



~ THE VIEWS ~

The Official Newsletter of Camp Outlook

The Bus's Last Words

This past fall, we had the opportunity to be a part of our bus's last adventure. Like an old man, or an old canoe, the bus has a life time of stories. As we waited for the heart of engine to warm up before going home, the bus shared some of its greatest memories over the sputtering and revving that showed its many years on the road. The stories were of trips gone by, treks into the wilderness and nights being mesmerized by the campfire. A couple of them are told here to provide a snap shot into the life and times of the bus.



"Waiting at the end of the lake for a pick up, I saw a strange, bright blue shape making its way towards me. As it got closer I could pick out the figures of four silver canoes latched together and a giant blue tarp billowing in the wind. As they pulled up to the take out I could hear the tales of adventure that had lead to a day of sailing in canoes. The trip had been running behind and the leaders were wondering if they would be able to meet me on time. After the final portage of the trip they had a tough paddle directly into the wind for an hour. However, after rounding a point they were delighted to discover that the wind was at their back and would be for the remainder of the trip. They rigged up their canoes and were quickly sailing down the lake towards me. When they arrived on shore I could see that their eyes were bright and their cheeks were flushed from the excitement of riding on the wind. Ah... how I wished then that I could sail too!"

"Now I've heard a lot of stories about roasting marshmallows over the fire, singing campfire songs, and playing some guitar on trip, but this one story I overheard a child telling was rather unique. It all started when an exhausted leader was paying little attention to the sheer quantity of s'mores being consumed by her campers. They had a lot of sugar, to say the least, and pretty soon the sugar rush took over their bodies. Pots and pans were pulled out of the wannigan, charcoal was smeared across foreheads, and before you knew it, the children were dancing in a circle around the fire chanting and pounding on their kitchenware. Spontaneously, as if it was already in them somewhere, they systematically and almost ritualistically covered their bewildered leader in charcoal. As fast as it began, the ceremony ended and one by one the children drifted off to bed."

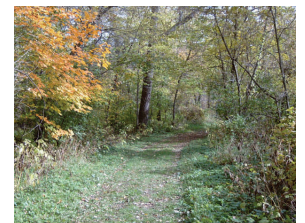
The bus told us many a story, and it has many more. This is just a taste of what it has to offer. If you're ever in need of a good story, the bus is still sitting in the parking lot at West Campus and will share its tales with anyone willing to listen.

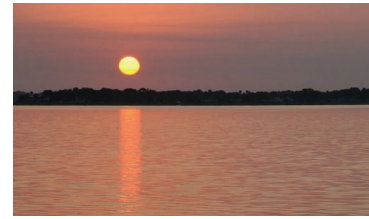
Holly Nesbitt and Alex Wilson

Spring Edition
April 2009

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A Few Words from the Summer Directors

Summer is on the way, y'all! And Camp Outlook will be ready. We (Sheryl and Tamara), Camp Outlook's 2009 summer directors, are almost done our staff recruitment, and boy do we have the makings of a stellar team of trip leaders for this summer. Taking our cue from last year's summer directors, we've spent the last few months enthusiastically spreading the word about this truly incredible summer volunteer opportunity. We advertised with abandon, making use of every (affordable) medium we could think of, and we knew our efforts had paid off when we more than matched the number of applicants from last year. Now, with our team looking as solid as a slab of metamorphic rock, we are free to fill our tripping schedule to its maximum capacity with a full roster of campers!

Fundraising-wise, this year has presented Outlook with an extra challenge. Not only is everyone working hard as usual to raise money to cover the operational costs of our programs (approximately \$500 per camper for a summer trip), but we also need to raise funds to be able to purchase a new bus before the start of June. Our old, beloved, yellow 20-seater was on its last legs this past summer and finally kicked the bucket in the fall. Throughout the school year, the dedicated winter staff have planned and taken part in various fundraising events such as Gorp sales, a photo silent auction, a portage-a-thon, a smoker at the Grad club, and canvassing at the LCBO and the Tea Room. Camp Outlook was also the proud recipient of Queens' annual Vogue Fashion Show donation. Words cannot express our gratitude to everyone who has donated so far!

