



# News In Brief

September 24, 2009

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

The Student Camp Leadership Academy (SCLA) is a weekend retreat that brings together students, camp professionals, national ACA staff and leadership to explore, learn, and understand what the camp professional of the future must be and the leadership opportunities within the ACA structure at the local and National levels to impact the development of youth and others.

The cost for the entire weekend experience including room and board is \$130.00, plus transportation of choice/necessity. For students who use airline transportation, SCLA leaders will arrange transportation to and from Chicago's O'Hare, Chicago's Midway, or Milwaukee's Mitchell Field airport and SCLA site at no additional charge.

SCLA fees can be paid for by:

- the student's ACA Section Office via SCLA Scholarship
- the student's past, current, or future camp
- the college student
- the student's university

Please, note college students wanting to attend SCLA must apply and be approved to participate through their ACA Section Office regardless of where the funding for the students' SCLA fee is coming from (even if the student is paying for himself or herself).

Applicants must:

- Be approved by his or her local ACA Section
- Be a current student member of the American Camp Association
- Have an academic and/or professional interest in the camp profession
- Be in attendance or show proof of registration currently at the college/university level
- Be employed in the past for at least one summer in a camp setting
- Be approved by his or her academic advisor

Applications should be postmarked by **October 2, 2009** and mailed or e-mailed as a .pdf document to your Section Executive at your ACA local office. [Find the address for your ACA local office.](#) Application Process, Application Form, Information for Students After Approval by their ACA Section, etc. <http://acacamps.org/scla/>

## TECH TIPS

THE LATEST TREND INVOLVING TEENS & TECHNOLOGY:

Twenty percent of teenagers admit to electronically sending sexually graphic photos of themselves to other teens, and twice that number admit to sending sexually graphic text.

Learn more about this disturbing behavior, called "sexting," during a free Webinar featuring national expert Jim Hancock.

The Webinar, which will be held on September 30, 2009, from 10a - 11:30a (Indy time), will present strategies on how to communicate with teens to prevent or stop "sexting."

Register:

<http://www.iyi.org/trainings/audio-conferences.aspx>

(Indiana Youth Institute)

# MGMT & LEADERSHIP

## A Special Report on Camping

*A Special Report on Camping* uses the latest participation data collected annually by The Outdoor Foundation to present detailed information on participation in camping by gender, age, ethnicity, income, education and geographic region -- critical information needed by businesses, communities and non-profits working to connect Americans with the outdoors.

Created in partnership with The Coleman Company, Inc., The Report is based on extended analysis of data collected for the Outdoor Recreation Participation Report, produced by The Outdoor Foundation. The report uses the responses of over 40,000 Americans ages six and older captured in an on-line survey covering 114 different activities. The survey is the largest of its type examining participation in sports and outdoor activities.

### Key Findings

#### *Camping Participation*

- 33.7 million Americans ages 6 and older participated in car and backyard camping in 2008 -- an increase of 7.4%.
- 16.5 million Americans participated in RV camping in 2008 -- up from 16.2 million in 2007.
- Camping participants made more than 597 million outings in 2008, averaging 14 camping days per participant.
- More than 84% of camping participants participate in multiple outdoor activities.

#### *Demographics*

- 56% of all campers are male and 43% female.
- The 25 to 44 age group makes up more than one-third of the total number of campers (34.5%). The over 45 age group is a close second at 29%.
- The Pacific region (OR, WA, CA) is home to the most camping participants in 2008 (18.9%), while East North Central (NC, SC, VA, MD, WV, GA, FL) was second in number of participants (16.9%).
- Most campers have a household income between \$50,000 and \$74,999 (24.7%) or \$100,000+ (24.9%), while 35% of campers are in the 2 lowest income brackets below \$50,000.

#### *Campgrounds and Activities*

- Car, backyard and RV campers enjoy hiking and swimming while camping significantly more often than other activities.
- 73% of car and backyard campers and 70% of RV campers choose public campgrounds at least once each year. 29% of car and backyard campers and 51% of RV campers choose private campgrounds at least once each year.

