

Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award

The Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award is a special recognition of an individual, Camp, or Organization, which has made a **significant and sustained contribution to international camping**. The endowed contribution for the award was made by Abbott Fenn, a long-standing, active member of the American Camp Association and former owner/director of the Keewaydin Camps in New England, U.S.A. The award is given to those who spread the benefit of the camp experience to improve world understanding.

Criteria:

- Any member of the International Camping Fellowship (Individual, Camp, or Organization) is eligible. Current members of the Board are not eligible, although their Camp or Organization may be considered.
- The Award recognizes an individual, Camp, or Organization which has made a significant contribution to international camping, such as development of a new Camping Association, development of an exchange program between countries, development of sponsorships for international programs, or other unique or sustained contribution to the ICF Organization.





ABBOTT FENN DRUZHBA AWARD RECIPIENTS

1990	Jean McMullan Alford Lake Camp	USA
1999	Artek International Children's Center	Russia
2000	Minoru Matsuda	Japan
2001	Armand Ball	USA
2002	Bill Bowker	Australia
2003	Charles Pantin, Hilda Carvallo	Venezuela
2004	Jack Pearse	Canada
2006	Irene Hooper	USA
2008	Tetsuo Sakai	Japan
2009	Tamara Truschkovskaya	Russia
2010	Richard Chamberlain	USA
2011	Jose Virgilio Lopez Vergara Y Villarreal	Mexico
2013	Larisa Shilova (Rebyachya Respublika Camp)	Russia
2014	Sako Tanaka	Japan
2016	Jenny Bowker	Australia
2017	Galina Suhoveyko	Russia
2018	Bill Oakley	Australia
2019	Russian Children's Centre Orlyonok	Russia
2020	Valery Kostin	Russia
2021	Toshio Hoshino	Japan
2022	Linda Pulliam	USA
2023	John Jorgenson	Canada



2023 ABBOTT FENN DRUZHBA AWARD RECIPIENT

John “Jorgi” Jorgenson





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John “Jorgi” Jorgenson

“Toss a pebble in the water, just a splash and it is gone;
But there’s half-a-hundred ripples circling on and on and on
Spreading – spreading from the centre, flowing on out to the sea
And there’s no way of knowing where the end is going to be.”

Jorgi has dedicated thousands of volunteer hours to advance the mission and mandate of ICF. His belief in the values of experiential learning in an outdoor community has been unwavering. Jorgi is one of the most recognizable faces in international camping. He has travelled to every corner of the globe and the ripples of his life and his work have been felt during meetings, presentations and individual connections with camping leaders. Significantly, those initial ripples have continued to multiply over the past five decades. Jorgi’s example, leadership and legacy have transformed the global camping and outdoor education experience.

Jorgi’s story is also the story of the International Camping Fellowship over the last 25 years.

With Jorgi, it is never “what should I do?” but rather, “what can I do?”. Whether it has been at the ICF Board level, speaking in front of thousands of camping leaders at conferences and Congresses worldwide or working with a small group of staff in another country, Jorgi has always embraced making the ordinary, extraordinary.

Whether it is sitting with a child in Mongolia communicating with them through the international language of a string game or sitting at a table with world leaders to engage them in the conversation on why this type of experience is vital to the children of their country, Jorgi demonstrates the intrinsic values that he wishes them to understand and by which he wishes them to live: respect, resiliency, community, confidence, and passion.