This summer is shaping up to be another exciting, unforgettable experience for all involved. As has been done for almost forty springtimes in a row now, we are gearing up once more to give as many youth as possible this summer a unique adventure in the Canadian wilderness. We can only hope that each camper will come away with great memories to last a lifetime. None of it would be possible, though, without the financial support we receive each year from the campus and community. We are deeply appreciative of donations of any kind.

*Tamara Sandor & Sheryl Yip
Summer 2009 Directors*



“Risk is essential. There is no growth or inspiration in what is safe and comfortable. Once you find what is best, which not try something else?”

-Alex Noble

“Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the things you did. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbour and catch the trade winds in your sail. Explore. Dream.”

-Mark Twain

The Artful Science of

Fire

Building the campfire is an art form and a science. It takes a keen understanding of the ways of fire to achieve any level of mastery.

First, the most important fact: fire burns up! Heat makes gasses less dense so they rise (like in a hot air balloon). Only in space does a candle burn in all directions. Your flame will always burn above its source.

The lesson is this: if you want to light something, hold it upright and ABOVE the flame. When lighting the match, hold the match-head below the stick (careful not to burn your hand). When lighting the campfire, arrange the sticks in a tepee and light it from the bottom. The flame at the bottom of one stick will light the sticks further up. Too many times I see people trying to light a stick held horizontally, or holding it upright but lighting it at the top, completely confused to why the fire won't start!

The second tidbit is this: match the flame to the size of your firewood. You cannot light a 4-inch log with a single match! The thicker a piece of wood, the more energy (heat) it takes to light it, and the more heat it will release when it's burning.

Using a match to light a pine needle is easy, but the pine needle does not burn hot enough to light much else. Work your way up gradually from small to large. The trick is the gradual size increase. Jumps in thickness could kill the fire.

Back to the campfire: when collecting wood, sort it into sizes. Start with a packed bunch of timber, like thin twigs, wood shavings, and birch barks. Then build a tepee of slightly thicker and longer twigs above it (fire burns up). Leaving an opening around the tinder, build the tepee up around this, with gradually bigger sticks until they are the thickness of your fingers or thumb. Light the match, and ignite the tinder from as low as possible (I often dig a small trench to get below it). When the fire starts burning the biggest sticks, build up the tepee with even bigger pieces. Once it's roaring, you throw in long-burning logs around your base and you have a campfire!

At some point, your fire will benefit from extra oxygen. A good blow will get it roaring. A bad one will have you coughing, and the fire dwindling. Here are a few tips:

- 1) Aim low. Aim your breath to the base of the flame, where the reaction is happening. This means getting on your knees with your head close to the ground.
- 2) Breath in. Turn your head completely AWAY from the flame whenever you inhale. Otherwise, you'll get a lung-full of smoke.
- 3) Purse your lips and blow. The best blow is intense, steady, and sustained. If you blow too hard and fast, your effort will be wasted. Make a small opening between your lips to increase the pressure. Make it last as long as you can with a gentle but steady effort.

With this advice, you'll be a campfire pyro in no time!

Josh Stein



“Life is either a daring adventure or nothing. To keep our faces toward change and behave like free spirits in the presence of fate is strength undefeatable.”

-Helen Keller



Camping in Canada: an Outsider's Guide

Below are a few observations I have noted about the Canadian version of Camping and how Canadians enjoy the outdoors.

-3°C is "mild" in Canadian terms, not "Bloody freezing." Yes, you really can Camp in that feasibly without it being a survival experiment.

That is a wolf you hear, you know, like the ones that eat people. Not a Badger, or a Fox, that just lick you or eat out of rubbish bins. But in no circumstance must you show any sort of fear. Canadians will merely address this issue as "oh, I think that one's quite close. Cool." Actually, even if it's "just" a coyote, it's still pretty scary. Yeah, I'm man enough to admit that.

A forty minute drive out of a city is not "wilderness." It gets much, much wilder than this. Even if you only see two cars on the drive out there. And you don't need to tell the emergency services that you are going for an "expedition."

