THE TALE OF A BUTTERFLY:

A History of the Global Development of Camps

and the

International Camping Fellowship

1988-2013

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With Richard Chamberlain and
Linda Grier Pulliam

International Camping Fellowship

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE

"Describing organized camping around the world is much like the blind man trying to describe the elephant; there are many different parts of this large body which do not resemble each other, except that, in the case of camping, we all utilize the outdoor experience to help individuals grow and develop into more mature persons."

~~"Camping Around the World" by Armand Ball for the program booklet of the Third International Camping Congress, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Collecting a history of a volunteer organization such as the International Camping Fellowship (ICF) is also similar to many persons describing the elephant. No few individuals can really tell the entire story of ICF. The leadership of ICF in this quarter of century was much more concerned about using the energy available to reach out to the world rather than in preserving a written record.

Much of the material in this history is taken from the minutes of Steering Committee meetings, ICF Newsletters, and Congress program booklets. No effort has been made to cite the specific source from those documents at each specific point. Other information has been secured through interviews, written materials, and e-mail correspondence in the 2012-2014 period, and we have attempted to cite those sources.

Camp is an informal place, so nicknames have been used at points and scholastic titles have not been used except in the case of speakers at conferences.

Great appreciation is expressed to all who have answered questions and shared information. This history would not have been completed without the help of Linda Grier Pulliam, ICF Membership Chair and Consultant, and Richard Chamberlain, Past ICF Chair and Board Member Emeritus.

I found some camping associations who had documented the history of their organization and early camps well, but I found others who had not yet pulled together that history. We do learn from those who have gone before us, and it is important to have a plan to save the elements of written history for those who will follow us.

I have tried to be factual, but am sure that my biases have crept through at points. I share a deep appreciation for all who have given of their resources to empower ICF, and I feel a deep sense of pride at the growth of ICF and the International Camp Director Course.

Armand Ball, ICF Board Member Emeritus

Linda Grier Pulliam

Richard Chamberlain

DEDICATION

Armand, Dick and Linda would like to dedicate this volume to

Sachiko "Sako" Tanaka

of Japan and the World

not only for her service on the governing body of the
International Camping Fellowship,
for the 25 years of its existence,
but also for all she has given in leadership
and loving concern to camp leaders from around the world.

Camp Kajuyali, Colombia

"The pioneers of organized camping were men and women with a vision of the impact of outdoor living experiences on the lives of boys and girls. They made contributions to the camping movement through the implementation of their separate dreams into individual camps, through the lives of their family members and camp leaders who followed them, and through their eventual collective efforts."

~~Eleanor Eells

CHAPTER ONE

The Beginnings - 1840 Onward

CAMPS

Camps in most countries around the world began or physically expanded when persons arrived and initially camped. As a result the word "camp" has had many meanings over the years, and not always with a positive connotation. So when one begins to try to identify the beginning of camps internationally, one has to be specific. In the context of this document, camp identifies an organized group experience under trained leadership for a sustained period of days. It may be with children, adults, or families. It most often has some element related to the outdoors or natural environment. It may be a private venture, day or overnight, and/or part of an organizational program, a school classroom, a religious institution, or governmental program. It may be for profit or not for profit.

As can best be determined, a church camp group met for summer camping under canvas at Hogg's Hollow (since renamed York Mills), just north of the present city limits of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, in 1840 and became the first recorded "camp". For that reason, this overview of how camping evolved internationally will begin with North America.

NORTH AMERICA

Though one basic model of a children's camp began in **Canada**, a similar model began in the **United States of America** when Frederick William Gunn, the headmaster of the Gunnery School for Boys, Washington, Connecticut, led a group of students on a forty-mile trek to Milford, Connecticut, on Long Island Sound. After the two-day hike, the boys camped out for ten days and then hiked back to the school. This experience was stimulated by the encampments and campfires common to the soldiers during the country's Civil War or War Between the States, quite unlike the stimulus for the first camp in Canada.

Camps expanded in both countries onto more established sites for longer periods of time and came to be known as "summer camps". By the late 1800s, camps had multiplied in both countries, most often as single-gender camps. The earliest camps in the other Canadian Provinces varied:

Alberta – YMCA Camp Chief Hector - 1930
New Brunswick – Camp Weggaegum
Nova Scotia – Camp Big Cove

As the camps began to cover longer periods in the vacation time (June-August), camp directors began to interface with each other to share experiences and techniques.

A professional association for directors of boys' camps, the Camp Directors Association of America, was begun in 1912. By 1916, an association of directors of girls' camps, the National Association of Girls' Private Camps, emerged. These merged in 1924 into the Camp Directors Association that published a new journal, *Camping*, in 1926. Conventions or training conferences began for camp directors during this period. Camp directors in Ontario and Quebec were also attending many of these professional meetings in the United States. The next several years led to the reorganization in 1935 of the Camp Directors Association (CDA) into the American Camping Association (ACA-US), with locally operated sections based upon geographical boundaries. The "sections" did not necessarily organize along state lines and varied in number. Today there are 24 local offices.

In 1932, the Ontario Camping Association (OCA) was formed, and for a period became part of the ACA (US). In 1936, the Canadian Camping Association (CCA) was formalized, and the following year the Association des camps du Quebec came into being. Over the following years, all but one of the Canadian provinces organized provincial associations affiliated with CCA: Alberta -1949, Manitoba -1937, Nova Scotia -1941, Saskatchewan -1960s.

It was not until the 1940s that camps were organized in nearby **Cuba** under the auspices of religious groups.

In **Puerto Rico**, four organizations (Rotary Club, The Elks, YMCA and La Posada de San Juan Bautista) got together in 1917 and started the first boys' camp, named Camp Manuel Bueno. Later the YMCA bought the land, and the Elks and Rotary Club built cabins which were destroyed by Hurricane Felipe. Camp Elisa Colberg was founded by the Girl Scouts in 1926 in Cabo Rojo. The Puerto Rico Camp Association was founded in 1991, and the first President was Mrs. Ruth Carlo de Negroni. (Consuegra)

There is a record of patrols of Scouts in **Mexico** before 1910 with the possibility that they held camps. The first recorded camp to be founded in Mexico occurred in 1935 when the YMCA opened a camp. (Sabean) In 1964, Camp Pipiol, privately owned, was founded. However, though camps spread, a Mexican Camping Association was not founded until 1992. (Ortiz)

In 1963, a second national camping association, Christian Camping International (Christian Camping – USA), was formed in the United States, based upon allegiance to Christian doctrine, and held its first international conference. This organization reorganized in 1977, and CCI-USA became a separate Division. Associations were formed in the following countries prior to 1977:

1964 – Japan
1966 – Central America
1974 – Australia
1976 – New Zealand
1977 – USA became separate association (Williams)
2010 - Sub-Saharan Africa – African Christian Camping Association

EUROPE

As camps were beginning to blossom in North America, "holiday camps" began to emerge in Europe. As early as 1884, the newly formed Boys' Brigade movement, growing out of the Christian tradition, is said to have sponsored camp experiences. The Scripture Union was formed around 1875 in **England,** and holiday camps became a regular program feature. Since then, the organization has spread to over 130 counties. It held its first Evangelistic Camp in 1892 in England.

In 1907, the "Boy Patrols" held a week-long camp in August on Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour, Dorset, England, under the direction of Lord Robert Baden-Powell. This was to be the beginning of the Scouting Movement.

Cunningham's Young Men's Holiday Camp at Douglas on the Isle of Man is sometimes regarded as the first holiday camp which was organized in 1892 by Joseph and Elizabeth Cunningham. It grew to serve 60,000 young men and closed in 1980. (Clifford)

A Pastor Bonn set up a two-week camp in Appenzell in the Swiss Alps in 1876 that led to a model that was used throughout **Switzerland.** (Urataza, et.al.) The same year, there is a reference to school camps being held at Leida, **Spain.** (Historia)

By 1887, there is a reference to school camps sponsored by "The Tolerance Museum" (Urataza, et.al.) By 1892, there was a decree by the Spanish Royalty authorizing the formation of school camps, and guidelines for such camps were issued in 1894. (Urataza, et.al.)

Simultaneously, **France** was developing camps. It appears that the first camp in France was founded prior to 1900. By 1907, French camps had formed the Paris Union Summer Camps (UPCV). Two years later, it enlarged to become the National Union of Summer Camps (UNCV). It seems that this was the first national association of camps. In 1934, the Union became the French Union of Summer Camps (UFCV) and became recognized as a public utility. By that recognition, France became the first country to see the camp experience as critical enough in the life of its children that it became a responsibility of the government.

The founding of the Boy Scout movement and the Girl Guide (Girl Scout) movement during the period of 1907-1910 was to be a stimulus to the starting of early camps in many countries in Europe, and eventually, in many parts of the world. Similarly, the founding of the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) and Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) camps stimulated development of camps in in the United States and other countries.

Meanwhile, some distance east, in the early 1920s, camps in **Russia** and **Ukraine** began as what would now be called "day camps", set up by schools and different institutions from factories to housing associations, to operate between school breaks.

In 1922, when the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was formed, the Young Pioneer movement became an official governmental outreach youth program. Youth camps became one of the major parts of the Pioneer organization. Residential camps were then opened at the initiative of the Russian Red Cross and Ministry of Health. (Lossan) The first camp that opened was Soviet Union Health Development Pioneer Camp Artek, opening in 1925 on the Black Sea in Crimea. The goal of the camp was to help

children improve their health. Starting with the second season of the camp, international participants became part of the camp program. This led to camps being open in each Soviet Republic: Ukraine (Molodaya Gvardia - 1924), **Belarus** (Zubryonok), **Kazakhstan** (Baldauren), Vladivostok (Ocean), and Krasnodarskiy Kray (Orlyonok).

Many Young Pioneer camps were built exclusively for Young Pioneer Clubs, sponsored by the government and trade unions, where youth could attend free of charge. By the 1980s, Russia represented the largest camping movement in the world. Thousands of camps were built in beautiful natural areas. For instance, 100 camps were built along a stretch of beach near Anapa, and children came from as far as Eastern, North, and Middle Asia.

After World War II, camps were mostly sponsored by trade unions, and every organization considered it an important benefit for its employees to have a camp for their children. By the 1980s, more than 100,000 camps were operating in the Soviet Union.

There were Pioneer Camp Directors' Clubs in some areas during the period up until 1991, when the Soviet Union was broken up. At this point, many camps were closed due to financial difficulties. In 1992, the Adults and Kids Association of St. Petersburg was formed, which was to become the St. Petersburg Camp Association. The following year, the Russian Camping Association – Children Plus was formed in Moscow.

Subsequently, camps opened in other countries, such as Pioneer Republic named after Wilhelm Pieck (German Democratic Republic), Zanke (**Hungary**), Nairamdal (**Mongolia**), **Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia,** and **Romania**. (Kostin)

In **Poland**, the earliest camps were developed by the Boy Scout organization prior to World War II. After the war, with the formation of the People's Republic of Poland, the Young Pioneers came into existence and operated camps for children. Upon the demise of the Communist government in 1981, other types of camps began to form. (Alchimowi)

In **Germany**, a Young Pioneer Camp was opened in 1952 at Werbellinsee.

In **Greece,** camps began in 1911 with the founding of the first camp in Vouliagmeni, Athens, by Sophia Sleeman of the Child Protection Agency. The director of the camp was Athanassios Lefkadites, who had founded the Boy Scouts in Greece. The Greek government established a pattern of providing the camp experience for its children through the use of existing public and privately owned camps which continues to this day. During World War II, Greek camps offered food and medical treatment for children

affected by the war. (Christou) The privately owned camps started an association in 1983, the Greek Private Camp Association. In 1996, the Greek Camps Association was formed.

In **Turkey,** the Boy Scouts opened the first camp there in 1914. (Gozet)

In **Belgium,** during World War II, the governmental Social Security decided to send some children to camps on the North Sea. From this experience the Belgian Department for Children's Help aided in the formation of the camp program, Jeunesse ete Sante, and the government financed one fourth of the budget of its camps. The organization also developed camps in France, Switzerland, and Italy.

The first camp in **Iceland** was YMCA (KFUM Vatnaskógur) in 1923.

The first camp in **Portugal,** thus far researched, was formed by Abel Rodriques of the Scripture Union in 1949. (Sabean, et.al.)

Frambu (**Norway**) was founded in 1955 but was re-launched in 2005 after lapsing for several years. The first camp in **Sweden** occurred in 1912 sponsored Svensta Scoutförbundet in connection with the Olympic games and located at Djurgården. There were over 1200 participants including scouts from other countries.

The first efforts to organize a European Camping Association began in 1994 with Stathis Patseas as President. However, there was little response from early efforts to meet with camp directors from countries other than Greece and the United Kingdom. The Association was reorganized in 2003, gaining recognition from the European Union with Anna Gliati as President, and the first gathering of the Association occurred in September 2003 at Burgas, Bulgaria, with eight countries represented.

ASIA

The earliest known camps in Asia occurred in the late nineteenth century when the YMCA began camps in **China** (1885), **Japan** (1890), and **Korea** (1903), and the Scripture Union started camps in Japan and **India**. (Sabean, et.al.)

In **Japan,** the first documented camp occurred in 1907 when Maresuke Nogi took a group of Gabushuin Junior High School students for a camp at Kugenuma Beach. (Morooka) The Tokyo YMCA established their camp in 1923 in tents under the direction of Saburo Nagai. (Tanaka) In 1931, a camp was formed by a social settlement in Tokyo at Takeoka on Tokyo Bay

with Tatsuo Misumi as director. In 1932, both the Tokyo YWCA and YMCA built cottages for their individual camps. The National Camping Association of Japan was formed in 1966 with Mrs. Saburo Nagai as President.

In 1950, the YMCA of Taipei, **Republic of China (Taiwan)**, conducted the first camp for "Kids" at Kuei-San. The following year, the YWCA of Taipei conducted the first camp for adolescents at Chih-Chech. At the end of that year, the Ministry of Education officially integrated "Scouting Education" into the middle school curriculum. The Camping Association of the Republic of China (Taiwan) was formed in October 1975. (Chen)

The **Malaysian** Camping Association was formed in 1994 with the support of the Ministry of Tourism for Malaysia. The Boy Scouts founded the first camp in Malaysia in the 1950s.

The Boy Scouts founded the first camp in **Thailand** in the 1950s, and the YMCA opened camps in 1956.

Roddy Archibald of the Bible Union founded the first camp in **India** in 1904. (Sabean, et.al.) Camp Tonakela was founded in 1938 by Wallace Forgie, a Canadian, and is the oldest camp currently in operation in India.

The oldest camp in **Mongolia** is Camp Selbe, founded in 1951. The Mongolia Camping Association was founded in 1993 or 2005.

In 2003, representatives of camps in Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, and Thailand met at the International Camping Congress in Melbourne, Australia, and formed the Asian Camping Fellowship (see Chapter 5), which later changed its name to Asia-Oceania Camping Fellowship.

AUSTRALIA-OCEANIA

In **Australia**, there are records of Junior Cadet militias established in schools to supplement the physical training of sports and provide a pathway into the military as early as the mid-1860s. (Oakley) The Scripture Union arrived between 1880 and 1896. (Sabean, et.al.) The first Boys' Brigade camps were organized around 1890. (Oakley)

Camping associations in the various states of Australia began before a national association was formed. Outdoors Western Australia (Camping Association) began in 1947, and the Camping Association of South Australia shortly after. Other state associations followed suit: Victoria (1983), Queensland (1992), and Tasmania (1984). The various associations joined

together and formed the Australian Camps Association in 2005.

The Scripture Union arrived and developed camps in **New Zealand** between 1880-1896 (Sabean, et.al.)

LATIN AMERICA

The earliest camps in Latin America grew out of the Young Men's Christian Association and the Scripture Union as those organizations spread. The first record of a camp in Latin America is a YMCA camp in the Richelo, Department of Colonia, **Uruguay,** in 1905. The same group repeated such a camp on the coast east of Rio de Janeirio, **Brazil** at Rio de la Plata in December of 1905. (Sabean et.al.) It is reported that the military, government, and YMCA began day camps in Rio de Janeiro in the early 1930s. (Mullins) It is interesting that, in 1911, a camp was held at Pirapolis, **Uruguay**, for "international students". (Sabean, et.al.)

There is history of camps operated by Patrols of Scouts before 1910 in **Chile** and in **Argentina**. (Sabean, et.al.)

The first camp in **Peru** was organized by Juan Kessler and Sam Willa in 1954 for the Scripture Union.

Robert Sabean records the following start of camps by the Scripture Union:

Argentina, 1972
Chile, 1979
Brazil,1981
Bolivia and El Salvador, after 1981

The YMCA came to South America in 1893 and began a camp in Caracas, **Venezuela,** in 1958. Camps for English-speaking youth were held 1940-60. (Sabean, et.al.)

AFRICA

The Scripture Union, led by Frank Millard, founded camps in **South Africa** around 1925 and also founded camps in **Sudan, Ghana, Zaire,** and **Uganda.** (Sabean, et.al.) The Voluntary Workcamps Association of Ghana was formed in 1956. (Donkor)

The first residential summer camp in **Ethiopia** was founded in 1966 by a Peace Corp volunteer, Phil Lilienthal. (GlobalCamps)

There was a report of the founding of the **Kenya** Camping Association in 1998. The **Liberia** Camping Association was founded in 2006 through the leadership of R. Abel Learwellie. (Pulliam, Jorgenson, Powell)

So camps of varying sorts have popped up around the world as a unique environment for bringing persons together into a community where a sense of interdependence is fostered, most often in an outdoor setting. Certainly the early spread of camps has much to owe faith-based organizations and the scouting movements. Perhaps it was an outgrowth of such community experiences that made it natural to share camp beyond national borders to gain an understanding of differences and commonalities with other such communities.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES

Missionaries from various Christian denominations, as well as of organizations such as the Scripture Union, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts/Girl Guides, YMCA, and YWCA, carried some elements of their home culture as they developed camps as part of their programs in various countries.

The predecessor of the International Branch of the YMCA, the Committee on Friendly Relations Among Foreign Students, was founded in 1911 by John R. Mott to serve international students coming to the USA for college study. The students from China were selected by missionaries and YMCA staff, and their expenses were paid by reparations money from the Boxer Rebellion. These students did not go home in the summers, and some were sent to YMCA camps as international staff. (Mairs)

World War I interrupted holiday camps throughout Europe and to some degree in North America. Post World War I, some exchanges began. American Field Service (now AFS-USA) is one example. The American volunteers in AFS ambulance service started this youth exchange. The Experiment in International Living began in the 1930s, with the goal of bringing young people together, not in war.