#### *Motivations and Barriers*

- Friends and parents are the most influential in introducing campers to outdoor activities.
- Fun and relaxation are the top two reasons cited by campers for participation in outdoor activities.
- A lack of time is the number one reason camping participants don't get out more often. A lack of interest and a lack of money for equipment are also reasons.

<http://www.outdoorfoundation.org/research.camping.html>

(LinkedIn)

## GREEN SPOKEN HERE

### How To Raise An Outdoor Kid –

*“A special series brought to you by BACKPACKER and the Outdoor Foundation. The disease has been diagnosed: nature deficit disorder. Now here's the cure: monthly step-by-step guides packed with proven tips for engaging kids in healthy, active outdoor sports that help with today's childhood obesity problem. Starting in April 2009, BACKPACKER and the Outdoor Foundation are presenting six (one each month) DIY modules for parents, mentors, and youth leaders looking for new ideas and techniques.”* Could be a great link to send your parents in your after-camp newsletters.  
<http://www.backpacker.com/global/51>



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**CERTIFICATION EQUALS  
RECOGNITION**

Youth workers can become certified - and be further recognized as a professional in their field - by taking a certification exam. The exam will be offered by the Child & Youth Care Certification Board during the National Symposium for Juvenile Services on October 9, 2009, in Indianapolis.

More info:

<http://www.acycp.org/cyc%20certification%20board/default.htm>

**(Indiana Youth Institute)**

We're on the Web!

[www.acaindiana.org](http://www.acaindiana.org)

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## FROM THE SECTION OFFICE

### **Scholarships Available**

ACA Indiana offers financial assistance to section members who are interested in professional development through ACA-sponsored events and conferences, as well as programs given by other organizations in the areas of camping and youth development. Funds are also available to assist member camps with increasing their numbers of associate and student memberships.

Guidelines, along with the Assistance Request Form, can be found at [www.acaindiana.org](http://www.acaindiana.org) under the Membership tab.

Following is a list of specific scholarships available:

- National ACA Conference (deadline January 1)
- ACA Mid-States Conference (deadline March 1)
- ACA Indiana Events (deadline ongoing)
- Non-ACA Professional Development (deadline ongoing)
- Additional Associate Memberships for Member Camps and Student Memberships (deadline ongoing)
- Scholarships for Student Camp Leadership Academy (see page 1 of this newsletter)

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## IRS Releases Internal Tax-Exempt Organization Governance Guidance

In May 2009 the IRS delivered trainings on nonprofit organizational governance to its Exempt Organizations examination agents, determination specialists, tax law specialists and managers. These individuals review charitable organizations' applications for exemption and annual Form 990 information returns. They also determine which organizations should be subject to further review via an audit.

Although (as detailed below) the IRS has recommendations regarding tax-exempt organizations in general, the training materials emphasize: (1) each organization may choose its own governance regime, (2) the IRS cannot and should not direct those governance decisions, and (3) all of the IRS Exempt Organizations staff must ensure consistency by comprehending their role and goals in the areas of education and outreach, rulings and agreements, and examinations.

According to the IRS materials, good governance is critical to protecting an organization's assets and operating in a manner that furthers an organization's exempt purposes. In the materials, the IRS defines governance as "the exercise of authority and control over an organization." The agency notes that tax-exempt organizations' governance structures vary based on the size, type, structure and culture of organizations, and repeatedly stresses that "one size does not fit all." The materials generally govern: (1) the size and scope of a tax-exempt organization's board of directors, and (2) financial transactions.

Highlights of the IRS's board-related recommendations include that the board should:

Continue to rest of article:

[http://www.linkedin.com/groupAnswers?viewQuestionAndAnswers=&discussionID=5699989&gid=81092&trk=EML\\_anet\\_qa\\_ttle-0Nt79xs2RVr6JBpnsJt7dBpSBA](http://www.linkedin.com/groupAnswers?viewQuestionAndAnswers=&discussionID=5699989&gid=81092&trk=EML_anet_qa_ttle-0Nt79xs2RVr6JBpnsJt7dBpSBA)