

NEWS IN BRIEF



November 7, 2008

THANK YOU

To Bill Viar &
**American Income
Life Insurance** for their
generous financial support
for the ISU/ACA Indiana
Extravaganza! Without
them we wouldn't have
been able to eat. =)

Will We Continue to Have Camps?

– Here's some brain food if you've got 5 minutes to read this fascinating article from paradigm guru Joel Barker. There's a lot more room for camping than you might think, and it has to do with identifying resources that "feed" you.

<http://strategicexploration.com/strategic-exploration/surviving-the-fittest/>

New Lessons on Competition from Mother Nature by *Joel A. Barker* (an excerpt)

Here is what they found: instead of the "fittest" plants, i.e., the most competitive plants, getting the sunlight space, it turned out that another mechanism clearly controlled the winner. Very simply put, the plant that won the space was the plant that was ready, at that moment, to access the opportunity.

FROM THE SECTION OFFICE

Operation Purple® Summer Camp Proposals Now Being Accepted

With the successful completion of the 2008 *Operation Purple®* Summer Camp program, the National Military Family Association (NMFA) is now accepting host camp applications for the 2009 camp season! *Operation Purple®* camps offer children of service members a free week of summer camp. The goal is to help military children of various ages learn coping skills associated with deployment-related stress, provide a support network of peers, and most of all, have fun. *Operation Purple®* imparts to these young heroes the message that "Kids Serve Too." Since *Operation Purple®* began in 2004, NMFA has sent close to 20,000 military children to an exciting week of camp.

If you would like to impact the lives of military children, this is the perfect opportunity! To obtain a copy of the application to host an *Operation Purple®* please visit the program's Web site, www.operationpurple.org. We encourage all interested applicants to review the documents which provide vital information about the curriculum and expectations for *Operation Purple®* camps. If you have questions, please contact Julie Riggs. **The deadline for receipt of applications is November 7,** so please do not delay. Proposals can be e-mailed to Julie.riggs@nmfa.org, and hard copies can be mailed to The National Military Family Association, Attn: Julie Riggs, 2500 North Van Dorn Street, Suite 102, Alexandria, VA 22302. Selected camps will be notified by December 15.

There is also plenty of information on Operationpurple.org.



CONGRATULATIONS



To Anna Weigand, recipient of the ACA Indiana Heart & Soul Award for 2008 for her service on the ACA Indiana board, Co-Chair of the ACA Indiana Education Committee, developing the Bloomington Children's Expo and Camp Fair and for general support and advocacy of ACA and the camp experience. The Heart & Soul Award is the highest honor awarded by ACA Indiana to individuals and organizations.

To Tonya Gimbert, recipient of an Appreciation Certificate for her hard work and dedication to the 2008 ACA IN/ISU Extravaganza!

TECH TIPS

add the [iGive Toolbar](#) and get every possible donation for ACA - American Camp Association when you search or shop online!

E-INSTITUTE

[Injury and Illness Prevention e-Courses](#)

These courses target prevention strategies that camps can use to reduce the likelihood of participant and staff injuries and illness. Courses are available on topics such as minimizing the spread of communicable diseases, reducing slips and falls through the use of proper footwear, and safe knife-handling techniques. [Learn More.](#)

\$

[Network for Good Learning Center](#)

What's a fundraiser to do during difficult economic times? It's time to don the cape, mask and utility belt and become a fundraising superhero with the help of the Network for Good Learning Center and Nonprofit 911-- free services and articles for nonprofit staff and volunteers.

[Tracks to Success: Assessing Your Organizational Funding Profile](#)

It's the season for year-end planning and part of that process is assessing where your organization is today and how you might grow in the coming year. This three-part series from GrantStation can help you assess your organization's current funding situation and how to grow and diversify it.

SITE & FACILITY

The 2009 Professional Land Management School will be held January 29th and 30th in Evansville. Hosted by the Vanderburgh County Purdue Extension Service the 2009 School will feature updates on fungicide, pesticide, and herbicide applications; an update on the Emerald Ash Borer; and invasive plant species.

For more information, log on to <https://www.ces.purdue.edu/ces/Vanderburgh/horticulture/comhort/index.htm>.

STANDARDS SECRETS

Myth #1 We don't have enough time right now to prepare.

Other variations on this theme:

Getting accredited takes too long . . . is too involved . . . takes too much work.

We're a small operation (or one-man show) and we (I) can't do that while we're (I'm) doing everything else.

We're in the midst of a capital campaign . . . long-range plan . . . building phase . . . staff restructuring . . . and need to wait until that's over to begin.

Reality: In today's world, we'll never have enough time to do all we want to do. We do what we make time to do. Rather than perceiving preparation for accreditation as an intrusion on available time, think of it as an investment that will pay off in time saved later. Think about how many times you've had to re-explain procedures or correct mistakes made by new employees or volunteers because they weren't sure "how it's been done." How many times have you said to your assistant, or spouse, or board, "We need to get that organized?"

MANAGEMENT

Finance ... 11 ideas for financial success

Just because you're a nonprofit doesn't mean you can't make money. In her book *Nonprofit Financial Planning Made Easy*, Jody Blazek notes that generating revenues is critical for nonprofits, even if they are not seeking "profit" in the same sense as a corporation.