World War II interrupted the development of camps in much of the world and changed the meaning of the word "camp" for many. In some countries not in the midst of the War, students found that they could not go home, nor could they get funds from home. In the USA, The Committee on Foreign Relations helped students with small grants to help them stay in school, and again, some of them were counselors in summer camps while in the USA.

At the end of the war, efforts were made to restart camps. The US Department of State began a trainee program in which YMCA staff from war torn countries were brought to the USA for training in order to restart the YMCAs and their camps in countries, many of which had been closed during the war. (Mairs)

By the early fifties, camps were strengthening and multiplying. A whole host of exchange organizations sprung up after the war as many thought it would be better for young people to meet in a more friendly and constructive way than on the battlefields. General Dwight Eisenhower asked the YMCA of the USA to send someone to help restart youth work in Germany, specifically camping, and Elmer Ott, director of Camp Manitowish, Wisconsin, was chosen to go. By the early 1960s, the Hannover YMCA (Germany) and Camp Dudley (USA) had begun exchanges of campers and staff.

During this period, the YMCA International Program Services, operated by the YMCA of Greater New York on behalf of the YMCA of the USA started the International Camp Counselor Program (ICCP) which brought students from the European Continent to the USA for the summer to work in camps. In the 1960s, exchanges between YMCA camps in European countries and the United States began with certain camps in the northeast and midwest.

During this same period, the YMCA began discussions with the Soviet Committee of Youth Organizations, a coordinating committee that included the Young Pioneer Organization and other youth groups. This resulted in the exchange of counselors between some USA camps and camps in the Soviet Union. (Mairs) The first such exchange occurred with Artek International Children's Center, in Crimea on the Black Sea, which had earlier begun exchanges with other countries.

The first group of campers from the USA camps went to camps in the Soviet Union in 1972 and 1973 in hopes of developing an exchange, but the change in the political climate halted such future efforts.

The Association for World Travel Exchange, Inc. (AWTE) was founded in 1953 by Robert L. Tesdell to offer non-formal educational initiatives to promote international understanding. It began an International Counselor Exchange Program **(ICEP)**, to place young people from all regions of the world as counselors in American summer camps.

In England, British Universities North America Club was founded in 1962 by Christopher Harbour and Martin Truscott. It grew out of the Canada Clubs and North America Clubs at the University of Oxford, the University of Cambridge, and the University of London. It was a not-for-profit members' club and was one of the largest and oldest international work exchange

organizations in the UK. Out of this group, the BUNACAMP program was established by John Ball and Howard Crew in 1970. BUNACAMP enabled young people to spend a summer working as camp counselors for American children in a wide range of summer camps. By 2013, the ownership had changed, and the name changed to Summer Camp Exchange with students and interns in the USA, Canada, Australia, Ireland, Great Britain, New Zealand, China, Thailand, Nepal and South Africa. (Wikipedia)

In 1969, the American Institute of Foreign Service acquired a program called Rural Britannia and renamed it Camp America. The program originally brought students from Great Britain to the United States but expanded to bring students to work in summer camps from various other countries.

In 1975, the International Program Services of the YMCA of the USA began the exchange of counselors with the Soviet Committee of Youth Organizations as part of its international camp counselor exchange program after several YMCA camps in the USA had sent camper groups to visit camps in the USSR.

In 1977, a group of teenagers and preteens traveled to the Soviet Young Pioneer camp, Orlyonok, in Russia. (Wikipedia)

Another event which proved to be significant to the growth of international relations through camping occurred in December 1982 when Samantha Smith, a 10-year-old girl from Manchester, Maine (USA), wrote a letter to the new Soviet Union President, Yuri Andropov, asking if he was going to wage nuclear war against the U.S or work for peace. As a result, she was invited to visit the Soviet Union in July1983, and she and her parents accepted the invitation. The trip included a stay at Artek. Before leaving the USA, Jane Smith had visited Alford Lake Camp (Maine) and developed a formal greeting from American camps to be presented at Artek during their visit. Samantha Smith's letter and visit made her a media celebrity in the USA and the Soviet Union. Tragically, she and her father died in the crash of a small plane on a rainy August night in 1985.

From this loss and experience in the Soviet Union, the Samantha Smith Foundation was formed, and in 1986, her mother, Jane Smith, accompanied twenty of Samantha's classmates on a trip that included a stay at Artek International Children's Center. The Foundation was to encourage such exchanges until 1995. (McMullan, Smith)

In 1985, Camp Counselors USA (CCUSA) began as an international work adventure specialist. CCUSA now provides over 15 programs that recruit from more than 60 countries and have placed over 250,000 young adults in

In 1986, the International Program Services of the YMCA of the USA hosted a meeting in New York City of representatives of the Soviet Committee of Youth Organizations and the President-Elect (Richard Chamberlain) and Executive Vice President (Armand Ball) of the American Camping Association for an exploration of common interests, the first formal contact between the two organizations.

In Russia, the Movement for Understanding began in 1990 and developed exchange programs with camps in many countries.

Since 1990, the International Camping Fellowship (ICF) has provided an informal program and well as international congresses that have connected camps and camp directors from different countries so that a variety of exchanges of campers and staff has occurred.

Camping had now spread around the world, primarily by organizations finding that the outdoor informal setting was a way to attract youth and promulgate their mission. Already, exchanges of staff and campers were breaking down preconceived stereotypes and opening doors of understanding. There was a growing readiness for intercourse beyond the boundaries of sponsoring groups.

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Jack Pearse, Founder, Past President of ICF

Russian camp directors and counselors, International Camping Congress, 2008, Quebec

"We all wish to shape the dreams of children – children with shining eyes and shining hearts…It is our wish to seek new ways to encourage the growth and development of all children in a 'shining way', to equip them with courage, skills, and will to overcome challenges that lie ahead; to instill hope for a brighter future and to provide them with the knowledge and power to live lightly in a caring community."

~~From Message from ICC 2000 Organizing and Executive Committees.

CHAPTER TWO

INTERNATIONAL GATHERINGS BEGIN - 1977-87

1977-82

Steps toward international gatherings around camps began in 1977 when the Minnesota Section of the American Camping Association began developing plans for the 1979 ACA Conference, which they were to host. There was agreement within the planning committee that it might be an international conference with efforts to include camping neighbors in Canada.

Jack Murdock, a Past-President of the Minnesota Section of ACA (US), was selected as Chair of the Conference and went to the 1978 National ACA Conference in Anaheim, California, not only to report on progress but also to invite the delegates to the next conference. There were several Canadians present, and Murdock issued them personal invitations to the

conference. John Latimer and Jocelyn Palm, President of the Ontario Camping Association (OCA), invited Murdock to come to the OCA Conference ten days after the ACA Conference to encourage attendance at the Minneapolis conference in 1979.

It was at that Toronto Conference that Murdock was exposed to the Camp Tawingo Boys' Camp Band (Huntsville, Ontario, Canada) which performed at one of the conference sessions, and he was excited at the prospect of their performing at the Minneapolis Conference. In the process, he was introduced to Jack Pearse, Director of Camp Tawingo and President of the Canadian Camping Association (CCA).

And so, the Boys' Camp Band along with Jack Pearse and Jane McCutcheon led the singing at the Minneapolis ACA Conference. In addition, there were a number of Canadian delegates at the "first international camping conference" in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The names Jack Pearse, Jane McCutcheon, John Jorgenson, Janet Adamson, Jocelyn Palm, John Latimer, Jack Murdock, and others were to be heard again in the ongoing development of the International Camp Fellowship.

Out of this conference grew an interest on behalf of individuals in the American and Canadian Associations to host a joint International Conference in 1983. Discussions began among Barbara Gilbert and Jocelyn Palm, OCA, with Chuck Kujawa, ACA President, and Armand Ball, ACA Executive Vice President. Meetings were held discussing the possibility of Toronto as the host city and combining program efforts, substituting this Conference for both the Annual ACA Conference and the Annual OCA Conference.

After a number of meetings, it became apparent that the major impediment for ACA in this approach was that commercial exhibits traditionally provided a critical source of income for the budget of ACA. It was obvious that the support of exhibitors to go to a Canadian location was lacking, and therefore, ACA's portion of the income from a joint conference would not satisfy its budgeting needs. Early in 1981, the plans for a joint conference were tabled. Quickly, ACA moved the site for its 1983 conference to Cincinnati, Ohio.

Meanwhile, Christian Camping International continued its growth with establishment of four regions: Europe, Africa, Asia/Pacific and Americas/ Russia. A Southern Africa Association was established in 1979.

The Victoria (Australia) Department of Sport and Recreation hosted Armand and Beverly Ball to address and take part in a conference of camping persons in Melbourne in September, 1982. Out of this meeting was to

emerge the Camping Association of Victoria. While there, Armand Ball also spoke to the Camping Association of South Australia in Adelaide.

1983

However, the Ontario Camping Association moved ahead with making plans for their annual conference to be held in Toronto as an International Conference, and ACA (US) agreed to promote participation in the Conference. Thus, the "Second International" Camping Conference was held in Toronto, January 26-29, 1983, with about 1400 attendees. At that time, Jocelyn Palm was the President of the OCA which hosted the conference. John Latimer, past president of OCA and CCA, served as Chair with Jack Murdock, Minnesota Section, ACA, as co-chair. The program chair was Kirsty Griffiths. (Booth, 2014) This began a cycle as the First International Camping Conference sponsored by more than one camp association. (Booth)

Sir Edmund Hilary was the keynote speaker, and Leo Buscaglia spoke at the closing banquet. Simultaneous translation in French and English was provided for all general sessions. There were 90 workshops presented by individuals at the conference. (Booth) So the small international experience in Minnesota in 1979 blossomed into an international gathering of camp directors from all Canadian provinces and the USA.

A Korean Christian Camping Association was established in 1983.

The Camping Association of Victoria (Australia) was organized in 1983.

1984-87

In 1985, the Brazilian Christian Camping Association was formed.

In 1987, the Samantha Smith Foundation brought its first group of Soviet youth to the USA. Jean McMullan, Director of Alford Lake Camp in Maine, hosted a group of fifteen Soviet youth, their four leaders, and thirty American campers plus thirty counselors for a camp session. Thus began an exchange of camps between the two countries that was to blossom in the future.

By 1988, three Maine camps, Alford Lake, Chewonki, and Hidden Valley, hosted Soviet youth. In 1989, 28 camps hosted 77 children and 20 adult chaperones from the region of Brynsk near Chernobyl, the region that had experienced a nuclear disaster in April 1986. They were welcomed by camps in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and New

York where they spent a month learning first-hand about American youth while experiencing the freedom of the out-doors. Since the Chernobyl blast, walking in the woods and swimming in the lakes had not been allowed due to the high levels of radiation. (McMullan)

According to Richard Chamberlain, Past President of ACA, "In 1984, when Armand (Ball) was Executive Director of ACA (US), he turned to Janet Adamson as President of the Canadian Camping Association and to myself as then President of ACA and suggested that we jointly seek out country camping leaders throughout the world, invite them to the 1987 ACA National Conference in Washington DC, and help them discuss ways to share camping internationally. And that was to be the beginning of the International Camping Fellowship." (Chamberlain)

Efforts began shortly after that to interest the two ACA Sections responsible for the 1987 American Camping Association Conference in making it an "international" event. This conference was to be the first time that two ACA Sections were to cooperatively host a national ACA conference, which meant having co-chairs and a joint host committee. The co-chairs, who were already at work on the conference, were Charles Ackenbom (Chuck) of Virginias Section and Charles Butler of the Chesapeake Section. The two Sections hosting the conference were a bit hesitant initially since they were still trying to work out the intricacies of two hosts working together. With encouragement of Ball and Chamberlain, the Committee agreed, and work began to spread the word to camp professionals in various countries. Canadian support was ensured, and David Sands was appointed to be the liaison to the Host Committee. Interestingly, Jack Murdock of the 1979 ACA Conference, was now the Director of Education on the ACA staff, providing guidance and assistance to the Host Committee during the eighteen months before the Conference.

The Conference Committee asked a group of local art students to each submit a design for the logo of the conference. When one logo was presented that featured a map of the world on the wings of a butterfly, those present immediately said, "This is it!"

The Conference program featured a number of speakers including the First Lady of the United States, Mrs. Nancy Reagan. The international music group, Up with People, performed at one session.

At the conference, the workshops, seminars, and general sessions of the Second International Congress opportunities provided for dialogues and conversations among delegates. Some who attended the meeting were actively involved in organizational camping movements in their countries.

The 1800 delegates at the Congress represented: Australia, Belgium, Bermuda, Canada, China, the People's Republic of China (Taiwan), Costa Rica, England, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, United States, and Venezuela.

The occasion provided an ideal opportunity to gather representatives from each country to discuss common concerns. Each country present at the Congress was asked to send one representative to discuss their various styles of camping and dreams for future international collaboration. That informal gathering of 25-30 delegates was hosted by the Association Presidents, Adamson (OCA) and Chamberlain (ACA). To generate ideas, they asked each person to share something of the style of camping in their home country as well as their 'dreams and visions' of what an international camping organization might accomplish.

It was noted that the Boy Scouts of America, the YMCA and the YWCA and some religiously affiliated groups had been conducting international camping exchanges for decades. Some felt that to increase international connections, what was needed was an organizational structure that included the full spectrum of agency, private-independent, and religiously affiliated camps.

As the hours passed in this planning session, individual participants commented that they felt 'electricity' in the air. There was comfort and excitement felt by the sharing and the expressions of hopes and dreams. Individually and collectively, those who attended said, "We must maintain this special chemistry that has come together here in Washington. There is so much energy in this room--it has to be used! We cannot extinguish this flame of friendship, this hunger for peace, this excitement and commitment." (Chamberlain)

There was general agreement in the group that they were not in a position to support a formalized organization composed of camping associations and/or governmental groups. None were in a position to offer formal support from any organization or government, and no one leaned toward the formation of an 'association' or 'union'. The word "fellowship" was felt to better express the desires of the group. A small group of six people was designated by the larger group to develop a statement to be presented at the closing session of the Congress, chaired by Teresa Lucas, Campamento Miranda, Caracas, Venezuela.

The group met and labored over a document, and they asked for a second meeting of the informal group of internationals. There was enthusiasm within the group when they reviewed the resulting document, and they

immediately asked the two Association Presidents and the ACA Executive to arrange with the Conference Committee for time in the closing session of the Conference for this report to be read. Rather presumptive for an *ad hoc* group with no authority!

At that closing session, Tom Slater, Executive of Scripture Union of Victoria, Australia, presented to all 1,800 participants from more than seventeen countries, a document announcing the formation of a new international fellowship. It was to be named the 'International Camping Fellowship', and the group would be an informal association of individuals, camps, and organizations around the world who would foster international understanding through the organized camp experience. The agreement follows as presented by Slater:

"Agreement of International Representatives
To coordinate internationally in order:

- To exchange news and information
- To encourage and facilitate bilateral and multilateral exchanges
- To evaluate our direction within two years
- To ask the American Camping Association to produce an international newsletter, first copy deadline June 1; available by subscription with copy supplied by international participants
- To ask the American Camping Association to facilitate an interaction amongst five or six delegates within twelve months to assess direction
- To do these activities under the name 'International Camping Fellowship' "

There was no formal vote by delegates to the Conference, nor were any representatives authorized to form such an organization, but there was a sense of affirmation and anticipation with faith that such a group would become reality.

And so the butterfly took wings, flying from Washington D. C. into an unknown world of camping! At this point, it was a somewhat fragile butterfly, unsure where it would land next.

By the width of our smiles, people know we are here.
By the depth of our love, we show others that we care.
We can make a difference you and I
We can make a difference if we try.

For as much as we give, people know we are there
For as long as we live we show others we care
We can make a difference you and I
We can make a difference if we try.

Not a minute to lose, people know we are there
And the hour has come to show others we care.
We can make a difference you and I
We can make a difference if we try.

When our love multiplies people know we are there
When we add to their live we show that we care.
We can make a difference you and I
We can make a difference if we try.

~~Jack Pearse

Sources:

Chamberlain, Richard. 1997.

McMullan, Jean. E-mail, March, 2014

Pearse, Jack. "We Can Make a Difference" @1986, sung at the 1987 International Congress, Washington D.C. USA.

1988 Photo of Founding Committee. Back row: Teresa Lucas, Bob Metcalf, Armand Ball, Jack Pearse, Richard Chamberlain. Front row: Don MacDowall, Sako Tanaka, Bill Bowker.

"We must maintain this special chemistry in Washington…We cannot extinguish this flame of friendship, this hunger for peace, this excitement and commitment. What's happening to keep this special chemistry alive and growing?"

We talked about the next step to be a Planning Meeting of about 8-10 from all continents…to be held at a site that would model a stay of camping in the host country; to discuss how to accomplish our mission with minimum structure; to discuss proposals related to camper exchange programs; to further understand our different styles of camping from country to country."

~~Richard Chamberlain

CHAPTER THREE

THE ORGANIZATION EMERGES - 1987-1990

The enthusiasm and glow of the agreement in Washington D. C. to form a Fellowship began to meet the wall of reality as delegates returned to their home countries, and the issues of implementation and communication emerged. Electronic communication was not yet an option, and efforts depended on the telephone, faxes, and postal services. Neither had the enthusiastic agreement in Washington D. C. provided a funding base for communication and meetings.

The American Camp Association (ACA) had agreed to provide facilities and funding for two editions of a newsletter prior to the next gathering of regional representatives and permitted its Executive, Armand Ball, to add the newsletter to his duties.

EXPLORATIONS

On July 9-10, 1987, Camp Tawingo, Huntsville, Ontario, Canada, hosted a meeting of Ontario Camping Association's (OCA) President Janet Adamson; ACA's President, Richard Chamberlain; and the International Representative for the Canadian Camping Association (CCA), Jack Pearse, to discuss possible next steps. Several objectives were agreed upon:

- Build toward a planning meeting in 1988 that might have as its content:
- Location of a camping site that would "model" a style of camping in the host country -- and provide an opportunity to see how similar model experiences in other countries might be set up.
- Discussion of how to accomplish our mission "with minimum structure"
- Discussion of proposals that might be developed on camper exchange programs
- Further understand different styles of camping from country to country
- Continue the International Newsletter
- Investigate funding possibility for projects and meetings
- Explore current camper exchange programs

Early in September of that year, the first newsletter was mailed to those persons who were at the International Congress as well as others in the international community, with requests for news and upcoming events.

On September 14, 1987, Jack Pearse, Richard Chamberlain, and Armand Ball met near Detroit, Michigan, USA, to begin plans for the proposed planning meeting the following year. It was agreed that the primary goal of the meeting would be to try to implement an informal organization, along with funding sources.

