones who truly understand the younger campers experiences.



Beautiful Family - Here's Wendy Bird with her daughters, Gillian and Larissa.

Wendy
Camp BUCKO Director

Fun Stuff!

This year's dance will be a **Halloween Costume Party!**
So bring something to wear or plan to make something
at camp in Arts & Crafts.



IAFF National Camp

Nathan and I were very fortunate to have been selected to represent Camp BUCKO at the IAFF National Burn Camp in Washington, D.C. last year.

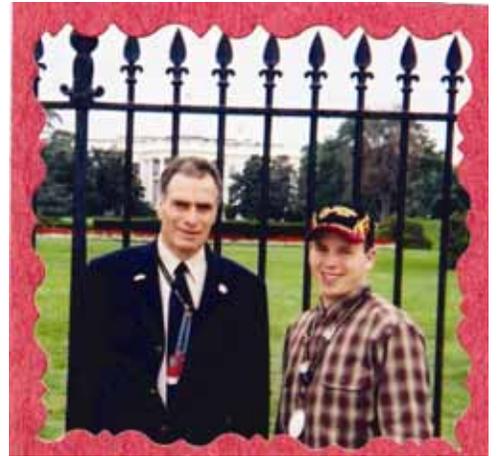
The International Association of Fire Fighters treated us royally. We met campers and firefighters from all over the U.S.A. We visited every major monument including the National Zoo, the White House, Congress, & the Smithsonian. We even had a simulated airplane ride where we were at the controls, shooting the enemy. During the week we were also treated to a visit at the Canadian Embassy and took pictures with our flag. The added bonus for me was being able to accompany Nathan who had been in my cabin for the two previous years at BUCKO. During the trip I had the pleasure of witnessing Nathan using the skills he learned as a Volunteer-In-Training. I saw first hand the results of the great work Camp BUCKO attempts to impart to its campers.

Once again my sincere thanks; it was truly an honour and thrill to represent the BUCKO spirit in Washington with Nathan. To all campers: Never stop challenging yourselves, YOU are worth it!

Bob

A grateful BUCKO volunteer

Thank you to all those people who chose me to represent Camp BUCKO at the IAFF camp in Washington DC this past year. Everyone who attended this camp saw many great sights such as The Whitehouse, The Capital, The Canadian Embassy and many more which I will gladly share with you at Camp BUCKO this year. It was a trip of a lifetime and one I'll not forget! Everyone who went soon became like family and shared each others experiences at camp. It was truly an honour for me to go and represent Camp BUCKO. I met many new friends some of which are burn survivors like us while others were Firemen and volunteers who so willingly gave of their time to make this camp the success that it was. A special thank you to my good friend Bob Meunier for accompanying me on this trip and encouraging me to become a VIT 2 and inspiring me to consider becoming a fireman



Nathan & Bob in front of the Whitehouse



Nathan

BUCKO Camper & VIT

Every year a BUCKO camper, aged 13 - 15, is invited to attend the International Association of Fire Fighters National Burn Camp based on his or her participation, enthusiasm and contribution to camp spirit.

BUCKO Memories