Canadians smile no matter what the weather or circumstances, or will put a positive spin on every thing. "Well, yes, the bears ate the last of our food, but at least they didn't eat us." Hmmm.....

Sorry guys, this is non-camping related, but Rick Mercer isn't that funny. Just thought I'd throw that out there.

Canadian kids don't moan, at all. In Britain, we invented the word, and man do our kids like to exploit it. The kids over here just get on with it. Actual quote: "Man, there's ore snow on my tent, its freezing in here. That's so cool!!!"

It's ten times better than camping anywhere else. And the kids over here love it. Can I stay here?

Sam Saunders

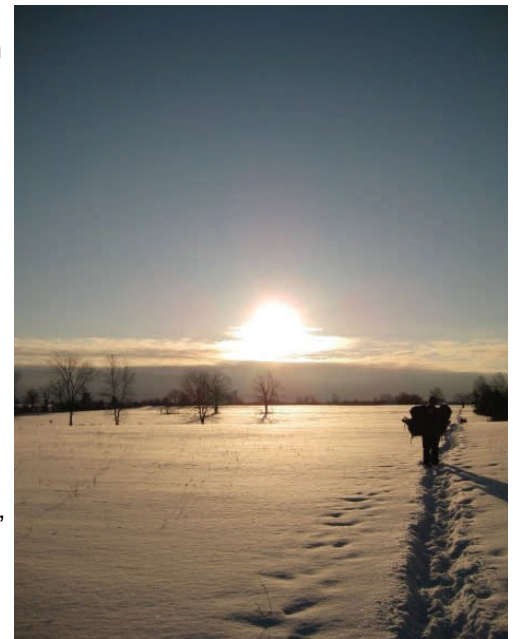
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"Approaching the future is like paddling a canoe down a river. There's white water ahead, uncertainty around the next bend, and no turning back. Rather than clinging to the shore or back-paddling furiously, the canoeist must go with the flow, reading the water ahead and responding with a skilled paddle."

- Ruben Nelson

"Now I see the secret of making the best person. It is to grow in the open air, and eat and sleep with the earth."

- Walt Whitman



Bagged Breakfast On Trips!



Everyone knows that breakfast is the most important meal of the day, and while camping, it is absolutely essential that everyone starts their exciting day off right! But who knew essential cooking utensils for a meal of eggs would be Ziploc and paper bags!?

Omelette:

2 Large Eggs

1 Tablespoon of Cheese

1 Tablespoon or so of any other ingredient you like in your omelette (like bacon or onion) - Optional

1 Small Ziploc Bag

Crack eggs right into the small Ziploc bag. Add the cheese and any option ingredients you like. Seal the bag, squish the ingredients to mix. "Burp" the air out. Drop Ziploc baggie into a pan or pot of boiling water for about 5 minutes. Carefully, remove baggie from the water. Open the bag and roll the omelette onto a plate. Deeeelightful!



Paper Bagged Yum:

1 egg

3 thick strips of bacon

Sticks

1 paper bag

Place bacon in the bottom of the bag, covering the bottom. Crack egg on top of the bacon and fold top of bag down securely. Poke a hole through the top of the bag for the stick. Hold over the hot coals (not flames!) until cooked. Enjoy!

Kelly Reynolds

“To live only for some future goal is shallow. It’s the sides of the mountain that sustain life, not the top.”

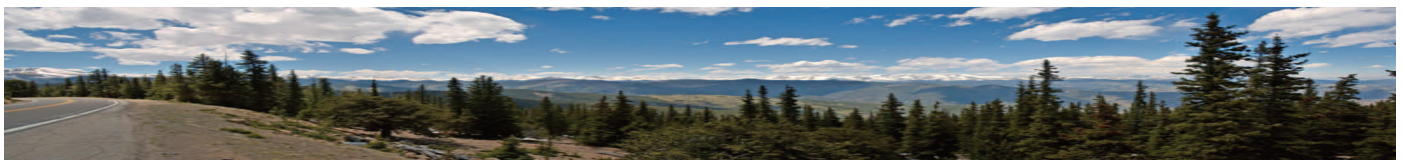
-Robert Pirsig

“We live in a wonderful world that is full of beauty, charm and adventure. There is no end to the adventures that we can have if only we seek them with our eyes open.”