Here was a group of self-appointed leaders with a list of persons who had

been at the original gathering in Washington D. C. and others who were interested.

There was no money, no structure, and only the gleam of what the original group of delegates in Washington D. C. had envisioned. There was no question that further steps could not be accomplished by telephone and mail alone.

It was Jack Pearse who volunteered to host a meeting at Camp Tawingo. So the date was set as August 19-22, 1988, and Ball, Chamberlain, and Pearse agreed upon a list of invitees who would provide representation from the different regions of the world. The Camp agreed to fund the lodging and meals.

As responses came back, it was apparent that some invitees could come, while others were unable afford the airline tickets. Jack Pearse and Camp Tawingo made a grant to provide attendees financial assistance with their air fares. It was critical in the minds of the organizers that there be a diverse representation to be international.

AT LAST – FACE TO FACE

On August 19-22, 1988, the following persons gathered at Camp Tawingo: Armand Ball, Immediate Past CEO of the American Camp Association and Dick Chamberlain, ACA President, (USA); Jack Pearse, International Representative of the Canadian Camping Association, (Canada); Bill Bowker and Don MacDowall of the Camping Association of Victoria (Australia); Bob Metcalfe, YMCA National Centre (Great Britain); Sachiko (Sako) Tanaka, Tsuda University (Japan); Teresa Lucas, Campamento Miranda, (Venezuela). The only person unable to attend was Francis Donkor, Voluntary Workcamps of Ghana.

The group that met was to be recognized as the Founding Committee of the International Camping Fellowship.

Much time at the meeting was devoted to the concept of an organization: How much of a formal organization would be needed, how to be representative, funding, and who could spearhead the spread of the group. It was agreed that some leadership needed to be put into place as well as some method of geographical representation and communication developed.

The group confirmed the concern of the delegates in Washington D. C. that structure and formality was to be avoided, and that whatever evolved was

not a group of associations. No one there leaned toward the formalization of an "association" or "union". The word "fellowship" was felt to better express the desires of the group at the Washington D. C. conference. So the name "International Camping Fellowship" (ICF) was confirmed.

There was a discussion at that time that was to continue over the following years as to the inability to translate the word "Fellowship" into a number of languages. Discussion from time to time would turn to changing that word, but it continued to be agreed that ICF was the accepted title, and each culture could translate the word "fellowship" into the best word expressive of it in that culture's language.

The group agreed that ICF should become a membership organization extending worldwide to promote international cooperation and understanding through organized camping. It was hoped that the dues from memberships would fund the newsletter and other communications, though it was recognized that travel to meetings would have to be borne by the participating individuals. Annual membership rates of $10 US for individuals and $20 US for camps/organizations were set and authorization given to open an ICF Bank account.

The logo of the 1987 Washington Congress chosen to illustrate the theme "Our Fragile World" (a blue butterfly with a map of the world inscribed on its wings) was to become the official logo for the newly-formed International Camping Fellowship. The Butterfly logo was later given to the International Camping Fellowship by the American Camping Association. It was to become the symbol of ICF, to live and travel around the world for the next 25 years.

Charles (Chuck) Ackenbom, 1987 Conference Co-Chair, writes: "We all know that the life of a butterfly is very short, but this is a very special butterfly. The Butterfly logo was given to the International Camping Fellowship by the American Camping Association to represent the work of the ICF year after year. It has lived and traveled around the world for fourteen years because it lives in the hearts of all of us. Let us keep it alive for the next millennium to promote peace, understanding, and fellowship in our world of camping." (Ackenbom)

The purpose of the International Camping Fellowship was defined as:

- to coordinate the exchange of news and information between individuals/camps/organizations in different countries;
- to encourage and facilitate bilateral and multilateral exchanges;
- to stimulate efforts to achieve international understanding through organized camping.

It was agreed that a Steering Committee would be composed of the officers and the geographical representatives to get the organization underway. The group selected Richard Chamberlain to serve as the first ICF "Convener" (Chair), and he was to serve in this role until 1994. Armand Ball, having retired from ACA and living in Florida (USA), was asked to continue as Newsletter Editor/Membership, and he served in this role until 1997. Until By-Laws could be drafted and approved, the persons present were asked to serve as the various Regional Coordinators: Jack Pearse (Canada), Teresa Lucas (Latin America/Middle East), Robert Metcalfe (Great Britain/Europe), Sako Tanaka (Eastern Asia/Japan), Bill Bowker (Australia/ Oceania/India), Francis Donker (Africa), and Richard Chamberlain (USA/ Caribbean/USSR).

There was concern that North America not become a dominating leader in the Fellowship. It was agreed to meet outside North America in 1989, though "funding sources were indefinite". Members were urged to approach their national airlines for assistance.

The group offered formal support to the American Camping Association and the Canadian Camping Association for a "combined" International Congress in 1994. This was obviously a symbolic action since the group had no funds and only a few members.

This optimism and vision was further indicated in asking those present "to identify gaps in existing camps to determine ways ICF can assist in the development of leadership programs in relevant camping experiences."

A planning group composed of Bill Bowker, Richard Chamberlain, and Robert Metcalfe agreed to draft a developmental plan for ICF with the goal of seeking outside funds before the proposed 1994 Congress.

Though there were conversations around camper exchange and the differ-ing models of camps around the world, it was recognized that those were discussions more appropriate to whatever emerged from the new "Fellowship".

After what would be called the first meeting of the newly formed Steering Committee, the group headed back to their homes, hoping to meet again in 1989, but knowing the expense of travel was a major block. There was little hope of a meeting in the near future, but all were committed to spread information and continue the energy and dream envisioned in Washington D.C. and formalized at their meeting.

CONNECTIONS

Shortly after this meeting, Camp America (USA) agreed to sponsor the funding of the next two editions of the ICF Newsletter. Those newsletters report a variety of international exchanges/visits in 1987, 1988, and 1989, many of which grew out of the relationships developed at the 1987 International Conference:

Workshops in Japan for the Tokyo YMCA and YWCA, Kobe YMCA, and Osaka YMCA led by Jack Pearse, John Jorgenson and Jane McCutcheon of Camp Tawingo, Ontario, Canada (Chamberlain, McCutcheon)

An exchange of camping leaders between Ontario, Canada, and Belgium

A Ski Camp with campers from Japan and the Republic of China

An All-Latin America Convention in Tlascala, Mexico

A United Kingdom expedition for international leaders to Sweden, Portugal, and the Netherlands

A study tour by the National Camping Association of Japan to Canadian camps

Camp counselors from the USSR, Hungary, Poland, and Czechoslovakia to YMCA Camps in the USA

Exchange of campers between YMCA Camps in Hungary and USA

Exchange of campers between camps in the USA and Venezuela

Campers from USSR to a Peace Camp in the USA sponsored by the Samantha Smith Foundation

A YMCA World Camp in the USA with 50 youth from 22 countries

A Symposium on Outdoor Education with two practitioners from the USA and one from New Zealand, hosted by Japan

Linkages occurred between Australia/USA, Venezuela/USA, Britain/USA, Japan/USA

A Friendship Camp in Greece in 1988 hosted 100 campers and 20 leaders from 12 European countries.

A World Peace Camp in Maine (USA) with 170 campers from 7 countries was founded by Jay and Karen Stager and the Samantha Smith Foundation (1989)

Richard and Ann Chamberlain visited camps in Victoria, Australia (1988)

In October of 1988, the Venezuelan Camping Association was formed, and subsequently held its first annual conference in 1989. An informal Puerto Rican Camping Association was formed at El Yungue, Our Rain Forest.

After the first meeting of the newly formed Steering Committee, members were anxious to meet again, but the expense of travel hindered calling a formal meeting anytime during 1989. Communication continued as possible between officers, representatives, and others. Newsletters were published, sharing information with those who had signed up as members and contacts from the International Conference.

Meanwhile, planning was underway for the American Camping Association Annual Conference to be held in Boston, Massachusetts (USA), in February 1990. The Program Chair of the Conference happened to be Richard Chamberlain, who discovered late in 1989 that $10,000 had been paid by the convention hotel in order to change previously set dates. He encouraged the Conference Committee and ACA to use those funds to pay the travel of the ICF Steering Committee to the conference so that members could lead sessions as part of the program at the Conference.

As a result, funding to cover travel and housing for the members to come to the convention enabled the Steering Committee to meet immediately afterward.

Several Steering Committee members led individual interest sessions during the Conference, and there were many informal opportunities for sharing and expanding horizons of those there. The conference program included a two and one-half hour plenary session centered on international camping containing:

- A lecture by Armand Ball on "Expanding Camp Horizons in Tomorrow's World"
- A report on exchanges between camps in the Soviet Union and the United States
- A video of a Soviet-American camper exchange in various New England camps from the summer of 1989
- A presentation by Valery Kostin of Moscow on camping in the Soviet Union
- A premiere of a new song "For the Children", written by Joanne Bender and Jack Pease

It was at this session that the American Camping Association presented the first Druzhba Award to Jean McMullan and Alford Lake Camp for outreach to the Soviet-American camper exchange. The Award had been created and

funded by Abbott Fenn, co-owner Camp Keewaydin (Maine) and ACA member, as an effort to recognize and encourage building bridges between the Soviet Union and the USA in the camping community.

In 1987, McMullan, Director of Alford Lake Camp (Maine, USA) and past ACA national president, hosted a group of 15 Soviet youth, their four leaders, and 30 American campers plus 30 counselors for a camp session. Jane Smith of the Samantha Smith Foundation reported, "This exchange was a huge groundbreaking event. It was the first time Soviet youth had attended an American camp and the beginning of the Center's Soviet/ American youth exchanges."

Few people knew the extent of the camp movement in the Soviet Union, and the presentation by Valery Kostin introduced the delegates to the largest camp movement in the world: Russia with 103,000 camps. (Chamberlain, McCutcheon)

The first delegation of camp directors from Venezuela were also at this Conference, further opening the Latin American connections. All of these new connections and presentations expanded the world of camping for all present at the conference.

GOVERNANCE

The expanded ICF Steering Committee held its first meeting since the founding meeting in Canada on February 25-26, 1990. Kostin was invited to participate in the Steering Committee meeting as a representative of the Soviet Union. Philippe Bertholet of Belgium, representing Jeunesse et Sante at the Conference, was invited to serve as European Regional Representative on the Steering Committee and Robert Metcalfe to become the United Kingdom Representative. Don MacDowell (Australia) was elected Recording Secretary.

Responsibilities of the regional representatives were outlined:

- Supply information for the newsletter
- Serve on the Steering Committee
- Disseminate information
- Survey known camps in the region
- Distribute local exchange information

Enough membership payments (40) had been received that the Committee could adopt its first budget of $2200US which covered expanding the publication of the newsletter to three times a year and a membership flyer.

It was agreed to have a meeting of ICF Steering Committee members at the Ontario (Canada) Camping Conference in Toronto, January 1991, and a meeting of ICF members at the American Camping Association Conference in Dearborn, Michigan, in February 1991. It was hoped that the Committee would have a quorum to meet at one of those Conferences. It was agreed to serve as the "umbrella organization" for an International Camping Congress in Toronto in 1994, to be hosted by the Ontario and Canadian Camping Associations.

Much time was spent discussing expansion of membership through regional representatives and the possibility of commercial funding or sponsorships. The names suggested seem grandiose in retrospect given that the organization consisted of only forty members at the time.

And so the vision of the group in Washington D. C. took life as a formalized fellowship of camp leaders from around the world. Whatever was to come of this organization in the years would be due to those who provided the energy, resources, and leadership: Adamson, American Camping Association, Ball, Canadian Camping Association, Chamberlain, Ontario Camping Association, and Pearse.

Picture the world with a rainbow of peace
Arching in splendor above it.
Each color and hue blending perfect true
Surely we can't help but love it.
So what should we do to be sure in each land
That the rainbow of peace keeps on glowing
The richer we will be if we walk hand in hand
While our love and friendships keep growing.

Now is the time and this is the place
And we are the folks that believe it
Let's care and forgive as long as we live
We know that we all can achieve it
For the children we'll sing
For the children we'll bring
A challenge to show us the way
Let's open our eyes
For our Destiny lies through the children.
We'll reach a new day.

And when we give our hearts to others,
When we start to do our share,
When we're sisters and when we're brothers
Then we know we really care for the children.

~~Jack Pearse

Sources:

Ackenbom, Charles. E-mail, 3/2014

Chamberlain, Richard. ICF Newsletter, Summer, 1998; 2010.

McCutcheon, Jane, and Chamberlain, Richard. Chronological Events in the Life of the International Camping Fellowship

Pearse, Jack. "For the Children", written for the 1990 international session of the American Camping Association Conference, Boston, Massachusetts, USA. Publication of AKASP – 2011.

Bill Bowker in Japan, 1999.

Yunga Camp,
Novorossiysk, Russia

"In these uncertain times of war and terrorism, I am made more aware of how important camping is to the young people of our world. It is a wonderful opportunity to teach the better values of life such love, tolerance, acceptance of frailties and our differences. We are in the very privileged positions of being able to 'Make a Difference'." ~~Jenny Bowker

CHAPTER FOUR

The Organization Takes Life – 1990-1997

1990

CONNECTIONS

New linkages and events emerged following the American Camping Association (ACA-US) Conference and the ICF Steering Committee meeting held in February, 1990:

Richard and Ann Chamberlain visited camps and met with Association officers in Venezuela and Victoria, Australia.

Jack Pearse, Jane McCutcheon, and John Jorgenson led sessions at several events in Japan sponsored by the National Camping Association of Japan, Tokyo YWCA, Camping Association of Kyoto, ICF of Japan, and Kansai Television Foundation of Youth Development. They also led several seminars in Australia.

Two Venezuelan camps began exchanges with two camps in the United States.

A small group of campers and adults from Australia and a group of ICF members from Japan visited International Children's Center Artek, Soviet Union.

An exchange of campers began between Belgium and the Soviet Union.

Officers and staff of the Victoria Camping Association (Australia) visited with the staff at the American Camping Association headquarters and New England ACA office, met with New England ACA Executive, Terry Phinney, and then visited Richard and Ann Chamberlain to tour several New England camps.

A growing awareness of camps hosting campers from other countries occurred around the globe.

1991

GOVERNANCE

Meanwhile, the Ontario Camping Association invited the ICF Steering Committee members to attend its Conference in Toronto, January 23-28, 1991, where various Committee members led sessions in the program.

Once again, financial support from a camp association enabled the Steering Committee to meet as well to widen relationships among international camp leaders.

The minutes of the meeting held January 24, 25, and 27, 1991, record appreciation to the following persons and groups which had provided contributions to underwrite the expense of this meeting:

Ontario Camping Association and its Conference Steering Committee

Bark Lake Centre
Camp Gay Venture
Camp Mi-A-Kon-Da
Camp Oconto
Camp Service Cooperatives
Camp Tamamkoon
Camp Tawingo
Camp Walden
Camp Wanakita

Barbara & Peter Gilbert
Glen Bernard Camp
Glen Mhor Camp
Martin Hunt
Jocelyn Palm
Dorothy Walter

The principal goals growing out of the meeting was to provide input to the Steering Committee for the 1994 International Camping Congress and to develop plans to recruit a large and representative body of international delegates to the Congress. The agreement with the Ontario Camping Association stipulated that ICF would get 20% of the net from the non-North American delegates attending the Congress. This was the first step toward ICF becoming a principal player in the International Congress pattern.

The Committee recognized that there still was no official document or bylaws governing the Steering Committee and the group agreed to continue as constituted until the 1994 International Congress.

The Board of the American Camping Association sent a representative, Carol Sudduth, to sit in as an observer at the Board meeting. Her commission was then to present a report to the Board that would help them better understand ICF. Her written report to the ACA Board was positive in nature, but one comment in particular reflects the stage of development of the organization at that time:

"Will ICF exist after 1994,
as a loose net of international fellowship and exchange
or
as an organization making strides to be recognized leaders and spokespersons for camping worldwide."

CONNECTIONS

Meanwhile, efforts toward an Australian Camping Association were made at the first meeting of representatives from the Tasmania, South Australia and Victoria Camping Associations which was held January 31-February 1, 1991. No representative from the other state association, Western Australia, was able to attend. Credit was given to the executives of two of the state associations (Don MacDowell, Victoria, and Bob Brandenburg, South Australia) for enabling the meeting. By the end of the meeting, an organization to be tentatively called the Affiliated Camping Associations of Australia was envisioned, and there was general agreement that a national campsite accreditation program was needed. By the end of 1991, interest in developing state associations had emerged in Queensland and New South Wales.

In March, a large international delegation attended the American Camping Association Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. During the Conference, Richard Chamberlain, ICF Regional Representative, hosted a meeting of ICF members and interested parties from the USA, Canada, Russia, Japan and Puerto Rico.

International relationships with the Soviet Union began to flourish in 1991:

Early in January, Jane McCutcheon and Jack Pearse (Canada) and Robert Lebby and Linda Grier (USA) spent two weeks in the Soviet Union visiting camps and participating in a camp conference at International Children's Center Artek. The visit was made possible by the Union of Pioneer Organizations and the Federation of Children's Organizations in the USSR as well as the Samantha Smith Foundation. Valery Kostin served as interpreter.

In April, four Soviets participated in the New England Section ACA Conference.

In the summer, a delegation of six teenagers and two adults led by Jenny Bowker from the Camping Association of Victoria (Australia) visited two camps in the Soviet Union.

In the summer, a group of four ICF members and a twelve year old camper led by Sachiko (Sako) Tanaka were guests of International Children's Center Artek in the Soviet Union.

In the summer, 500 Russian campers went to eleven different countries from the Soviet Union and 400 campers from outside Russia visited Soviet Union camps.

Jay Stager and Jack Murdock took a group of camp directors and nurses to visit three camps near Moscow.

A delegation from the American Camping Association Board was hosted by Russian camps and in meetings with dignitaries.

In September, Jack Pearse, Jane McCutcheon and John Jorgenson (Canada) visited Australia to work with camp groups in Queensland, South Australia, and Victoria.

The Movement for Understanding invited Steering Committee members to continue on to Moscow after the Steering Committee meeting in Belgium. Jenny and Bill Bowker (Australia), Ann and Richard Chamberlain (USA), and Don MacDowell (Australia) were able to accept the invitation. While there, they met with the Director General of the Movement for Understanding and an official of the Union of Pioneer Organizations to explain the role of ICF Regional Representatives and the need of retaining only one representative from a region. Afterward they visited Camp Orlyonok.