Blazek offers further observations about the pursuit of financial success that can be kept in mind by nonprofit managers:

- Be realistic about expectations. There can be a huge difference between goals and resources.
- Make use of intangible resources. A nonprofit's goodwill can be valuable and useful.
- Nonprofit mentality is often "penny wise and pound foolish." Nonprofits rely on volunteers, but paid staff is necessary, too.
- Financial accounting for nonprofits is different. Independent accountants should be familiar with nonprofit operation.
- Producing an audit trail benefits the organizations in many ways. It makes for good budgeting and facilitates information retrieval.
- Enhancing computer capabilities might not cure financial ills. Technology won't solve organizational problems.
- Respect the organizational structure or change it. Managers should have a thorough understanding of the organization and its bylaws.
- Know who is in charge. Separation of duties is a cardinal rule for fiscal responsibility.
- Economic conditions must be anticipated. Things happen.
- Long-range planning is indispensable. A decision to spend money should be viewed in terms of its long-range effect.
- Know why the nonprofit organization has tax-exempt status. Be familiar with Form 1023 or 1024.

PROGRAM

What: Diversity: with a Focus on the Hispanic Community

Date: Thursday, November 13th

Time: 1:30 - 4:30 PM

Cost: \$30

Where: Anthony Wayne Boy Scout Council
8315 W. Jefferson Blvd, Fort Wayne, IN

Indiana's population is growing more diverse quickly. Come learn about ways to embrace diversity. The focus will be on the Hispanic community.

Learn about the culture, common values, interests, needs, and how the nonprofit sector can reach out to the Hispanic community.

Presenter: Carmen DeRusha, Economic and Community Development at Purdue Cooperative Extension

Please send registration form and a check payable to United Way of Elkhart County to: Indiana Nonprofit Resource Network, 222 Middlebury Street, Elkhart, IN 46516 or fax to 574-295-0033 or email to baxtera@unitedwayec.org. Registrations received via email or fax will be billed. Or, register online at <http://www.unitedwayec.org/nrn-workshops.htm>

GREEN SPOKEN HERE

[Environmental Protection Agency 2008 E-Waste Statistics](#)

In 2007, 157 million computer products were discarded and electronics remain among the fastest growing solid waste streams. The 2008 US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) stats on Electronics Recycling and E-Waste are now out. See how all the e-waste stacks up and brainstorm ways your organization can be a better e-cycler.

ACA Joins the "No Child Left Inside Coalition"
As part of our effort to promote the movement to reconnect children and nature, ACA has joined the No Child Left Inside (NCLI) Coalition, a broad-based organization made up of more than six hundred member groups from across the United States.

http://www.acacamps.org/inside/08_10/association.php#3

The information presented here does not necessarily reflect the views of ACA Indiana. Special thanks for contributions: Nonprofit Times, Connect For Kids, Techsoup, ACA, National Assembly, Fund\$raiser, IYI, ACA Research Team, IPRA, Y-USA Camping Update, United Way Elkhart County

UPCOMING EVENTS

Michael Brandwein will be presenting
SUPER STAFF SUPERVISION: Practical & Powerful Techniques to
 Lead & Motivate Teams to Success

This session is packed with specific skills to make an immediate difference in our leadership and management of others. Techniques include: the single most important thing a boss or team leader is supposed to do every day and how to do it better right away the Dozen Do's-credible actions that motivate and build positive working relationships to get things done "Special Delivery" - how to best provide workers what they need for continued growth, job satisfaction, and increased performance making the most of management by modeling, with detailed examples of the fastest and most effective ways to lead by example the Facilitating Phrases-what to say when leading people to improve and more

Date: Monday, December 8th

Time: 9:00 A.M. - Noon

Place: Hilton Garden Inn, 53995 Indiana SR 933, S Bend

Cost: \$35 (Great Bargain thanks to a grant from the Indiana Association of United Ways)

Michael Brandwein is an internationally recognized expert on teaching and leading young people. Michael has made presentations in all 50 of the states, most provinces of Canada, and on 6 of the 7 continents.

He is the author of three best-selling books on the training and supervision of youth leaders, called Training Terrific Staff, Super Staff SuperVision, and Learning Leadership. He wrote and presented three Emmy® award-winning public television programs about communicating with young people which have been broadcast on PBS stations throughout the U.S.

Michael is best known for his highly practical, "use-it-immediately" approach and entertaining and engaging teaching methods. He is a frequent staff development speaker for schools, camps, recreation programs, child care centers and community service organizations and is a keynoter for many national, state, and international professional associations that serve young people, educators, and families.

Michael's presentation skills are enhanced from his creative background, which includes graduating from the famed Second City improvisational theater school in Chicago.

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20/20 VISION

from the ACA Camp Sites, Facilities, and Programs Report: 2008

(www.acacamps.org/research/improve/site_facilities.php):

- In 5 years the race/ethnicity of ACA campers has changed from 80% Caucasian to 70% Caucasian in Day camps and 79% to 77% in Resident camps.
- The average weekly fees for Day camps were \$303 (plus or minus \$54) with a mid-point of \$182. The average weekly fees for Resident camps were \$597 (plus or minus \$61) with a mid-point of \$390.
- The total acreage for a typical resident camp is 200 acres but 18% have more than 500 acres while 10% have less than 50 acres. The typical day camp had 27 acres but 9% had more than 200 acres and 25% having less than 15 acres.
- Camps recycle! About 85% of resident camps said they recycled while 73% of day camps recycle.
- The top 5 sports/recreation activities offered by resident camps were: swimming (recreational), canoeing, hiking, archery, and aquatics. The top 5 sports/recreation activities for day camps were: swimming (recreational), basketball, baseball/softball, aquatics, and swimming (instructional).