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John “Jorgi” Jorgenson

Jorgi’s leadership in the camping industry has been recognized many times over by the volunteer positions he has been elected to and the recognitions he has received:

1) International Camping Fellowship:

- President (2014-2020)
- General Secretary of the Board (1997-2014)
- General Sessions Chair, Third International Camping Congress (1990 – 1994)
- Lead; transfer of International Camp Directors Course to ICF oversight (2008)

2) Canadian Camping Association/Association des Camps du Canada:

- President (2003 – 2005)
- Presidents Council
- By Law Committee
- Strategic Planning Committee
- Editor of CCA/ACC Magazine
- Winter Outdoor Sports Skills Institute (director)
- Awards:
 - Award of Excellence (1993)
 - Jack Pearse Award of Honor (1988)
 - Ron Johnstone Lifetime Achievement Award (2002)



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3) Ontario Camps Association:

- Board President (1995 – 1997)
- Vice President
- Board Member
- Archives Committee Chair
- Annual Conference Committee
- Founder, Chair, and Instructor at the OCA Skills Weekend
- Awards:
 - “Dorothy Walter Award of Excellence” (2005)
 - Honorary Life Member (2006)
- International Development Award (2006) renamed in John Jorgenson’s honor
- Brian Blackstock Archives Award

4) American Camp Association:

- Kindred Chair for AIC (Association of Independent Camps); (1994)
- Magazine Editorial Board

5) Other (Canada):

- Board of Society of Camp Director
 - Canadian Olympic Association Academy (1998 – 2000):
 - Canadian Camping Association Olympic Challenge Project
 - CANSI (Canadian Association of Nordic Ski Instructors)
- Canadian Canoe Schools
- Cathy Morris Memorial Workshop
- Advisory Board of COEO (Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario)
- National Woodsmanship School



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John “Jorgi” Jorgenson

Jorgi spent his professional career as a Director at Camp Tawingo (Huntsville, ON) where he introduced thousands of children (and staff) of all ages to the wonders of camp skills and learning in the outdoors. Indeed, Jorgi has created countless, highly innovative programs (and helped others do the same through his leadership). He continues to bring children to the outdoors...and the outdoors to children.

There is no question that the “ripples” from the many pebbles he has so gently and carefully tossed into the waters around the world, will continue to be felt in very tangible, very meaningful ways for years and years to come...

The Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award is a special recognition of an individual, camp, or organization, having made a significant and sustained contribution to international camping. Jorgi’s life and career and contributions to the camp experience are indeed worthy of this recognition.



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Linda Pulliam





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Linda Pulliam

Linda Pulliam, for all who have known her from before ICF formation in 1987 to her departure from the ICF Board in 2020, has been the heart of ICF and to this day ICF has remained in her heart.

Camp Professional

Linda stepped into the international camp scene through Camp Friendship in Virginia. Camp Friendship was doing work in the area of international understanding long before the formation of ICF. Alongside the original director of Camp Friendship, Chuck Ackenbom, Linda was involved in the planning and delivery of the 1987 International Camping Congress where the International Camping Fellowship first crystallized into being. In the years following, as ICF bylaws were being written and the foundation of ICF was being laid, Linda was part of some of the earliest trips to other countries (notably USSR and then Russia). When we were just beginning to understand the scope and breadth of camping around the world, Linda was already an ambassador of friendship.

ICF Board Member

As a member of the ICF Board, Linda has served in many capacities. She has managed ICF membership at a time when it was all handled manually by letter, email and spreadsheet. She carefully nurtured every inquiry and guided new members to the best involvement possible. She brought the issues of special situations and persons to the Board for assistance when possible and responded to every request with solid counsel.



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Linda Pulliam

ICF Newsletter Editor / Author / ACA international liaison

Linda coupled these skills with the role of ICF Newsletter editor and crafted many stories for publication to introduce the ICF community to what was emerging on the camp scene. At other times, she has served as secretary and as a Member at Large. In 2014, Linda co-authored with Armand Ball and Dick Chamberlain, *The Tale of the Butterfly* covering the first 25 years of ICF history. She has written multiple articles of interest to ACA's (American Camp Association) *Camping Magazine*.