GOVERNANCE

The ICF Steering Committee held its second meeting of the year, October 9 -15, 1991, at Domaine de Massembrem Dinant, Belgium. The group was hosted by the camp, ICF Regional Representative for Europe, Philippe Bertholet, and the Jeunesse et Sante. Jeunesse et Sante was holding a training conference for 800 camp counselors at the conference center. Delegates from the Pioneer Organizations of the Soviet Union participated in the Conference. Members of the ICF Steering Committee led some sessions during the Conference.

By this meeting, the membership flyer had been translated into French and Spanish. A key discussion at this meeting was around governance and the role of Regional Representatives, and particularly as to whether ICF should be an organization of individuals and camps or, perhaps, of camp associations.

An interesting discussion arose at this meeting related to the role of ICF. There was a proposal that ICF develop a model training program for camp counselors that could be used by different groups worldwide. Part of the impetus for this discussion arose out of the camp counselor conference that was underway while the Committee met. Though the concept had some appeal, the Steering Committee agreed that it was more important at that time to strengthen the membership base and outreach of ICF. There was a realization that ICF was still very young, with limited representation of the worldwide camping movement and with very limited resources in terms of both finances and leadership.

It was at this Committee meeting that the tag line, "Bringing Together A World of Outdoor Experience", was adopted. Key actions of the meeting included:

- To continue and stimulate the exchange of news/information and bilateral/multilateral exchanges.
- To develop a statistical overview of camping around the world.
- To confirm that regions could have only one representative on the Steering Committee.
- To explore the development of a Resource Directory by collecting information from members.
- To propose a new Articles of Agreement for presentation at the 1994 International Congress, with a proposal to go to the membership between November 1993 and March 1994.

1992

CONNECTIONS

International events continued in 1992:

September 7-20, the Camping Associations of Victoria and South Australia, with the Outdoor Education Association of South Australia, hosted Jack Pearse, John Jorgenson, and Jane McCutcheon (Canada) to conduct workshops.

November 18-30, the National Camping Association of Japan and Kansai Television Foundation for Youth Development hosted Jack Pearse, John Jorgenson, and Jane McCutcheon (Canada) to conduct workshops in several locations.

In September, 1992, Richard and Ann Chamberlain (USA) and Armand and Beverly Ball (USA) visited the YMCA National Centre, Lakeside England, hosted by ICF Steering Committee Member, Robert Metcalfe and his wife, Ann. They visited two other outdoor centres.

In the fall of 1992, the Japanese chapter of ICF hosted two groups of international visitors. Bill Bowker and Bill Oakley of Victoria, Australia, held three workshops in various locations. Jack Pearse, John Jorgenson and Jane McCutcheon of Camp Tawingo, Ontario, Canada, hosted by Kansai Television, held six workshops.

Adults and Children Association of St. Petersburg (Russia) formed in December on the basis of the previous Pioneer Camp Directors Club. The Association was later to become the St. Petersburg Camping Association. (AKASP)

The Camping Association of Mexico was founded with Genaro Ortiz Tirado as President.

GOVERNANCE

The ICF Steering Committee met at the Gorbachev Foundation in Moscow, Russia, September 30-October 4, 1992, hosted by the Movement for Understanding. The principal focus of the meeting was to prepare for the 1994 International Congress in Toronto, Canada, and the format of the proposed

Articles of Agreement. A questionnaire on the Articles was prepared to be sent to ICF members. Another reason for meeting in Moscow was to encourage attendance from Russia at the 1994 Congress.

During the meeting, the Committee met with the Deputy to President Yeltsin and the Deputy Director of the Movement for Understanding, followed by a dialogue with representatives of many major youth organizations of Russia. Following the meetings, the group traveled to Saint Petersburg, Russia, where they were hosted by the local Union of Youth Organizations, visited Camp Zerkalny, and met with the Deputy Mayor of Saint Petersburg as well as several local camp directors.

1993

CONNECTIONS

February 2-5, 1993, the St. Petersburg Association of Children's Camps held a training conference for camp directors at Camp Sparkle. The group hosted Jack Murdock (USA) and Armand and Beverly Ball (USA) to teach a Camp Director Course, which was to be the precursor to the International Camp Director's Course, officially recognized by ICF in 2008. A video from the sessions was filmed for training purposes. Prior to the conference, Ball and Murdock joined representatives of the Association to explore with Saint Petersburg governmental officials the degree of funding for camps for the upcoming summer. Government funding had long been a stable support for children's camps, and with the change in economy and governmental climate, less government funding appeared to be available.

It was from this visit, that *Basic Camp Management* by Armand and Beverly Ball was translated and published by the Adults and Children Association of St. Petersburg. It eventually became the text for the International Camp Director Courses and was published in Japanese and Portuguese, as well as a second edition in Russian.

Meanwhile, in Australia, the Affiliated Camping Associations of Australia officially changed its name to the Australian Camps Association. The Queensland Camping Association had recently been formed. Twenty youth and five leaders from Russia were hosted by Australian ICF members and the Camping Association of Victoria at camps over a three week period.

On May 24, 1993, the Russian Camping Association (to be known in Russia as *Children Plus*) was formed. Michael Antonov of Moscow was elected President, and Lludmila Marinticheva was named Executive Director. The Association immediately began recruiting persons to go to the International

Congress in Toronto the next year in hopes of encouraging approval to hold the next International Congress in St. Petersburg in 1997 (Kostin).

In June, ICF published a Resource Directory listing camps, individuals, and organizations interested in international exchange with descriptions of the groups and their particular interests. Don MacDowell of Australia edited the Directory, and it continued annually until 2005 when the listing was changed to an electronic publication.

In the summer of 1993, several significant exchanges occurred:

Eight Russian camp directors visited Camp Tawingo, Ontario (Canada), for workshops. Ten Russian camp directors visited Camp Friendship, Virginia (USA).

A small group of Russian campers hosted by Camp Tawingo marked the first group of Russian campers to go to a Canadian Camp.

Six Russian campers visited Seacamp, Florida (USA).

Charles (Chuck) Ackenbom, Ray Ackenbom, and Linda Grier of Camp Friendship, Virginia (USA), led training programs for camp directors in three areas of Siberia, Russia, in October.

A cooperative relationship between Camp Friendship (USA) and the Movement for Understanding was initiated, bringing Russian children for a program of environmental education, touring, and camp activities in the spring and fall. The program continued through 2006.

A Seeds for Peace Camp was established at Camp Androscoggin, Maine (USA), to bring together Jewish and Muslim youngsters from the Near East in an effort to cross political, ethnic, cultural, and religious divisions.

An international exchange program was initiated between Kazakhstan and camps in Maine and California through Camp Counselors USA, Worldpeace Exchanges, and Movement for Understanding (Russia).

The Asociacion Venezolana de Campamentos hosted Jack Pearse and Jane McCutcheon (Canada) to lead workshop at its annual conference, October 28-30.

In early November, Jane McCutcheon, Chair of the Third International Camping Congress, visited the office of L'Union des Centres de Vacances et de Loisirs (U.F.C.U.) to promote French attendance at the Congress.

The Camping Association of Mongolia was founded, and the Malaysian Camping Association was reestablished after a dormant period.

GOVERNANCE

The Steering Committee met September 12-16 at Kangaroobie, Victoria, Australia. Prior to the meeting, several ICF members conducted workshops in Victoria.

Much of the meeting was devoted to preparations for the International Congress in Toronto in 1994. The Committee began looking ahead to 1997, having received an invitation from Russia to host that International Congress.

A structure sub-committee reported on governance documents which began with an initial draft of a constitution and bylaws growing out of Steering Committee discussions in 1991 and 1992. The draft was discussed and sent on to the Regional Representatives for discussion and feedback.

Membership had grown from 105 in 1989 to 157 in 1992, and a financial statement showed an income of $4,383.

1994

CONGRESS

1994 was the year of "Kumbayah", the Third International Camping Congress in Toronto, Ontario (Canada), co-hosted by the Canadian Camping Association, the Ontario Camping Association, and the American Camping Association. Over 1269 delegates from 27 countries came together March 2-5. The largest delegations outside of North America came from Russia and Japan, with a total of 150 delegates from outside of North America.

There were excellent speakers, including Dr. Jane Goodall and Dr. Bruce Kidd. There was much sharing of international camping in over 100 workshops and interest groups. For the first time, general sessions were simultaneously translated into five different languages: English, French, Japanese, Russian and Spanish. Outstanding entertainment included a performance by the group, Peter, Paul & Mary, although Mary was unable to attend. The performance was opened to the public with some 2000 persons present.

A Basic Camp Director Course preceded the Congress.

This was the first international Congress where ICF was the official sponsoring body. Jane McCutcheon served as Chair and Barb Gilbert as Program Chair.

GOVERNANCE

The ICF Steering Committee met March 1 and 6 around the Congress. The Annual Meeting was held March 3 in the midst of the Congress.

One order of business was to adopt the first Constitution and By-Laws. These documents formalized ICF into a membership organization. The Bylaws outlined a Steering Committee, officers, an annual meeting of the membership, and an election process for officers and regional representatives. The By-Laws were adopted by the ICF members present. The fledgling fellowship had become a formal organization --- but always first a fellowship of camping friends.

The founding members of the organization were identified in the Constitution as: Armand Ball (USA), Philippe Bertholet (Belgium), Bill Bowker (Australia), Richard Chamberlain (USA), Valery Kostin (Russia), Teresa Lucas (Venezuela), Don MacDowell (Australia), Jack Pearse (Canada), and Sako Tanaka (Japan).

The Committee also accepted the invitation of the Russian Camping Association - Children Plus to host the Fourth International Congress in St. Petersburg, Russia in 1997. This, in itself, was a pivotal decision that was to shift the standing of the organization. This instituted the first formal agreement between ICF and a national camping body to host an International Congress, and it was signed by Jack Pearse and Michael Antonov. In Toronto, ICF had been a sponsoring body in name but without any formal agreement.

Further, the organization was very young in years, and there were few ground rules or financial assurances. It was to be an historic event since it would be the first international conference outside of North America where two seasoned associations had experience in running conventions and provided financial stability.

During the following months, the new nomination and reelection procedures set forth in the new Bylaws began with nominations for regional representatives. The following representatives were elected by a mail ballot to the members in respective regions and took office in August, 1994:

Africa, Oceania/Southern Asia:	Bill Bowker (Australia)
Canada:	Jack Pearse (Ontario)
Europe:	Mantha Christou (Greece)
Japan/Eastern Asia:	Sako Tanaka (Japan)
Latin America:	Pedro Paredes (Venezuela)
Russia/CIS:	Valery Kostin (Russia)
USA/Caribbean:	Richard Chamberlain

Shortly after the election, the Regional Representatives met by a telephone conference call and elected the following officers:

Chair:	Jack Pearse (Canada)
Secretary/Newsletter:	Armand Ball (USA)
Treasurer/Membership:	Jane McCutcheon (Canada)

With the addition of Michael Antonov (Russia) as Co-Chair of the 1997 International Congress, the new Steering Committee was completed.

CONNECTIONS

On March 6, the first meeting of representatives of various national and regional camping associations was held. Associations represented were Canada, Greece, Japan, Victoria (Australia), European Union, Venezuela and Russia, with observers present from Portugal, England, the USA and Sri Lanka. This pattern of meeting was to be continued in future years at each International Congress.

During the Congress, representatives of the countries in the European Union met and decided to form the European Camping Association (EUCA). A relevant establishing agreement was signed by representatives of the following countries: France, Great Britain, Germany, Greece, Holland, and Portugal, plus Latvia and Switzerland. (It appears that this Association did not actually function until reactivated in 2003.)

Earlier in the year, February 7-9, the Russian Camping Association - Children Plus held its first National Conference in St. Petersburg. Richard Chamberlain and Joanna Warren Smith of the USA participated as part of the leadership, and Chamberlain brought greetings from ICF and shared information on how the standards/accreditation program of the American Camping Association worked. Afterward, local camp leaders took

Chamberlain and Smith to visit camps north of St. Petersburg.

In November, 1994, the Tourism Board of Malaysia sponsored the first national Summer Camp Seminar in Kuala Lumpur with Armand Ball of Sanibel Island, Florida (USA), and Geoffrey Miles of Canberra, NSW (Australia), as speakers. Discussions were held about a camping association with Anthony Wong of Camp Jungle Lodge.

In 1994, the American Camp Association presented the Eleanor Eells Award jointly to the Movement for Understanding and Camp Friendship.

1995

GOVERNANCE

1995 heralded the first regular meeting of the new Steering Committee and the first Annual Meeting of ICF members in conjunction with the Annual Conference of the American Camping Association in Orlando, Florida (USA). The Annual Meeting was held during the Conference with twenty persons from eight countries present. The membership dues were retained by the membership body at $15US for individuals and $30US for camps and organizations.

During a general session of the Conference, an official invitation from the Russian Camping Association (RCA) was issued to the various camping associations present to participate in the Fourth International Camp Congress to be held in St. Petersburg, Russia, Sept.16-19, 1997. Co-Chairs were announced as Michael Antonov of Moscow and Vitaly Muku of St. Petersburg, with co-hosts Lludmila Marinicheva, Executive of RCA, and Svetlana V. Shorina, Executive of St. Petersburg Association of Children's Camps.

The Steering Committee met Feb. 25-27, hearing reports on plans for the Fourth International Congress. The group named Jane McCutcheon (Ontario) as the Canadian Representative, to fill the vacancy created by the election of Pearse as President, who had been the representative. Bill Bowker (Australia) was appointed Vice-Chair, and Linda Grier (USA) as Membership Registrar. The following actions were taken:

- To proceed to incorporate ICF as a non-profit organization in Ontario, Canada.
- To establish the International Headquarters for ICF in Huntsville, Ontario, Canada (at Camp Tawingo).

To establish an International Camp Day for camps each year to start August 1, 1995.

To meet between September 16-23 in Europe (specific site to be determined).

To seek invitations for the Fifth International Congress to be held in 2000 or 2001.

CONNECTIONS

Prior to the American Camping Association Conference in Orlando, 50 camp directors from Russia gathered at nearby Cedarkirk Conference Center for a camp director training event led by Armand Ball. Other members of the faculty included: Chuck Ackenbom, Beverly Ball, Dick Chamberlain, Linda Grier, Irene Hooper, Elena Istomina, Jane McCutcheon, Jack Murdock and Jack Pearse.

One evening during the ACA Conference, the Russian directors were hosted at dinners held in several homes, organized by Jack Murdock.

Some of the significant international events that occurred in the balance of 1995 were:

The Malaysian Summer Camping Association was launched at a Second Summer Camp Seminar in Kuala Lumpur in May. Zainuddin Mohr Zain was elected President and Anthony Wong, Vice President. John Jorgenson (Canada) and Armand Ball (USA) were featured international speakers at the Seminar and then led a seminar for the following two days at Banseki Training Center in Jeram Besu, Pahang.

The National Camping Association of Japan, Tokyo YWCA and Japan Outdoor Network hosted Jane McCutcheon (Canada) to lead several workshops.

The Bermuda Ministry of Youth, Sport and Recreation hosted a Basic Camp Director Course taught by Armand and Beverly Ball (USA).

Chuck Ackenbom and Linda Grier of Camp Friendship (USA) were present for the first Festival of Children's Camps in Anapa, Russia. A large butterfly logo of ICF was presented to Grier for ICF as a kickoff for the Fourth International Congress.

The annual training event of the Asociacion Venezolana de Campamentos organized for camp counselors grew to over 800 participants with Michael Brandwein (USA) as speaker.

A two-week camp director training course was sponsored by the Instituto Panamericano de Educacion Fisca in Barquesimeto, Venezuela, with Armand and Bevelry Ball (USA) as instructors.

A camp of the Africa Christian Camping Association was held in Kenya in December with sixty five counselors and forty campers from Zaire, Uganda, and Kenya.

The first ICF-sponsored International Camp Day was kicked off August 1 with exciting reports in the ICF newsletter from Venezuela (Campin Rincon Grande), India (Camp Tonakela), USA (Camp Friendship, Virginia) and Elberton Day Camp (Georgia), Greece, Australia (campers from Japan were at Kangaroobie for the day – it was winter there!), Canada (23 different countries represented in summer camp celebrations), Russia (t-shirts commemorated the day), and Japan (Camp Hakuba).

The Federation of Camping and Caravanning of the Republic of China (Taiwan) was established.

1996

CONNECTIONS

Two significant steps were taken toward two new camping associations during the year:

Pedro Paredes (Venezuela), ICF Latin American Representative, met with camp directors in Mexico City in March, and at an April meeting, the Asociacion Mexicana de Campamentos was formed with Genaro Ortiz Tirado Serrano as President.

Four camp directors from the USA and Canada visited Bogota, Colombia, in March to meet with educators and camping personnel. A former staff member of North Star Camp for Boys (USA) issued the invitation, and Continental Airlines sponsored the trip. They led a campfire program for 1300 school children. While there, Robert Lebby, Camp North Star (USA), and Jack Pearse (Canada) met with several Colombian camp directors to explore a national association.

In late November, three members of the Steering Committee, Bill Bowker (Australia), Jack Pearse, and Jane McCutcheon (Canada), met with the Steering Committee of the 4th International Camping Congress in Russia. Afterward, they stopped in Switzerland to tour camps and promote the Congress.

The Malaysian Summer Camping Association conducted a camp director training course at Jungle Lodge for two weeks, with one week of classroom instruction and one week where the participants served as staff for a group of campers from Kuala Lumpur. Armand Ball and Jack Murdock (USA) were the instructors for the course.

In the fall, Jack Murdock represented the ICF Steering Committee and the Host Committee of the Fourth International Congress in critical negotiations with the hotel hosting the Congress.

GOVERNANCE

The ICF Steering Committee was hosted by the Greek Camping Association and the Hellenic Association of Operators of Private Initiative Children's Holiday Camps, September 16-20. The group visited a number of Greek camps and held its meeting in Athens. Some of the actions taken included:

Creation of a Corporate Sponsor category of membership.

Provision of funds for financial assistance to persons unable to pay the full membership fee.

Approval of presenting amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws to ICF members by adding two objects, and the additional offices of Membership Registrar and Vice-Chair.

Establishment of the international archives at Camp Tawingo, Huntsville, Ontario, Canada.

Holding the Annual Meeting of ICF on September 17 and 18 in Athens.

Approved holding the First International Camp Director Course in St. Petersburg, Russia, in conjunction with the Fourth International Camping Congress (Nevsky Forum). (There were not enough registrants for this to occur.)

Agreement that the Fifth International Camping Congress would be awarded to Japan if their earlier interest was confirmed, and, if not, an invitation would be circulated to other camping associations.

1997

CONNECTIONS

The Australian Camping Association was formally organized and met in January. The Minister of Education had recently launched the Camping Association of Victoria accreditation program for school-owned campsites.