- Jawaharlal Nehru

“To sit in solitude, to think in solitude with only the music of the stream and the cedar to break the flow of the silence, here lies the value of the wilderness.”

- John Muir



The Frozen Snail

by: *LolaJean Gentles*

This February was my last outlook trip. I have been very lucky over the past two years, because every outlook trip for me has been amazing! I have meet great trippers and campers, which has lead to tons of laughing, which is my favorite thing to do!! (I found out for certain on an outlook trip playing "World Cup Of ____"). During my last outlook trip we took the most diverse hike I have been on at 'the land' (although as we found out at the end... we may not have quite been on Queen's property...).

At one point we found a very calm section of river glistening in the sun. You could see all sorts of cool things frozen under the ice, like the snail in the picture below.

Trip for me is almost like freezing, or slowing down time. Getting away from the city, school, work, etc. means a pause in the normal routine of life- which, lets face it, usually ends up getting pretty busy!! I find this especially true of outlook trips where you get out of the Queen's bubble for a day and get to explore your surroundings, leaving all your worries at the JDUC.



Although trip seems to freeze time while you're in the bush, it certainly doesn't prevent time from passing for the rest of the world. I'm sure we've all had experiences where you come back from trip and some crazy big thing has happened in the rest of the world but you have been totally oblivious!! One example for me was back in high school when my family was going for our annual summer trip. We weren't even gone for that long, but while we were away, the Toronto (and surrounding area) blackout had occurred. It took us a couple days of being back before we even knew about it!!

There are also the small things too. For anyone who has been a tripper for a summer, I'm sure you've experienced the feeling of coming back to the city at the end of the summer and not being able to recognize anything on the radio even though all your friends are belting the songs out all around you; perplexed at how you cannot know these songs that have been playing every day for the past two months!

I hope I was able to bring back a good memory or two!

Happy paddling!

SAVE THE DATE!
Saturday, May 29th 2010
Outlook's 40th anniversary
Kingston, Ontario
Start spreading the word...
You don't want to miss this!

Look forward to an afternoon family event and an evening reception at the University Club. If you are connected or have ideas of how to connect with alumni, send them to us at outlook.bod@gmail.com



Financial Statement

In this year's Spring Views you will find Camp Outlook's financial statements for the past two years. Our intention is to include them in the spring edition of the Views as well as uploading them onto our website. By doing so, all of our donors, volunteers, and community members will have the opportunity to know where our funding comes from and how these funds are being used.

In addition, you may also review our financial figures for the past seven years on Canada Revenues website (www.cra-arc.gc.ca) under Outlook Camping Incorporated. If you would like any further information about these statements or about Camp Outlook in general please feel free to email us at outlook@queensu.ca

Sincerely,
The volunteers and Board of Directors of Camp Outlook

Outlook Camping Inc (Camp Outlook)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008

	2008	2007
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 20,467	\$ 35,251
Short-term investments	<u>15,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 35,467</u>	<u>\$ 35,251</u>
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Liabilities	\$ -	\$ -
NET ASSETS		
NET ASSETS		
Internally restricted, bus fund	\$ 30,467	\$ 30,251
Unrestricted	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>
	<u>\$ 35,467</u>	<u>\$ 35,251</u>
	<u>\$ 35,467</u>	<u>\$ 35,251</u>

~The Views~

**The Official
Newsletter of
Camp Outlook**



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Summer 2009

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Camper Recruitment:

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Kate Gapp

Special Thanks:

Thank you to all of this years volunteers who led fantastic trips and made everything possible.

Thank you to the Vogue Charity Fashion show for their support and a sizeable donation but also for the increased exposure they provided for the camp.

Finally, thank you to all the alumni and all of our contributors for their continued support for the program.

Thanks. Without all of you Camp Outlook as we know it would not be possible.

Stephen Sagar and Emily Cameron

Growing Human Potential

www.campoutlook.ca