Linda was also the face and heart of ICF within ACA and at the annual ACA National Conference. She single-handedly established the role of international liaison to the ACA and kept ICF matters before the various ACA presidents and CEOs as they changed over time. At ACA National, international delegates always had a friendly face and helpful assist from Linda (along with international snacks and ICF membership information...). Each year before the conference, she established the ICF pre-Conference Tour of local/regional camps and sites of interest to mix ICF members with other internationals and interested ACA member who were delegates. These tours were always memorable and served an invaluable purpose of both education and networking the participants before the larger ACA Conference itself.

Linda also arranged for and hosted the International Room, secured an International Reception hosted by the ACA President, organized an International Delegate Information Session, arranged for workshops and sessions of international presenters and more. During Congress years, ICF was able to enjoy exhibit space to promote the upcoming Congress at no charge.



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Linda Pulliam

Board meetings

Linda faithfully attended the many ICF Board meetings in various countries – always listening and always ready to make thoughtful contributions. Husband, travelling companion and supporter, Richard Pulliam was a friend to the entire Board and ensured that we must not take ourselves too seriously.

Advocate of the Mission of ICF

Linda Pulliam was, and is, a steady reminder of the mission of ICF – we must not ever lose sight of the importance of personal connections and friendship. Linda has epitomized that important fact from the beginning and that the legacy of personal connections should always guide ICF decisions.



2021 ABBOTT FENN DRUZHBA AWARD RECIPIENT

Mr. Toshio Hoshino





2021 ABBOTT FENN DRUZHBA AWARD RECIPIENT

Mr. Toshio Hoshino

- Professor at Meiji University
- Past president of NCAJ (National Camping Association of Japan) 2014-2020
- Board Chairman of Japan Outdoor Education Society
- Member of the Expertise Council on Policy Evaluation, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

Mr. Hoshino was born in Tochigi Prefecture in 1951, where people still live with nature, and this is where he enjoyed gathering things and outdoor play in forests and rivers in his childhood.

He specialized in outdoor education, or various outdoor activities such as camping, skiing, and mountaineering in the professional course at Tokyo University of Education where he recognized the value of outdoor education. He continued his research at Master Course of Tsukuba University and also studied abroad in the United States and he conducted research to collect information on different countries.

Utilizing his knowledge, he served as the chairman of the executive committee of the National Outdoor Education Conference, the board of directors of the Japan Outdoor Education Society, and other important positions, and made significant contributions to the promotion of outdoor education in Japan. In particular, he served as camp director for 11 years of the Frontier Adventure Camp, which was implemented as part of the “Promotion Program for Challenge of Natural Life” proposed by the then Ministry of Education in 1988. At the time, 11-day, 10-night long camps were rare in Japan, and he was the pioneer of the long camp.



2021 ABBOTT FENN DRUZHBA AWARD RECIPIENT

Mr. Toshio Hoshino

He has written many books and articles on outdoor education and outdoor activities.

In the National Camping Association of Japan, he became a member of the Technical Committee in 1987, and served on the Planning, International and Leadership Development Committees, before being appointed to the Board of Directors in 1994, and then as Executive Director in 2000. Furthermore, in 2007 NCAJ applied for the “designated management” of a facility for outdoor activity in Shizuoka Prefecture, which was the first attempt by the association, he drew on his experience and NCAJ won the selection from Shizuoka Prefecture. Now he is still active in NCAJ as an advisor to the association.

Mr. Hoshino’s involvement with ICF began in 1987.

In 1986, while studying abroad at the Northern Illinois University, he wrote an article “Group Dynamics in Japanese and American Camp Programs” in Camping Magazine. The following year, he presented his findings at the 2nd ICC in 1987, where he participated with Sachiko Tanaka and Fumio Morooka.

When the ICC was invited to Tokyo in 2000, he played a key role in the Organizing Committee and the Executive Committee and led the conference to success. After ICC2000, there was a movement to bring international information and networking to Japan, and many Japanese leaders have since become involved in international exchange. In addition, Mr. Hoshino’s call for ICC 2000 provided an opportunity for organizations, groups, and the government, which had been working separately until then, to come together to develop camping and outdoor education. In 2016, he was the President of NCAJ, when they successfully held the 6th Asia-Oceania Camping Conference to celebrate the 50th anniversary of NCAJ’s founding.