On May 1, the first Latin American Camping Congress was held at Simon Bolivar University in Caracas, Venezuela, with 700 persons in attendance. The majority of attendees were camp counselors participating in the annual counselor training event sponsored by the Asociacion Venezolana de Campamentos.

Delegations came from the Asociacion Mexicana de Campamentos (Genaro Ortiz Tirado Serrano, President), Nationale Asociacion de Colombia (Juan Mario Guttierez, President) and Asociacion Venezolana de Campamentos, (Elena Lange, President). Pedro Paredes, ICF Regional Representative, had been a key player in helping form the new Associations. Jack Pearse and Jane McCutcheon of the ICF Steering Committee were present to urge participants to attend the Fourth International Congress.

Mexico held its first conference for camp counselors.

Linda Grier (USA) was named as the official International Liaison between ICF and the American Camping Association with responsibility for ensuring that international delegates were welcomed and oriented properly to the American Camping Association Conferences. This led to an increased recognition of international delegates at annual conferences.

CONGRESS

September 16-21, the Fourth International Camping Congress convened as Nevsky Forum at the Pribatiyskaya Hotel in St. Petersburg, Russia, with 759 delegates. In addition to the 580 delegates from Russia, there were 179 representatives from: Australia, Belarus, Canada, China, Colombia, Cyprus, England, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Georgia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Republic of China (Taiwan), Switzerland, United States of America, Ukraine and Venezuela. The Congress was chaired by Executive Director, Tamara Trushkovskaya, and General Director, Svetlana Shorina

Delegates were enchanted at the opening session as children with flags flying entered the conference hall and then performed dances and songs on stage. Greetings were given by the Governor of St. Petersburg and officials of Russian Federation: Ministry of Labor and Social Development and Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs, who brought greetings from the President of Russia and the Speaker of the Council of the Federation.

A highlight of the opening session was comments and a film by Rolan Bykov, President of the International Foundation for the Development of

Youth Film and Television. He spoke of the value of the camp experience for all children, but his film visualized the tragedy of abused children.

Experiences outside of the hotel included a visit to the Hermitage, crafts and arts by children at the Museum of Enthography, "Swan Lake" at the Musorgsky Theater, workshops at the Palace of Youth Crafts, and a performance of "From All of Our Heart" at the Karnaval Concert Hall.

One day was devoted to transportation of delegates for visits to various camps around St. Petersburg. On the final day, a closing ceremony included performances and presentations by the Deputy Governor of St. Petersburg, Chairperson of Youth, Family and Childhood of the Russian Duma, and the Head of Social Work for the Russian Federation.

Delegates were then bused to the Peterhof (Summer Palace of Peter the Great) for a tour and returned to the hotel for the closing banquet.

The ICF Annual Meeting was held at the Palace of Youth Crafts in St. Petersburg. The membership had grown from 200 from 19 countries in 1996 to 236 from 25 countries in 1997. The balance of funds in banks was reported as $2479.33 US and $1043.36 Canadian. The proposed amendments to the By Laws were approved, increasing the number of offices from three to five and adding the offices of Membership Registrar and Vice Chair. In addition, a new object was added to the Constitution stating, "These objects shall be achieved in the highest ethical framework which stimulates mutual respect and understanding". For the first time, the matter of ethics was formalized in the organization's documents.

Recognition plaques were presented to two Steering Committee members who were retiring after serving from the inception of ICF: Richard Chamberlain and Armand Ball. A tribute written by Tom Slater stated: "Armand and Dick were instrumental in the very formation of ICF… and right there at the beginning, their leadership set the tone of warmth and mutual respect which, I believe, has characterized the Fellowship from its inception. Dick and Armand have both had distinguished careers in camps and have generously shared their knowledge with others out of their sense of solidarity and shared values with fellow camping people from around the world…"

GOVERNANCE

The ICF Steering Committee met after the Congress. The following actions were taken:

To incorporate ICF in Canada (having encountered problems in the previous efforts to incorporate)

To invite members to make contributions to provide scholarship assistance in order to join or attend an International Congress

To invite business and organizations to become Corporate members

To set aside $2400 of the funds derived from the Fourth International Congress to initiate a scholarship fund to assist persons to attend the Fifth International Congress in Tokyo, Japan

It was agreed that members should sign a statement of objectives or such upon application for ICF membership, and a committee was asked to develop the language. This effort grew out of a continuing discussion of the need for a statement of ethics.

An interesting discussion occurred at this meeting on having such a disproportionate representation of the USA and Canada on the Steering Committee and what steps might be taken to provide a more balanced representation with persons from other regions.

There had been a continuing discussion about ICF's potential role in developing standards for camps. It was agreed at this meeting that ICF "was not in the business of accreditation" and asked associations currently accrediting camps to share their standard for a resource to others interested in accrediting camps.

The new ICF Steering Committee was elected, including two new Regional Representatives, with terms beginning January 1, 1998.

Chair	Jack Pearse (Canada)
Vice-Chair	Bill Bowker (Australia)
Secretary/Newsletter Editor:	John Jorgenson (Canada)
Treasurer:	Jane McCutcheon (Canada)
Membership Registrar:	Linda Grier (USA)
Regional Representatives:	
Australia/India/Oceania/Africa:	Bill Bowker (Australia)
Canada:	Jeff Bradshaw (Canada)
Europe/Middle East:	Mantha Christou (Greece)
Far East:	Sako Tanaka (Japan)

Latin America/Cuba:	Pedro Paredes (Venezuela)
Russia/CIS:	Valery Kostin (Russia)
USA/Caribbean:	Chuck Ackenbom (USA)

Sources:

AKASP, Publication. 2011.

Bowker, Jenny. ICF Newsletter, October, 2010.

Kostin, Valery. Interview 2014.

International Camping Congress, 2011, Hong Kong. US delegation presentation, led by Richard Chamberlain and Pop Hollandsworth.

President Valery Kostin at opening session of ICC 2011.

"Our world is changing. Information now flashes around the globe in seconds. In many countries, the population is growing a little "grayer" every year... The earth's environment is under threat, and crises are affecting societies, economies, welfare systems, and food provision. At the same time, there is poverty caused by ethnic and national conflict. We find that today's youth are drawing in on themselves… By using the flexibility and freedom afforded by camping, against a background of differing cultures and historical perspectives, we can create a new culture of camping to show youth of the next century a better way forward."

~~Yasuo Kawakami, Jack Pearse, and Tetsuo Sakai

CHAPTER FIVE

The Organization Gains International Recognition 1998-2010

1998

CONNECTIONS

The National Camping Association of Japan hosted various international leaders during the year: Bill and Jenny Bowker (Australia), Valentina Muravyeva (Russia), and Jack Pearse and Jane McCutcheon (Canada).

Rev. Boniface Mosoti reported the formation of the Kenya Camping Organization (LCO).

ICF was officially incorporated in the Province of Ontario, Canada, on September 2, 1998.

GOVERNANCE

The new ICF Steering Committee elected at the previous meeting held its first meeting in Caracas, Venezuela, May 1, 1998, hosted by Pedro Paredes, Latin America ICF Representative, and several local camp directors. Teresa Lucas, one of the founding members of ICF, joined the Committee for one session.

Actions taken at the meeting included:

Announcement that an ICF website had been developed, tied to the Camp Tawingo website, with hot links to all Committee members

The ICF Ethics Statement was revised as follows:

"As a member of the International Camping Fellowship, I/we agree to:

Provide full respect and understanding of cultural differences.

Provide complete integrity in financial dealings.

Provide fair treatment to all campers and staff.

Always represent ICF and the wider camping movement in a professional manner.

And in all things...

Do what a person or camping community would consider reasonable."

Funds were set aside for regional development to be distributed through the Regional Representatives.

A program proposal for the Fifth International Congress was received from Fumio Morooka on behalf of the host country, Japan.

An ICF Flag was authorized.

It was at this meeting that steps were taken toward establishing the Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award. The award was originally developed by Abbott Fenn and the American Camping Association to recognize efforts to build bridges and development between the USSR and USA by the camping community in the late eighties. The first award was presented by ACA (US) in 1990 to Jean McMullan and Alford Lake Camp. The ACA held the original gift and assumed responsibility for the Award, but another award had not been presented in the eight years since. It was reported that Abbott Fenn was eager to continue his support of the award and wondered if it might be more appropriately housed with ICF.

A committee developed a proposal for presentation to Mr. Fenn that entailed the funds being shifted to ICF and to continue to be endowed by Mr. Fenn. It was agreed that the award would recognize an individual,

camp, or organization which has made a significant contribution to international camping, for example:

development of a new camping association

development of an exchange program between countries

development of sponsorships for international programs

other unique or sustained contribution to the ICF organization

(Subsequent to the meeting in Venezuela, the proposal was approved by ACA and Mr. Fenn, and the remaining funds were shifted from ACA to ICF.)

1999

CONNECTIONS

In January, over 200 camp directors met in the Ukraine to form a national camping association, Ukraine Camping Association (UCA). Michael Sidorenko was elected President.

In April, a joint Russian-Italian Seminar was held involving staff from Italian and Russian camps.

At the invitation of the Malaysian Camping Association, Connie Coutellier (USA) spent two weeks at Jungle Lodge in Malaysia conducting training for camp staff and directors around the subject of youth development and programming. One week was spent in a formal training environment and week two was spent in a practicum with the staff practicing their skills with campers.

In December, 1999, the Venezuelan Camping Association recruited almost 1000 staff members to gather a large supply of relief items to help persons in the landslides there.

The Bangladesh Camping Association was organized with Mrs. Aupar Ahmed as President.

GOVERNANCE

The Steering Committee met in Tokyo and Yamagata, Japan, September 22 -27, 1999.

The second portion of its meeting was held at Yamagata in conjunction with the National Conference of the National Camping Association of Japan.

The Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award was announced by the ICF Steering Committee, and nominations for recipients were sought from ICF members. It was agreed that the first award under ICF auspices would be presented to the International Children's Center Artek, Crimea, Ukraine. Michael Sidorenko, the camp director, accepted the Award from Jack Pearse, ICF Chair, at the ICF Annual Meeting September 23, 1999, in Yamagata, Japan.

It was announced that ICF had secured incorporation in Ontario, Canada.

The Committee continued to wrestle with the practicality of the three-year membership pattern with sporadic renewal dates. It was agreed that it was more practical to set up a membership pattern from Congress to Congress with options for a prorated membership for persons joining in between the Congresses. Much discussion continued around the concept of corporate sponsors and ICF's lack of ability to secure such. Some felt that one problem was the lack of direct benefits except as a philanthropic gift. It was decided to designate such gifts of $100US or more as Sponsors rather than Corporate.

It was agreed that the Abbott Fenn Druzbha Award could be awarded annually. The announcement of the year's recipient would be made at the following Annual Meeting and presented at the next International Camping Congress. If the recipient could not be present at the Congress, a representative of their choosing or the Regional Representative could accept the award and re-present it at an appropriate meeting of camping leaders in the recipient's home region.

2000

CONGRESS

October 2-5, 2000, occasioned the Fifth International Camping Congress at the National Olympic Memorial Youth Centre in Tokyo, Japan, with the theme, "Creating a New Camping Culture". The site was the Athlete's Village for the 1964 Olympic Games. There were 760 delegates in attendance from 24 different countries (Australia, Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Finland, Greece, Hong Kong, Italy, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, New Zealand, Philippines, Russia, Taiwan, Sweden, Thailand, Ukraine, United Kingdom, USA, Venezuela.) Professor Tetsuo Sakai was the Chair of the Conference, and Makato Yamada and Fumio Morooka served as the Executive Program Committee. There were some 23 supporting Japanese organizations for the Congress, with the leadership of the National Camping Association of Japan.

A highlight of the Congress was an International Campfire with presentations from many different countries. The second Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award under ICF auspices was presented to Professor Minoru Matsuda of Japan during the next Congress.

Post-Congress tours allowed delegates to visit a variety of camps. An International Camp Director Course was held at KEEP Conference Center near Kiyosoto immediately after the Congress. Armand and Beverly Ball taught the course, using their book which had recently been translated into Japanese. The course was hosted by the National Outdoor Training School.

GOVERNANCE

The Steering Committee met at the National Youth Center in Tokyo, Japan, September 30-October 2, 2000. Actions taken included:

Established a category of Member Emeritus

Named as Members Emeritus: Armand Ball, Richard Chamberlain

Confirmed the election of the following officers 2000-2003:

Chair	Jack Pearse (Canada)
Vice Chair	Mantha Christou (Greece)
Secretary/Newsletter	John Jorgenson (Canada)
Treasurer	Jane McCutcheon (Canada)
Membership	Linda Grier Pulliam (US)

During this meeting, a discussion arose around whether changes in the Constitution/Bylaws were needed or rather better communication of the existing documents. Two sub-committees were appointed:

One to review the Constitution/Bylaws, and

One to "assemble an effective communication package, bringing together the "Objects and Purposes of the Organization, the History of the Organization, ICC History, responsibilities of the Steering Committee and Regional Representatives, a profile of member countries, how ICF members can get involved, and a synopsis of regional activity from past newsletters."

A white paper submitted by Armand Ball on the possibility of developing a set of desired practices on the part of participating camps was reviewed. Discussion developed around how such standards could be developed and

how camps could be evaluated. Differing opinions were offered and a sub-committee was appointed to send out a questionnaire to ICF camps about their interest in establishing "desirable camp practices".

A budget of $11,000 for the coming year was approved.

It was announced that ICF had its own domain for a website: www.campingfellowship.org. It was also translated into Russian.

2001

CONNECTIONS

Mike Pearse of Camp Tawingo, Ontario, Canada was the guest speaker at the 2001 National Conference of Counselors in Caracas, Venezuela. There were 1000 plus counselors in attendance.

The Shikoku Canadian Global Camp was initiated on Shodoshima Island, Japan by Toshiyuki Umehara and Chikako Naosaki. Ms. Naosaki's dream for such a camp grew out of her experiences in camps in Canada. Steve Doubt, a veteran staff member of several Canadian camps including Camp Wenonah (Ontario), served as director of the new camp.

GOVERNANCE

The Steering Committee met at the Forum International Hotel, Nicosia, Cyprus, April 29-May 1, hosted by Takis Champourides and PA.SY.DY Cyprus Civil Servants Union. Mantha Christou, European Regional Representative, assisted in arrangements for the meeting.

Actions included:

- Named the ICF room at the International Headquarters at Camp Tawingo as the Bill Bowker Room, upon the death of Bill Bowker, one of the original ICF founding group.
- Established the Bill Bowker Scholarship Fund with a gift from Jenny Bowker to help needy camp leaders attend international events and allocated $3000 to start the Fund.
- Set a tentative date for a group to hold a meeting between ICF and the American Camping Association related to future partnerships.

Recommended the following proposed changes in Bylaws and Constitution from the Task Force to be presented at ICF's annual meeting:

In the Constitution:

Assigned day-to-day operations and setting of dues to the Steering Committee

Required election of Chair by Steering Committee and the Vice Chair from the Regional Representatives

In the Bylaws:

Established Steering Committee to be composed of the officers, ICC Congress Chair, and Regional Representatives

Named officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary/Newsletter Editor, Treasurer, and Membership Chair) as Executive Committee

Set a three year term for officers and regional representatives from Congress to Congress

Established categories of membership including that of Member Emeritus

Ukraine was accepted as a Region.

Once again, there was an extensive discussion over the representation of regions – how regions are defined, and how various countries gain representation.

The ICF Annual Meeting was held on May 1 following the Steering Committee meeting.

2002

CONNECTIONS

The ICF Butterfly logo celebrated its fifteenth year at the Annual Conference of the American Camping Association in Washington D. C., February 21-23, 2002. The conference was held in the same hotel where international leaders gathered in 1987, and the first informal conversation began that initiated the Fellowship. During the Conference, Armand Ball was presented the third Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award under ICF auspices.

The Annual Meeting of ICF was held on February 23, 2002, during the conference.

A Basic Camp Management Initiative for new and developing camps led by Jane McCutcheon and Jeff Bradshaw (Canada) was held prior to the Ontario

Camping Conference (Canada).

Many camps in the New England area provided spaces for children of victims of the 9/11 tragedy in the USA.

GOVERNANCE

The Steering Committee met February 24-25, 2002, at Camp Friendship, Palmyra, Virginia, USA. Chuck Ackenbom, owner of Camp Friendship, hosted the group. Michael Sidorenko of the Ukraine became the first addition to the ICF Steering Committee since Valery Kostin's arrival in 1990.

The following actions were taken:

- To set aside a maximum of $5000US for the calendar year 2002 to be made available to members of ICF Steering Committee for use for air fare travel for attendance at Regional events that promoted the objectives of ICF.
- To accept the offer of the region of Latin America and Cuba to host the Seventh International Camping Congress in Mexico in October 2005.
- To invite the region of Europe and Near East to host the Eighth International Camping Congress at a date after September 2007 to be determined.
- To accept Africa as a distinct region pending the confirmation of five ICF members.
- To accept the creation of Mexico and Central America as a Region subject to their meeting the requirements of the ICF By-Laws.

Additional responses had been received around the issue of camp standards, and the next step was identified to assemble a common statement that described an ICF position on the development of desirable camping practices or codes of ethics.

It was announced that the amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws of ICF were approved by mail ballot of members, and the next steps were underway to implement the changes involved. This represented the second amendment to the original bylaws of ICF.

Gifts had been received for the proposed Bill Bowker Scholarship Fund, many with membership renewals. The Committee approved criteria and

levels of support from the Fund, and uses were identified:

For memberships in ICF

For attendance at ICF events or events where ICF has a presence

Earmarked funds, whereby fundraisers believe that the name of the ICF or the name of Bill Bowker will assist in the gathering of funds

2003

CONNECTIONS

The St. Petersburg Camping Association recognized its tenth year of formation with special presentations to Armand Ball, Valery Kostin, and Jack Pearse.

The Camping Association of Hong Kong, China, was created August 1.

On March 6, the Greek Camps Association met in Athens for the second Panhellenic Congress for camps and youth activities with the theme, "The Camping Institution into the 21st Century". ICF Vice Chair, Mantha Christou, invited the participants to endorse the formation of the European Camp Association.

The new European Camp Association held its meeting in Burgas, Bulgaria, with representatives from eight countries (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Romania, Russia and Ukraine.) It was agreed that the founding date would be March 6, 2003, when the Declaration was signed in Athens, Greece, and members of the ICF Steering Committee were invited to attend.

It is noteworthy that GlobalCamps began operation in Soweto, South Africa, during this year in an effort to provide a camp prototype camp dedicated to changing attitudes and behaviors of South African children and youth about HIV/AIDS and their future. Phil Lilienthal, long time ICF member from the USA, was the founder of the camp.

Many camps in the northeastern portion of the United States provided summer camp spaces for children of victims of the 9/11 tragedy.

CONGRESS

The Sixth International Camping Congress, “Beneath the Southern Cross”, convened at LaTrobe University, Bundoora, Victoria, Australia, on January 5 -10. At the opening session, the original song, "As the Butterfly Flies", was

composed and performed by 15-year-old James Simpson. Don MacDowall was Chair and Tom Slater, Program Chair, of the Congress.

A portion of the Congress was held on the country campus of the University at Bendigo. The trip from Melbourne to Bendigo gave delegates the opportunity to participate in many travelling workshops with outdoor experiences. There were 330 delegates at the Congress: 150 from six Australian states and territories and 180 from 11 other countries: Canada, Russia, Fiji, Greece, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, South Africa, Thailand, USA, and Ukraine.

During the research sessions at the Congress, it was agreed to have a link on the ICF website to post the website addresses of current research underway. Each researcher at the forum was encouraged to link to the ICF site links and to publish any of their work in the ICF Newsletter. In addition, there would be a link to the Congress site where all available abstracts and papers would be posted.

During the Congress, a meeting was convened of the Asian countries active in camping to explore the possibility of establishing an Asian Camping Fellowship within ICF. The original participants were Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Mongolia, Malaysia and Singapore. Australia and Russia also had observers present at the meeting.

The meeting duly formed the Asian Camping Fellowship. The original members were Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Mongolia, Malaysia and Singapore. ICF members from Asian countries were welcome to be members of ACF, and ICF agreed to pay ACF $300US per year to assist with ACF administration, and in recognition of the ICF members deemed also to be ACF members. ACF also sought members who were not necessarily ICF members, and asked these members to pay an annual membership fee of between $2 and $10 according to what they could afford.

It was agreed that the Secretariat of the Asian Camping Fellowship would initially be in the office of the National Camping Association of Japan. The first president was Professor Makoto Yamada of Japan. (Oakley, Tanaka)

GOVERNANCE

The Steering Committee met in Melbourne, Australia January 3-5 and January 10, 2003 and elected the Executive Committee for coming term:

Chair	Jenny Bowker (Australia)
ICF Vice Chair	Mantha Christou (Greece)
Membership Registrar	Linda Grier Pulliam (USA)
Treasurer	Jane McCutcheon (Canada)
Secretary/Newsletter Editor	John Jorgenson (Canada)

Membership was reported to be at a second all-time high of 254 from 28 countries.

The Annual Meeting of ICF was held on January 7 at LaTrobe University in Victoria, Australia.

2004

CONNECTIONS

A dialogue between representations from both ICF and ACA (US) occurred at the ACA Annual Conference in San Francisco on February 26, 2004. The representatives of ACA reaffirmed their support for ICF, and ways in which ACA could help were discussed. It was announced that member discounts in ACA's bookstore would now be available to ICF members. Various ideas for future cooperation were discussed. It was at this meeting that the idea of convening the presidents and executives of all the camping associations currently part of the International Camping Fellowship at the International Camping Congress in Mexico was first raised**.** (Ennis)

The Asian Camping Fellowship had decided to organize Asian Camping Congresses, initially on a two year cycle. The First Asian Camping Congress was held at Nairamdal, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, on June 30-July 5. Jenny Bowker, then President of ICF, met with the Mongolian Parliament and their Minister for Youth Affairs and Education to emphasis the value of the camping programs for youth.

In December, the Indian Ocean Earthquake Tsunami hit Sumatra, Indonesia. As the deadliest tsunami on record, its effects were felt throughout southeast Asia. Post-trauma camps sprung up the Malaysian area under the auspices of local groups and governmental entities created a role for camps. Out of this experience, some Australian camp directors instituted post-trauma camps after extensive forest fires in the Victorian region, and a discussion began in Australia about an international effort for camps to develop a model to serve after medium and long term disasters. (Bowker)

GOVERNANCE

The Steering Committee met in Mexico City and at Pipiol Hacienda, Mexico, February 20-23. The opening part of the committee meeting was in conjunction with the National Workshop of the Mexico Camping Association. The committee then moved to Camp Pipiol for the remainder of the

meeting. The following actions were taken:

To award the fifth Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award jointly to Charles Pantin and Hilda Carvallo for their work with Campin Rincon Grande and the camping movement in Venezuela to be presented at the next Congress or in Venezuela.

To invite the Association des Camps du Quebec to host the Eighth International Camping Congress in Quebec City in 2008.

To appoint Jack Pearse as a Member Emeritus of the ICF Steering Committee.

To recognize Michael Sidorenko as the first Regional Representative from Ukraine.

To begin discussion of a visioning process and business plan.

The discussion of the need for a business plan and a strategy for ICF arose in this meeting. A sub-committee was named to generate a strategy to develop a "visioning exercise" and business plan.

Once again, the question of enabling all members of the Steering Committee to attend meetings was discussed. The possibility of paying transportation costs for selected persons to the meeting and establishing a plan for the future was discussed.

The Annual Meeting was held at Pipiol Hacienda, Valle de Bravo, Mexico, on February 22, 2004, with 12 persons from nine countries present. The Fellowship showed a net December 31, 2003, cash balance of $23,477.79 of which $3,921.15 resided in the Abbott Fenn Druzhba/Bill Bowker Scholarship Funds, and $14,050.71 was in retained earnings. The membership at the end of the same period showed 81 members from 18 countries.

2005

CONNECTIONS

The Australian Camps Association was established to represent camps in all states. Over the years, camping associations had been formed in some Australian states. The Camping Association of South Australia (CASA) disbanded, and its members became members of ACA (Aus). It was hoped that the new organization would enable camps to relate more effectively to the government.

Japan continued to have a very active ICF group that met during the year. Two workshops were held during the year, with Larry Swenson of the USA at one of them.

The Liberia Camping Association was founded.

GOVERNANCE

An election for Regional Representatives was held by mail ballot in July-August, 2005. The results of the mail ballot were:

Australasia	Bill Oakley (Australia)
Japan/East Asia	Sachiko (Sako) Tanaka (Japan)
South America	Juan Mario Gutierrez (Colombia)
Europe	Alexia Sideris (Greece)
Russia/CIS	Valery Kostin (Russia)
Canada	Jeff Bradshaw (Canada)
Africa	Phil Lilienthal (ex officio) (US)

The Steering Committee met in Mexico City preceding the International Camping Congress. The Officers elected by the Steering Committee for 2006-2008 were:

Chair	Jenny Bowker (Australia)
ICF Vice Chair	Mantha Christou (Greece)
Membership	Linda Grier Pulliam (US)
Treasurer	Charles (Chuck) Ackenbom (US)
Secretary/Newsletter Editor	John Jorgenson (Canada)

Alina Ackenbom was named manager of the ICF Website and Jacqui Raill to serve as the Chair of the International Camping Congress for 2008.

The Committee acknowledged the decision by the 2005 Congress Chair and the ICF Executive to free the Congress organizers of the obligation to pay the ICF rebate of $50.00/foreign delegate and the $10.00/Latin delegate. This led to a discussion of the loan to the International Camping Congress (ICC) 2005, coupled with the rebate, in relation to ICF's official relationship to International Congresses and related financial commitments.

The summary of the survey resulting from the 2004 Steering Committee meeting drew responses from a percentage of present and former members of the Steering Committee. There was extensive discussion around the following questions:

"Are we doing what we want to do? Should we handle it internally?

How can the Steering Committee take the positive experience that is felt at the Steering Committee table to other members and other organizations?

Should we have a facilitated discussion to generate this next step?

Can we send ICF Steering Committee members out to other venues?

We are doing many things to support the ongoing work of ICF. Does our membership know these things?

Should Regional Representatives do an outreach? Shall we block out more time to make it happen?

Website work is very important. We may be able to bring more work to bear on that site work.

Can we charge the Regional Representatives with contact to their regions?"

Linda Grier Pulliam and John Jorgenson were named to assist Jeff Bradshaw in developing a full member survey.

CONGRESS

The Seventh International Camping Congress convened in Mexico City October 12-16. The Congress Chair was Genaro Ortiz Tirado. The theme of the Congress was "Preserve the Treasure. Enrich Young Lives".

A Counselors Taller (workshop) was held at Xochitla, an outdoor conference center. An all-Congress field trip to Valle de Bravo found small groups touring camps, hiking over a volcano, horseback riding, creating native crafts, or visiting villages and haciendas before gathering at the 15th century Hacienda Pipiol, the oldest camp in Mexico, for lunch. The keynote address was given by Peg Smith, CEO of the American Camp Association. There were 250 delegates from seventeen countries who shared typical camp performances, highlighted by lovely Mongolian melodies, Japanese in kimonos, Greek dancers and energetic Venezuelan singers.

An International Camp Directors Course preceding the Congress was held at Explora Camp near Cuernavaca with 40 participants from five countries. Concepion "Concha"Gavito, camp owner, hosted the course. The trainers for the course were Armand Ball, Richard Chamberlain, Connie Coutellier and Jack Murdock.

The meeting of association presidents and executives discussed in San Francisco in 2004 took place with sixteen camping associations represented. The group met during the Congress and was facilitated by Peg Smith, CEO of ACA(US), and Ann Sheets, President of ACA(US). This meeting was to continue in future Congresses and became known as MAPE (Meeting of Association Presidents and Executives).

Jack Pearse of Canada was presented the sixth Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award under the auspices of ICF.

2006

CONNECTIONS

The Malaysian Camping Association hosted the Second Asian Camping Congress in Perak, Malaysia. Those present reported an excellent Congress attended by approximately 150 persons.

The General Meeting of the Asian Camping Fellowship was held during the Congress. Those present resolved to invite Russia (or at least the Asian end of Russia), Singapore, Yemen, Brunei, Turkmenistan, and Australia to join ACF, and to welcome to ACF membership any camping people from Pacific Oceania nations. It was agreed to rename ACF as AOCF -- the Asia Oceania Camping Fellowship. The ICF Chair would serve as facto Head of AOCF. Fumio Morooka (Moro) was elected President of ACOF until the next Congress.

The Ontario Camping Association, Canada, initiated an international camp research project under the direction of Stephen Fine of the University of Waterloo, Ontario. The Project was to provide insight into what all camps have to offer youth and society at large and involve camps in Australia, Canada, Mongolia, Russia and the USA.

GOVERNANCE

The Steering Committee had hoped to achieve a quorum for a location and time for a meeting in 2006, but was unable to do so.

2007

CONNECTIONS

Continued efforts were made to formalize a European Camp Association. A joint meeting of interested parties was set for September in Athens.

The "Perspectives of Children's Camp Development'' International Conference was held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, in September 2007, as a part of the "Child Friendly World Declaration and Action Program". As a result of the conference, a recommendation addressed to camps and the national camping associations was issued and supported by representatives of those countries present: the Russian Federation, DPRK (North Korea), Mongolia, Hong Kong, Canada, Japan, Turkey, Australia and Poland. The statement was subsequently endorsed by the ICF Steering Committee and was to be circulated to Association contacts in preparation for their meeting in Quebec.

Beginning in 2007, ICF sponsored a three-day camp tour prior to each American Camp Association Conference. The tours were led by Linda Grier Pulliam and coordinated with local hosts. The tours enabled delegates to gain a better understanding of the variety of camps in the USA with camp visits, facilitated discussions, visits to local attractions and special meals. The opportunities for networking and developing lasting friendships underscored the reason that ICF places emphasis on "fellowship".

Tours thus far have covered seven states: Austin, Texas (2007), Nashville, Tennessee (2008), Orlando, Florida (2009 and 2014), Denver, Colorado (2010), San Diego, California (2011), Atlanta, Georgia (2012), and Dallas, Texas (2013).

Following the ICF Steering Committee meeting in Bulgaria, President Jenny Bowker and several other members went to Istanbul, Turkey, to visit with camp directors there about the possibility of a Turkish camping association. Following this event, Bowker went to Greece to meet with the Greek Camping Association.

GOVERNANCE

The Steering Committee met at Quebec City, Quebec, Canada, February 5-7.

The need to develop a more formal donor recognition program was identified. It was agreed to write thank you letters to donors and post names of donors on the website, if available.

It was recognized that a more complete description of the preliminary survey to consider the future of ICF was needed on the website. Previously, the Committee had agreed to poll the entire current membership for their feelings about what the ICF could be doing to better serve the camping community. It was felt that the Congress venue and various other conferences were important places to open up and encourage such conversation on ICF future. A Committee was appointed to design ways to poll, interview and dialogue with the attendees about this topic.

There was agreement to re-work the ICF logo to include the letters ICF and/or the words 'International Camping Fellowship'.

It was agreed to present the seventh Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award to Irene Hooper of Seacamp, USA.

The Steering Committee met a second time in the year on September 12-17 in conjunction with the Russian Camp Directors' Conference at Camp Yamal, Kiten, Bulgaria.

A page of links to camping research on the website was proposed.

It was noted that no legal annual meeting for ICF had been held 2006 and 2007. A question arose as to whether there was a need for an annual meeting for the organization. It was noted that bylaws required such a meeting, and a question arose as to whether there was a requirement in the corporate documents.

Financial support to regions in relatively small amounts was continued.

It was reported that membership incomes had dropped as association memberships increased. It was noted that when national or regional associations joined ICF to represent all of their members, there was a sharp reduction in camp or individual membership fee income. The question arose as to whether the nature of the membership was changing from a fellowship of individuals to one of associations. There was concern that communication of ICF news from the person's association reduced the need of hearing the news directly from ICF.

Mongolia and Turkey were granted designation as regions, pending receipt of the requisite number of memberships.

A meeting of Association Presidents and Executives at the Quebec Congress was proposed, and funding was granted to set up such a meeting. The topics to be discussed included how camping organizations can support and benefit from inter-association networking. Current associations would be

permitted to send two delegates. Richard Chamberlain and Armand Ball (USA) would be asked to chair the meeting.

It was agreed that a pilot project would be implemented to distribute newsletters by posted mail only to those members without e-mail. The website would indicate that the newsletter was available in hard copy upon request.

A proposal was received from Armand Ball, Lead Trainer for the International Camp Director Course (ICDC) in Quebec, to approve a "Regional Trainer" course in conjunction with the ICDC. The proposal raised several questions as to whom invitations would be issued and how such participants would be selected. It was agreed that such a program should be tried in Quebec with the goal to widen the circle of camping knowledge as well as to test the feasibility of such a program. The course training team was charged with issues of content, criteria for completion, and credibility.

The issue of camp standards and accreditation came to focus with a Committee report of a survey on Best Practices from Linda Grier Pulliam. The exercise proved informative in seeing standards and accreditations through other eyes of members. The ACA (US) template has been useful, but it is clearly not universal in its applicability. Other country and regional laws and regulations are more stringent in some areas and nonexistent in others. A universal set of standards for and from ICF seemed to be a formidable and undesirable objective.

It was agreed that ICF could and should encourage organizations or countries to develop appropriate standards in camping. It was agreed that a standards template and/or a list of questions could be valuable for any organization looking to develop standards.

2008

CONNECTIONS

Gwynn Powell, University of Georgia (USA), announced a pilot program entitled "International Camp Experience" and proposed a relationship with ICF/ACA/American Camping Foundation (ACF). University of Georgia students could obtain academic credit as a result of a placement in a Russian Camp after completion of their stay and upon their return to the USA. The monies would be handled through the American Camp Association, if ICF was willing to be a third party reviewer of applications with several other volunteers. ICF agreed to keep its participation in the program within the United States for the time being and reassess participation in the program in October 2008.

GOVERNANCE

The Steering Committee met in February in conjunction with the American Camping Association Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, USA, February 13-15.

A question arose again about persons who may lack the financial resources to cover their own expenses for participation as an ICF representative or Steering Committee member. This led to a discussion in connection with the fees and whether there might be a way that the Congress could raise more money for ICF projects, for ICF sponsorships, for Congress Student Scholarships, for Bill Bowker Scholarships. One suggestion was to develop a fund-raiser for the Bill Bowker Scholarship Fund at a Congress. There was concern that student involvement or membership from third world settings not be affected in an adverse way.

During the discussion of the Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award, there developed a concern about ways of recognition of individuals or groups that did not meet the requirements for the Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award. Out of this discussion evolved a proposal for two other types of recognition: A Butterfly Award (recognizing humanitarian, environmental, or global education contributions) and a Certificate of Merit (recognition through the President to address specific short-term or finite-term contributions). It was agreed to accept nominations for the Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award annually.

It was agreed to present the eighth Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award to Prof. Tetsuo Sakai of Japan.

The revised Constitution and By-Laws were approved to be presented for approval at the Annual Meeting in Quebec City.

The election of Regional Representatives was held in the summer of 2008 and the following slate elected:

Australasia	Paul Colagiuri (Australia)
Canada	Jeff Bradshaw (Canada)
Europe	Alexia Sideris (Greece)
Japan/East Asia	Sako Tanaka (Japan)
Mongolia	Tulshig Tuvshin (Mongolia)
Russia/CIS	Valery Kostin (Russia)
Turkey	Fahri Gozet (Turkey)
USA	Don Cheley (US)
Latin America	Juan Mario Gutierrez (Colombia)

After the election, a conference call was held in September at which Valery Kostin was elected Chair for a three year term starting at the end of the

International Congress in Quebec. It was also agreed to create a position of Past Chair on the Steering Committee which would be filled by Jenny Bowker. Bowker would also assume the role of liaison with the next Congress. The other officers elected were:

Vice Chair	Sako Tanaka (Japan)
Membership/Newsletter	Linda Grier Pulliam (USA)
Treasurer	Chuck Ackenbom (USA)
Secretary	John Jorgenson (Canada)
Website	Alina Ackenbom (USA)

The new Steering Committee met October 4-8 at the Quebec Congress. As the group talked about next steps, one member pointed out that ICF was entering its 20th year, and that it had not seen significant growth in reaching the number of persons it desired.

It was suggested that an examination of its pattern of governance and work was needed. The group asked Jeff Bradshaw to take on the leadership of developing a plan for examination of ICF's operation and visioning for needed changes. This simple action was to lead to many conversations over the following four years that would result in pivotal changes in the ways ICF was to do business.

CONGRESS

The Eighth International Camping Congress was held October 5-8, 2008, in Quebec City, Quebec, with 600 participants from 20 countries. The Congress was hosted by the Association des camps du Quebec and the Canadian Camping Association. The Congress was chaired by Syliva Pliant and the Program Chair was Jacqui Raill.

Keynote addresses were given by Georges Brassard, Stephen Lewis, and Peg Smith.

A major Research Symposium with research projects related to camping took place.