2020 ABBOTT FENN DRUZHBA AWARD RECIPIENT

Valery Kostin





2020 ABBOTT FENN DRUZHBA AWARD RECIPIENT

Valery Kostin

Valery Kostin has deserved and met the criteria for the Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award several times over. Had it not been for his continued and extended volunteer service on the ICF Board, the award would have been securely in his award cabinet years ago.

Valery stepped onto the international camping scene in 1990 with his typically dramatic fashion having arrived in America from Soviet-era Russia as an experienced camp director to keynote at an ACA National Conference. He stunned the audience there with descriptions of an entire camping world that North America barely knew existed. Within hours he was recruited to serve on the fledgling ICF Board as regional representative for Russia and the CIS.

But Valery has been much more than a Board member of ICF.

- A frequent presenter at ACA National, Valery countered the political/media images of Russia with information, charm and opportunities to see for themselves by travelling to Russia
- Fluent in both English and Russian (as well as conversant in a dozen more languages), Valery has bridged the gap for countless delegations to visit Russia and kept himself available as a coordinator, airport greeter, cultural host and problem-solver – all the while entertaining his guests to his beloved Russia.
- Further, he has led equally countless delegations of Russian camp directors abroad to camp tours, conferences and
- At every single International Camping Congress since 1994 (except the two Congresses held in Russia) the largest foreign delegation has been from Russia – promoted, organized and coordinated by.



2020 ABBOTT FENN DRUZHBA AWARD RECIPIENT

Valery Kostin

- Valery was instrumental in organizing the first camping associations in Russia (based in St Petersburg and Moscow) and building strength to host not one but two Congresses (1997 St Petersburg, 2017 Sochi). Valery was everywhere, determined to ensure the best possible experience for all and to set up everyone for that, he succeeded.
- Valery values friendship and he is rich in those. For him, it is important to honor those friendships – travel to America or Venezuela for weddings, to Mexico or eastern Russia for a reunion or just paying a visit to reminisce wherever and whenever he can.
- On the occasion of his 50th birthday, he invited many of those friends to his US home near Portland, Maine. His birthday gift was having friends from all over the world join him there. His gift to the ICF was a substantial donation to the Bill Bowker Scholarship.
- Valery has opened up the doors of understanding and sharing by introducing international presenters to Russian camping. There is so much to share in both directions and Valery has both encouraged that and facilitated it.
- Valery served as ICF President from 2008 to 2014, logging thousands of miles and being present at any and every international event that he could. He brought greetings and energy and joy to every one of those events.
- Following his terms as President when the by-laws required only one year as past President, Valery allowed himself to be persuaded to remain on the Board to the present.
- Certainly, a significant portion of Valery's exceptional contributions have been made possible because his partner, Liliana, is a remarkable care-giver, translator, supporter and problem-solver in her own.



2020 ABBOTT FENN DRUZHBA AWARD RECIPIENT

Valery Kostin

Valery is unique – literally. He is one of a kind. With one foot in Russia and one in America and his heart in ICF, Valery is able to serve as ambassador and bridge across cultural divides that seem unsurmountable to many of us. He is a teacher and a guide and a camp counsellor in the best sense of the words. He helps us all see that we have much more in common than apart. He has taken to heart the ICF motto of ‘bringing together the world. We all benefit.

It is time – it is past time – that we recognize the selfless contributions to the global camping community that Valery Kostin has made. We must allow him to retire from the Board but we do so reluctantly. Had this award not already been named in honor of Abbott Fenn, we could rightly name it the Valery Kostin Druzhba Award and it would carry equal significance.

ICF AWARDS NOMINATION FORM



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