Preceding the Congress, an International Camp Director Course was held at Le Saisonnier, a conference center near Quebec City, with 37 participants from nine countries. As part of the event, the first structured course for Trainers was held with the plan that the fifteen successful graduates of the course would be able to teach the course in their geographical regions. The training team was the same four that led the ICDC in Mexico in 2006: Armand Ball, Richard Chamberlain, Connie Coutellier and Jack Murdock.

2009

CONNECTIONS

Russia published its first edition of CAMP magazine in February, 2009.

Two International Camp Director Courses were led during 2009 by Trainers trained at the Quebec ICDC. One had 32 participants and two trainers in Bogota, Colombia, and one had 21 participants and five trainers in September at Anglesea Recreation Camp, Victoria, Australia. Thus began the decentralization of ICDCs with trainers organizing courses in their region but using a common curriculum model under the auspices of ICF.

European camp leaders organized a meeting of a working group consisting of Clive Clifford, Alexia Sideris, Terry Dignan, Valery Kostin, and Fahrettin Gozet. They met to discuss the official constitution for the European Camp Association and settle the steps to completion. A final document was developed to be sent to the European Union. The requisite signatures were to be collected and validated with Greek lawyers. Once the association structure and paperwork was settled, there would be a meeting of the founders in the spring, after which the organization could begin to recruit members.

In September 2007, a collaborative research initiative was established between the Hollows Camp in Canada and the International Children's Center at Nairamdal in Mongolia by Stephen Fine (Canada) and Tulshig Tuvshin (Mongolia). The study was completed in September, 2009, and presented at the 10th Biennial Research Symposium of the Coalition for Education in the Outdoors at Bradford Woods, Indiana (USA), under the auspices of the State University of New York, Courtland (USA).

The Third Asia Oceania Camping Congress was held in Taipei, Taiwan, October 9-11, 2009. Fumio Morooka of Japan was elected as President for a second term.

GOVERNANCE

The Steering Committee met by telephone conference twice during the year.

It was agreed that ICF must assume a more formal role in ensuring the success of future Congresses, including a settled program on an advanced timeline with a fixed percentage of international presenters and certain plenary speakers. It was emphasized that since ICF assumed a portion of the financial risk in a Congress, there was an obligation to ICF members to strengthen accountability. It was agreed that ICF must become a "stronger

(and more present) member of the Program, Finance and Core Steering Committees" of International Congresses in the future.

It was agreed that, in the future, a Congress would be a joint Congress with the three partners: ICF, AOCF (Asia Oceania Camping Fellowship), and the International Camping Congress host. Other partners could include sponsoring agencies, government, local camping organizations, and/or universities

At this meeting, ICF assumed responsibility for coordinating and supervising future International Camp Director Training Programs in various regions and countries.

Two previously discussed new awards were approved: Butterfly Award and the Certificate of Merit.

The Steering Committee held its formal meeting in Taipei, Taiwan, on October 8. Prior to that meeting, the members of Steering Committee were hosted in Hong Kong by the Ministry of Tourism and the Hong Kong Camping Association. The signing ceremony for the 2011 Congress to be in Hong Kong was held at the YMCA Wu Kwai Youth Village.

At the Steering Committee meeting in Taipei, for the first time there was discussion of social media as a method to communicate with camping friends on Twitter, Facebook, Blog, YouTube, Constant Contact, etc. There was agreement to explore the next steps in the area in order to activate the group's desire to widen communication to persons beyond ICF members.

A major discussion at this meeting centered on the ICF Visioning Process that grew out of the discussions that began in 2008 and had taken life by the committee chaired by Jeff Bradshaw (Canada). Thoughts, ideas, and opinions had been gathered from current and past members of the ICF Steering Committee as well as all ICF members. The input received through June, 2009, was presented in an Action Plan format to allow further discussion and comments.

The first decision growing out of this process was to test the idea of a membership structure that would permit a category for national associations to join ICF at no cost in exchange for ICF's direct or assured access to all of the association's members for the purposes of ICF communication only. It was agreed that to test reactions to the new membership model on national associations through each Regional Representative for feedback.

A second goal of the visioning process was to better define the roles of various Steering Committee members, and assignments were made to

individuals to develop job descriptions in various key work assignments.

A further organization of the Archives into four major categories was approved:

- General (minutes, memorabilia, constitution, bylaws, meetings, correspondence)
- Conferences (1987 to present)
- ICF/ICDC Projects (curriculum, reports, minutes, etc.)
- Regional (materials collected by regions, regional events)

It was agreed to present the ninth Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award to Tamara Truschkovskaya of Saint Petersburg, Russia.

The Steering Committee elected the following officers for the coming three year period, 2010-13:

Vice Chair	Sako Tanaka (Japan)
Secretary	John Jorgenson (Canada)
Treasurer	Chuck Ackenbom (USA)
Membership Registrar	Linda Grier Pulliam (USA)
Newsletter Editor	Jacqui Raill (Canada)
Website Editor	Alina Ackenbom (USA)

The remainder of the Steering Committee would be:

Chair	Valery Kostin (USA/Russia)
Regional Representatives:	
Asia/AOCF	Fumio (Moro) Morooka (Japan)
Australasia/Oceania	Paul Colagiuri (Australia)
Canada	Jeff Bradshaw (Canada)
Europe	Alexia Sideris (Greece)
Mexico	Genaro Ortiz Tirado (Mexico)
Mongolia	Tulshig Tuvshin (Mongolia)
Russia & CIS	Anton Denisov (Russia)
South America	Juan Mario Gutierrez (Colombia)
Turkey	Fahrettin Gozet (Turkey)
Ukraine	Svetlana Vagner (Ukraine)
USA	Don Cheley (US)
Congress 2011	Anthony Po (Hong Kong)
Past ICF Chair	Jenny Bowker (Australia)
Emeritus	Armand Ball (US)
Emeritus	Richard Chamberlain (US)
Emeritus	Jack Pearse (Canada)

2010

CONNECTIONS

The Turkish Camps Association was founded in January, 2010. Fahrettin Gozet (Fahri) was elected the first/founding president. Valery Kostin visited Istanbul in May and met with the new Turkish Camps Association.

In the spring of 2010, Deb Bialeschki, Gwynn Powell, and Stephen Fine released the ICF Camper Outcomes Pilot Survey. Based on modules developed by the American Camp Association, the project explored how the camp experience impacts on skill sets of campers such as problem solving and exploration. To that date, twelve camps from Russia, Canada, the U.S., Mongolia, Turkey, and Colombia had participated in the project. The study focused on collective findings worldwide and was not a comparison between international camps. Findings were to be presented at the International Camping Congress 2011 in Hong Kong.

The newly formed Colombian Association for Outdoor Educators (ACECA) held its first meeting in Epopeya, Colombia, in November, with 90 persons in attendance, including members of the ICF Steering Committee. This new organization encompassed the earlier Colombia Camping Association. Twenty seven camps and organizations were represented. Afterward, thirteen members of the Steering Committee were hosted by Juan Mario Gutierrez and Sanitago Pinzon in Bogota.

The Camping Association of the Tyumen Region (Russia) sponsored an ICDC and Trainer Course at Rebyachya Respublika Center, January 16-20. There were four trainees and 48 participants. The faculty members were Armand and Beverly Ball, Jack Murdock, and Alina Ackenbom.

An ICDC was held in Australia at Urban Camp, Melbourne, Victoria, for 28 participants. The trainers were Matt Bowker, Andrew McGuckian, Brendan Smith, and John Woods.

In late August 2010, Istanbul hosted Children of the World 2010, a very special week long basketball camp with children from 110 countries -- the largest international event in children's sports history. This project of the Turkish Basketball Federation brought together 300 young basketball players and 150 coaches into the exciting environment of the World Basketball Champions.

A positive verdict on the European Camp Association (ECA) constitution was issued by the European Union on November 29, 2010. This was announced at the General Assembly of the Greek Private Camps Association (GPCA)

that took place on the December 18, 2010. Upon the publication of this verdict in two newspapers and the registration at the General Court, the foundation of the ECA would be completed, hopefully by January, 2011.

During the year, the Puerto Rico Camping Association was formed. Mrs. Ruth Carlo de Negroni was elected President.

GOVERNANCE

The Steering Committee met February 18 in conjunction with the American Camp Association Conference in Denver, Colorado, USA.

A revised version of the ICF Visioning Document presented in 2009 was circulated and approved for presentation to the membership. The document included a number of changes in the structure of the organization in the following areas:

A major re-structuring of membership into two categories: Full-paying voting members and non-paying/non-voting affiliate members who are members of a national camping association. (It was later decided that anyone, with or without membership in a national camp association, could become an Affiliate.) A major restructuring of governance, changing the Chair to a President who would be elected for a three year term by the membership, based on a written platform; establishing term limits for the Steering Committee members; establishing an executive committee; replacing the regional representatives with appointees based on specific portfolios; and establishing the office of President-Elect.

A plan to establish a contact in every country with ICF members to serve in the role of Ambassador by May 15, 2011, and those Ambassadors would meet at the 2011 Congress.

A plan to shift to electronic communication as much as possible with the production of short e-bulletins to be sent on a regular basis (8-10 times per year to members in lieu of a newsletter) and development of a social networking presence.

Established goals in business, promotion, member services, awards, research, and an advisory council.

Connie Coutellier (USA) was appointed International Coordinator for International Camp Director Courses. It was agreed to channel all ICDC management through her and ICF Headquarters to maintain a common approach to the program.

It was agreed to present the tenth Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award to Richard Chamberlain of the USA.

A target decision date of five years before the actual year of a Congress was set for submitting a bid for any future Congress.

As this period in ICF's history came to an end, a clear path of challenges had been accepted by the Steering Committee and membership. The challenge ahead was to inaugurate these pivotal organizational changes effectively, clearly interpret the changes to the membership, and actually achieve the overall goal of membership growth and activity.

We come together as friends, We come from far and near
In nature we learn together, Underneath one guiding star
Butterfly – you lead the way, To a very special place
Where hands are joined in peace and love and there's a smile on every face.

Here you'll get a warm welcome from everyone you greet:
Where there's no such thing as strangers, only friends we've yet to meet,
Where sunny blue skies beckon to the wonders that wait outdoors,
And you learn responsibility for this fragile world is yours.

Chorus:
As the Butterfly flies, from the mountains to the plain,
As the Butterfly flies through the sun, the snow, the rain,
Let's celebrate how we differ, let's celebrate what we share,
Let's show the world together that together we can care.

Care for our fragile world just like the butterfly's fragile wing
Let's care and learn from one another, let's teach the whole world to sing.

"As the Butterfly Flies", by James and Richard Simpson
Performed at the Sixth International Camping Congress. Bundoora, Australia

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Sources:

Ennis, Mary. Minutes of Meeting of ACA-ICF Representatives, 2/2004

Kawakami, Pearse, Jack, and Sakai, Tetsuo . Creating a New Camping Culture – Youth & Camping for the 21st Century, 2000. ICF Congress Program.

Oakley, Bill. E-mail. 4/2014.

Tanaka, Sako. E-mail, 4/2014.

Nazli Ozcelik (Turkey) with Jenny Bowker, Past President (Australia) & John Jorgenson, President 2014-2017, (Canada)

Nairamdal International Youth Center, Mongolia.

"Learn and share, that is how we grow. The essence of the International Camping Fellowship is the bringing together of people from all over the world who have questions to ask, wisdom to offer, and laughter to share…Camp is a powerful vehicle for solving dramatically difficult challenges. One of the joys of the International Camping Fellowship is being able to see how it capitalizes on each country's natural strengths, and seeks to remedy some of its most disturbing challenges." ~~Valery Kostin, ICF President 2008-2014

CHAPTER SIX

An Organizational Vision Emerges 2011-2013

2011

CONNECTIONS

In 2011, the primary means of communication with ICF members became electronic, with members receiving E-newsletters with current information about the global camp community and email announcements six to eight times each year.

When the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami devastated the northeastern coast of Japan on March 11, 2011, the international camping community responded immediately with offers of help. Other larger international bodies were pulling together all of their resources to assist the Japanese community. In consultation with the National Camping Association of Japan (NCAJ), the ICF Board launched an effort to raise funds and

assemble resources to assist NCAJ in developing a series of grief camps for Japanese children affected by the Tsunami.

An overwhelming response came from members of ICF and other camps all over the world who contributed to the fund. A dedicated section was added to ICF's website with information related to all support efforts, and the donation process was set up through the Pay Pal system. Over $40,000 was raised, and many camps offered spaces for Japanese children or provided other resources. A symbolic check in the amount of $36,396.20 was presented to the NCAJ President at the International Camping Congress 2011 in Hong Kong, and additional amounts continued to be contributed.

The Camp Fire USA First Texas Council invited four representatives of NCAJ to their Grief Camp, "El Tesoro de la Vida", in July, 2011, to observe their annual week-long camp for bereaved children that had a history of more than twenty years. The psychologists and camp administrators assisted the NCAJ staff and volunteers to develop a culturally appropriate design for Japanese grief camps. (Subsequently, NCAJ staff and volunteers returned to El Tesoro de la Vida for three more summers.)

The International Conference, "What Can We Do to Save the Climate" was held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, under the auspices of the President of Mongolia. The Core Organizers were the Mongolian Camp Association and the International Children's Centre "Nairamdal".

The Fourth Asia Oceania Camping Congress was to be held in Hong Kong, but as it developed, Hong Kong was also the choice for the Ninth International Camping Congress. The Asia Oceania Camping Fellowship agreed to hold its Congress as a part of the ICF Congress. Bill Oakley of Australia was elected President of AOCF, and the Australian Camps Association (ACA-Aus) agreed to serve as the Secretariat of AOCF.

Three International Camp Director Courses were held in 2011:

- A course in Colombia had 19 participants. The Trainers were Juan Mario Gutierrez and Luis Gabriel Tobon. Handouts were translated into Spanish.
- A course in Australia was at Vision Valley, Sydney, NSW, and had 14 participants. Trainers were Paul Colagiuri, Andrew McGuckian, and Brendan Smith, assisted by Maree Feutrill and Rebecca Fox.
- A course was held in Ontario, Canada for 19 participants, led by Jane McCutcheon and Jen Dundas.

CONGRESS

There were 314 participants from 14 countries who gathered in Hong Kong, China for the Ninth International Camping Congress, November 4-7, 2011, with the theme "Camping – Gateway to Quality Life". For the first time, the Asia Oceania Camping Fellowship held their Fourth Congress in conjunction with ICF. The host was the Camping Association of Hong Kong, and the Congress Chair was Anthony Po.

Professor Frank H. Fu, JP, Chair Professor at Hong Kong Baptist University, was the keynote speaker. The focus of sessions and workshops related to Camping for Learning, Leisure and Nature.

An International Camp Director Course was held prior to the Congress with 18 participants and an additional 13 Trainees. The training team was Connie Coutellier (USA), Juan Mario Gutierrez (Colombia), Gordie Kaplan (USA), and Andrew McGuckian (Australia). There were nine countries represented.

GOVERNANCE

The Steering Committee met February 10, 2011, in San Diego, California (USA) in conjunction with the American Camping Association Conference. Discussions related primarily to preparation for the Hong Kong Congress, the Visioning recommendations, and awards.

It was determined that the Bill Bowker Scholarship Fund would be operated a bit differently administratively, with the Executive directing the program and the Past President handling the Scholarship Committee and its decisions. The treasurer would continue to handle the administration of the funds.

The Board approved giving the Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award to Jose Virgilio Lopez Vergara Y Villarreal (Mexico) to be presented at the Hong Kong Congress.

When the Steering Committee met in Hong Kong November 1-3 in conjunction with the International Congress, most of the actions revolved around the formal acceptance of the changes in the Bylaws to reflect structural changes resulting from the decisions in the Visioning document.

One of the major changes in Bylaws that came out of the Vision for the Future was the establishment of two membership categories:

Affiliate ICF Membership:

Any camp or camping leader that is a member of their respective

national camping association would automatically become an Affiliate Member of ICF. (It was later decided that anyone, with or without membership in a national camp association, could become an Affiliate.)

Affiliate Members would be able to advertise their ICF Affiliate Member status in all internal and external materials without logo use.

Affiliate Members would receive limited email communication (8-10 times per year) from ICF that would highlight the work of the international camp community.

Affiliate members would receive the ICF newsletter through an email link.

Full ICF Membership

A camp or camping leader, camp, or organization paying the fee in place at the time would become a Full Member.

Full members would become the voting members of ICF.

Full members would have the opportunity to the join the ICF Board and become an ICF Ambassador.

Full members would have the opportunity to place a link to their camp/camping programs on the ICF website.

Full members would receive a listing on the ICF website.

Full Members would receive a discount at ICF events including International Camping Congresses and International Camp Director Course.

Full members would receive the ICF newsletter through an email link and have access to a members-only section of the ICF website with workshop summaries, program resources, and other value-added materials.

In addition to these changes, the Board approved development of membership models with camping associations that would involve providing affiliate memberships to association members who desired it. The association would pay an annual fee based upon the benefits provided in the agreement. The ACA (Aus) and the ACA (US) initially negotiated agreements.

It was agreed that Affiliate memberships be granted to anyone who requested that status and that national camp associations would be given Affiliate status for their members upon request. The Steering Committee authorized the Membership Chair and Committee to negotiate the

agreements. Several different membership models had begun to evolve. The fees for the membership categories were set as: Camp, Organization or Association - $180 for three years, and Individual - $75.00 for three years, for the period from 2011 through the 2014 Congress.
A significant increase in membership recently was reported. Several reasons were cited: The availability of free Affiliate memberships, the implementation of on-line/PayPal, the ICDCs, and the Congress.

A new logo was officially approved. The logo grew naturally from the past to the future: The logo was designed to put the 'environment' at the heart of ICF with a green color palette as a symbol of grass and the care and love for nature. The butterfly sat on the edge of a blade of grass, with a contemporary form symbolizing the fragility as well as free will. Some original Steering Committee members expressed sadness in seeing the first logo from the Second International Camping Congress left behind, while recognizing that some semblance of the butterfly had been retained in the more contemporary logo.

Membership information on the website contained links to members' websites and email links for contact persons. There were 182 ICF members listed on the website plus two sponsors' links at that time.

The Bylaws were amended to reflect a new approach to the governance of the Fellowship. The Steering Committee was moved into a Board/Corporate format with a President and Vice President. The Board was moved from a representational structure, where each geographic region had a representative, to a functional operation where board members brought certain skills to a specific portfolio of duties: membership, Congress, development, communications, member services, program, and Ambassadors. The change of the structure from a Committee to a Board demonstrated the maturation of ICF from a looser fellowship and committee to a more formal organization.

Originally, an Annual Meeting was held in the location of the Steering Committee meeting or at the International Camping Congress, and all ICF members present had a vote. As the years passed, there were occasions when the Annual Meeting was not held or held electronically. The new triennial General Assembly would provide a representative body of Ambassadors and Board members structured to advise the Board on directions, issues, and needs to be addressed in the coming period. That meeting would have an agenda that not only had the appropriate elections but also matters of business brought by the Board. The meeting was intended to occur at each International Congress with the President providing a 'state of

the association' address, starting with the 2014 Congress.

Membership representation was insured through the election of the President, Secretary and Treasurer by ICF full members and the election of a majority of the Members-at-Large on the Board by the General Assembly. All elections would be for a three year term (Congress to Congress). This shift of enabling the entire membership to elect the President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Executive Committee would have been unwieldy in the years before digital communication.

The Vice-President would be elected from and by the members of the Board. The four officers comprised an Executive Committee.

The President had the duty to appoint six members of the Board for specific portfolios as well as one Member-At-Large, to be chosen to insure all regions of the world were represented on the Board.

For the first time, candidates for the position of President would present a platform of goals and objectives for the term of office that would be shared with members as they voted.

To insure some continuity, positions of President-Elect and Past-President were created, each for a one year term. An Advisory Council was created to include past Steering Committee members to support the President and Board.

Formal recognition was given to the MAPE (Meeting of Association Presidents and Executives) and a Camping Association Staff Resource Network to be created, both of which would to meet at each Congress

A position of ICF Ambassador was created, each of whom would represent a given country with assigned duties including serving as a member of the General Assembly at the time of each International Congress. The new position of an ICF Ambassador was designed to include the following duties:

- Acting as the official representative for ICF in their country or region
- Assisting with promotion of ICF including the coordination of a presence at national and regional events as possible
- Bringing greetings from the ICF President at national and regional camping events through a scripted annual message
- Recruiting additional Affiliate Members within their country or region.
- Representing their country or region at the ICF General Assembly to be

held during each International Camping Congress (ICC)

Preparing a written overview of the camping movement in their country each year to the ICF Board of Director to be posted on the ICF website. This approach presented an opportunity for individual members in each geographical unit, whether present or not at a Congress, to be represented.

Officers were elected by the Board for the 2011-2014 period:

President	Valery Kostin (USA)
General Secretary	John Jorgenson (Canada)
Treasurer	Jill Dundas (Canada)
Honorary Vice President & Member at Large	Sachiko (Sako) Tanaka (Japan) (until Feb. 2012)

The following portfolios were assigned for service on the Board:

Communication Chair	Carole Cheley (USA)
Development Chair	Fahrettin Gozet (Turkey)
Membership Chair	Linda Grier Pulliam (USA)
Program Chair (ICDCs, Research, Awards, Special Programs)	Don Cheley (USA)
Congress Oversight	Bill Oakley (Australia)
Ambassador Gen. Secretary	Jeff Bradshaw (Canada)

A Member Services Committee was appointed to give direction to this project to represent ICF at various regional and national conferences with speakers, sponsored workshops, greetings from Steering Committee members and increased opportunities to hear more about the work of ICF.

In addition, the Board took action to create a report on financial implications of multi-lingual website.

There was a continued discussion around securing sponsors and perhaps developing a legacy and endowment giving program.

There was discussion about the need to honor and recognize the historical relationship with organizations by adding members to the Advisory Council.

A number of other proactive steps grew out of the Visioning process:

An effort to attract and encourage strategic partnerships and sponsor-ships

A closer relationship with national camping associations

An effort to establish frames of reference for ICF on appropriate social networking sites: Facebook, blogs, Constant Contact, etc.

A look at expanding the awards program to recognize achievements by camp associations and individuals as well as creative and innovative programs.

2012

CONNECTIONS

Three International Camp Director Courses were held in 2012:

A course in Australia was held at YMCA Lake Dewar Lodge, Victoria, with 27 participants. The training team was made up of Matt Bowker, Paul Colagiuri, Maree Fuetrill, Rebecca Fox, and John Woods as Lead Trainers from Australia, and assisting was Simon Sambrano (Venezuela).

In September, a course was held in Malaysia at Outbac Broga with 14 participants from Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, and Philippines. The training team included Tennant Kiu (Singapore), Andrew McGuckian (Australia), and Hank K. Yap (Malaysia).

A course was held in Mexico with 26 participants from Mexico, Venezuela, and Colombia. The training team was made up of Lead Trainers, Juan Mario Gutierrez (Colombia) and Simon Sambrano (Venezuela), and Presenters Tomas Lopez Victoria (Colombia) and Giuliana Pavlova del Castillo D, (Mexico). The course was hosted by the Mexican Camping Association (MCA).

In May, John Jorgenson (Canada), David Petherick (Australia), and Tulshig Tuvshin (Mongolia) led a program engaging young camp leaders from multiple countries in a four day workshop in Mongolia. Following the workshop, several members joined them in a visit to a growing camping program in Beijing, China. On the same trip, John Jorgenson led a leader-ship workshop for the NCAJ in Tokyo.

The first Japanese Grief Camp was held in Taiwan in March, and a second one was held in August, 2012, at Asagen, Japan, under the sponsorship of the NCAJ, the National Council of YMCAs of Japan, and the Asahi Shinbun Social Welfare Organization. Additional contributions came through ICF during the year, and a leadership group returned to Camp Fire Camp El Tesoro de la Vida in Texas, USA.

GOVERNANCE

Sako Tanaka was elected as Member Emeritus based on her 25 year service

on the Steering Committee/Board of ICF. She was then elected Honorary Vice President until the 2014 Congress.

The following were elected as members at large on a ballot by Ambassadors and Board members: Anton Denisov (Russia), Fumio Morooka (Japan), Alexia Sideris (Greece), Tulshig Tuvshin (Mongolia).

The Board met at International Children's Center Artek, Ukraine, on October 12-17.

Member benefits for member organizations and associations were expanded by allowing up to five staff to register for a Congress or ICF program/event at a discounted rate and for member camps to register an unlimited number of camp staff at the discounted rate.

A Partnership arrangement with the Australian Camps Association was announced which would provide full camp memberships for ACA (Aus) camps at a negotiated fee plus Affiliate membership for all ACA (Aus) associate members.

It was reported that ICF had Ambassadors in 13 countries with others coming on board soon.

Having developed a Facebook site, it was agreed to develop a formal social media plan during the coming year.

2013

CONNECTIONS

The third Grief Camp Project for victims of The Great East Japan Earth-quake was held April 2-11, 2013, at Sky Camp, Yoshima Sky Camp in Yoshima, Japan. It was again sponsored by the NCAJ, the National Council of YMCAs of Japan, and the Asahi Shinbun Social Welfare Organization. Regular updates on the camps were compiled by NCAJ into a report, "A Gift for the Next 100 Years".

The Asia Oceania Camping Fellowship (AOCF) held its Fifth Congress in Sydney, Australia.

Preceding the Congress, an International Camp Director Course and Trainer Course was held in October at the Baden Powell Scout camp in Sydney, Australia. The course was provided in partnership with the Asia Oceania Camping Conference and ACA-Aus. The course had 22 participants and four

trainees from five countries. The training team was made up of Paul Colagiuri (Australia), Connie Coutellier (USA), and Andrew McGuckian (Australia), with assistance from trainers Shima Ali, Maree Feutrill, and Rebecca Fox.

A highlight of the ACA (US) National Conference in Dallas was the signing of an Educational Alliance between ICF and ACA (US). This historic event formalized the partnership between the two organizations which represented a reciprocal exchange of programs/services and ongoing work toward a common educational goal. The ceremony took place on February 15, 2013. There were 75 international attendees at the Conference representing Australia, China, Canada, Japan, Mongolia, Russia, Nigeria, Ghana, Switzerland, Mexico, Venezuela, Ireland, and Turkey.

In December, a leadership workshop for youth leaders was held near Ibadan, Nigeria, with John Jorgenson (Canada) and Gwynn Powell (USA) providing leadership. Father Mark Obayi and the Catholic Archdiocese of Ibadan, Nigeria, hosted the training event with the assistance of the Bill Bowker Scholarship Fund. Following the training event, the newly developed campsite hosted a youth assembly of over 700 young people.

In April, John Jorgenson (Canada) was a presenter in an International Camp Counselor Course near Moscow, Russia, and then led a series of workshops in Samara, Russia, sponsored by the Health of the National Camping Association (Samara).

Valery Kostin, ICF President, (USA) and Bill Oakley (Australia) travelled to Ulaan Bataar, Mongolia, to celebrate thirty five years of the Nairamdal International Children's Center.

The Camping Association of Hong Kong held an event to mark its tenth anniversary, with Valery Kostin (USA) present.

Fahrettin Gozet (Turkey) went to Sochi, Russia, and five other Russian cities for the meetings of the Russian Camping Association to promote the International Camping Congress.

GOVERNANCE

Under the new Bylaws, nominations for President to take office in 2014 were opened to the membership. The three nominees were Juan Mario Guttierrez (Colombia), John Jorgenson (Canada), and Bill Oakley (Australia). This was not only the first election requiring platforms from each candidate in advance, but also the first electronic election. It was held

in July/August, and John Jorgenson was elected President to take office after the 2014 Congress.

The Board met in conjunction with the Asia Oceania Camping Congress in Sydney, Australia, in October. Membership in ICF had grown to 2,221 from 62 countries, of which 509 were paid members. There were 1713 Affiliate members under the new membership structure.

The new ICF Ambassador program reported Ambassadors named from thirteen countries, and plans were announced for a kit with greater detail of their role and helpful materials.

Deb Bialeschki (USA) and Stephen Fine (Canada) were named as co-chairs of a standing Research Committee for the purpose of conducting and continuing research projects that involve or are relevant to, multiple member countries of ICF. Though research sessions had begun at Congresses as far back as 2003, this was the first recognition of research as a standing committee of ICF, signifying another step toward a mature organization.

Rebyachya Respublika Camp - "Children's Republic" (Russia) was awarded the eleventh Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award, and the Asia Oceania Camping Fellowship received the Butterfly Award.

For the first time, the Board approved funding from the Bill Bowker Scholarship Fund to fund two ICF members to go to Nigeria for staff training at the Lanlate Initiative in Ibadan.

The balance sheet of the Fellowship showed $74,856 CAD, of which $22,254 was in restricted funds.

It was decided at this meeting that the International Camp Experience Fund would be renamed the Pearse-Hollandsworth International Experience Fund in memory of Jack Pearse and Pop Hollandsworth, both of whom died within the year. This Fund is for Clemson University and University of Georgia students to work in Russian summer camps and administered by ACA (US).

It would seem that at this point in ICF's history the organization's members had broadened its membership and reshaped its leadership team to face a new quarter century with renewed vision and confidence.

Source:

Kostin, Valery. "Welcome Message" 2011 International Camping Congress Program Booklet, Hong Kong.

The Lanlate Initiative, Ibadan, Nigeria.

"I will work to follow the lead of our new butterfly logo: To serve global and environmental education objectives within the world of outdoor experience...true to ICF's mandate to bring together, I want to bring existing programs to all camps in all countries so that we can be richer together."
~~John Jorgenson, Platform for President, 2013

CHAPTER 7

Anticipating the Future - 2014 On

The Butterfly has flown a long way in this quarter of a century and along the journey united friends in camping around the world. Who would have believed that:

- **53** members in 1988 would grow to nearly **3500** members in 2014
- Representation from **6** countries would grow to **76** today
- **17** camp associations in 1988 would grow to over **55** today
- A bank balance of less than **$800US** would expand to assets more than **$70,000CAD** in 2013
- A professional education program for directors would be in place with **24** trainers in **18** countries
- There would be an outreach program providing **financial assistance** for professional training and experiences for camp leaders without adequate resources
- **9** International Congresses would touch more than **5800** persons from over **47** countries

And perhaps the most amazing thing about this growth is that all of this came about through a contingent of volunteers who committed their own time and resources to make it happen across many miles, cultures, and l anguages!

As one looks over this quarter of a century of history, there are some pivotal points as well as some emerging challenges.

PIVOTAL POINTS

Pivotal points define where the organization changed direction – slightly or significantly.

1988 was the convening of the Founding Committee, where leadership emerged, and there was a sense of mission and energy that joined together to start ICF. Enough cannot be said for the leadership and vision of the Founding Committee who took up the challenge in 1987-90. Some continued leadership only a few years, others for many years, and Sako Tanaka for the entire 25 years. Some individuals took on more prominent positions than others, but each person gave of their time and resources to the organization.

1990 was the point where new members to the group broadened the understanding of their possible outreach. Representatives of the two countries that previously assumed that they had the world's largest camping movements (USA and Canada) suddenly found that their size had been long overshadowed by the Russian camping movement. This helped bring a much-needed perspective to the Steering Committee and helped focus the vision onto a broader world.

1987-96 was a period of sharing. Networking and interaction among the international delegates from the Washington, DC, conference led to much of this sharing. In reviewing the connections and relationships that occurred during this decade, we saw camping leaders, including Steering Committee members, going hither and yon around the world – sharing leadership in conferences, exchanging campers or counselors, discovering the world of camps in Russia, teaching courses, or just making new friends. Each individual visit enriched not only those being visited but educated those who went to give leadership or were coming on an exchange. This was a period when some differences were discovered, but a greater sense of commonality and brotherhood/sisterhood was also discovered.

1997 was the year that a first International Camping Congress was held outside of North America, as delegates gathered in St. Petersburg, and the sense of oneness that had grown over the decade was celebrated. English was not the dominant language, and a better understanding was gained of the challenge of communication on a global scale. It began to sink in that the task ahead would take a variety of new tools and approaches.

2000 was the first International Camp Directors Course (ICDC) held in conjunction with a Congress. Though the attempt for holding one at the Congress in Russia had failed, the event in Japan demonstrated that there was a need – even in a country with a strong camping movement. As courses were subsequently held in Mexico and Quebec, the idea began to grow that ICF could provide direct services to members beyond that of a newsletter and occasional Congresses. As it evolved over the next 13 years, the ICDC outreach became not only a visible service but also a source of income.

2001 was the year that the Bill Bowker Scholarship Fund was established in memory of Bill's generosity and leadership. This was pivotal in that it was the first recognition by the camp community that ICF had some responsibility to reach out to camp leaders who did not have adequate resources to attend Congresses or training events. It began small but is benefiting persons directly with funding to attend International Camp Congresses and many more indirectly. For example, in 2013, for the first time the Fund provided funds to send two camp professionals to Nigeria to impact some 700+ leaders directly – far more than it ever could by bringing one or two to an ICF event.

2009 was the year that communications moved to the electronic medium with the regular newsletter sent in electronic form. The establishment of a website reached out to the entire membership as well as to the public. What is pivotal here also was the recognition that translation to a variety of languages was available in this medium which enabled flexibility and eventual cost savings. This led to use of the social media for everyday sharing with new friends and colleagues.

2010 was a pivotal point of change with the adoption of the first major alterations to ICF's governing documents. The restructuring of the membership categories and the type of governing board was a pivotal point of change. It is too early to evaluate all the fruits of this change, but the development of partnership agreements with associations and broadening the membership through affiliate status has expanded the ability to communicate ten times over. It appears that the new governing structure provides a significant opportunity to involve members of the organization in

determining the leadership and direction of ICF in the future.

2011 was the year that ICF garnered funds to assist after the Great Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. This type of outreach had not previously been attempted. For the first time, ICF went outside its membership and camps to solicit charitable gifts to aid another country. The only other effort previously had been the development of the Bill Bowker Fund. The response to this new effort was notable and resulted in Grief Camps for Japanese children affected by the disaster for over a three year period.

1987-2013 is, in itself, a pivotal period in the growth of camp associations and movements around the world. When the group of international participants gathered in 1987, there were six or seven known camp associations around the world. There is no doubt that ICF has had an active role in helping that number to grow to over 50 --- by providing direct leadership sometimes, by inspiring camp directors to join together, or by experiencing events sponsored by other associations.

CHALLENGES

While there is evidence of significant membership growth, much wider communication, and a growth in income, there are some significant challenges that can be seen on the horizon.

Communication continues to be a challenge given the variety of languages, the variety of models in the camping movement, and the cost of travel. Certainly the evolution from mail delivery to facsimile to e-mail to social media has impacted the speed of communication. However much the written word is communicated electronically, the strength of verbal/ personal communication cannot be underestimated. The direct learning and enthusiasm generated during a Congress, an ICF Board meeting in a local camp community, an ICDC, or a regional gathering of camping professionals helps the electronic word become real. The continued challenge of language translation remains, as does the inability of some to receive electronic communication. There is a danger in the modern communication patterns to so rely on this methodology that we lose the one-to-one communication and team building of a group that goes beyond the value of the written word.

The current use of frequent short electronic messages as a communication device creates another problem in documenting the history of the organization. Though the minutes of formal meetings provides much information for historical documentation, much of the record of connective events that

occur between people and between associations is lost. Much of this history grew out of a record of exchange, sharing, and association events. Currently there is no method of preserving a record of such for future history.

Financial support remains a challenge. The first decade revealed that reliance on membership income was not enough to keep the organization strong. Efforts of ICF to realize income from Congresses struggled in initial events, but it seems that a model has emerged that enables ICF participation in the planning and financial process in a Congress to ensure that income has become more dependable. Some exploration is being undertaken on new revenue sources that are not reliant on membership fee increases or congress success/challenges.

The development of the Bill Bowker Scholarship Fund has enabled ICF to help many people without the financial means to participate in events and to take leadership to emerging camp groups. While ICF has struggled with the challenge of financing internal participation whether in Congresses, training events or Board meetings, there are now signs of reaching out beyond organizational needs, as in the response to the 2011 tsunami and underwriting the cost of sending two leaders for a training event in an emerging nation.

Over the years, the Steering Committee has dreamed of sponsors/ contributors from the world of business who might make contributions to ICF or underwrite programs. By now, the Board has learned that it is much easier to dream of securing such a support than it is to secure such funds. The challenge remains to build a significant case statement for support of programs of a professional association, which many funding bodies feel should fund its own program.

The efforts to raise funds from within ICF to assist in needy circumstances should be a demonstration of member support to outside funding sources. The challenge to the Board is to find a structural and financial mechanism that not only supports such efforts but also a method to help choose which projects it can support. Another challenge may be to secure funds for an endowment that could grow large enough to provide income for these sorts of purposes on an annual basis.

The challenge of **volunteer leadership** is not insignificant**.** The Steering Committee/Board has continued over the years to rely on volunteers who serve at their own expense because each one believes in ICF's mission. This has been a limiting factor from day one. It is very doubtful that ICF would have maintained the leadership on the Steering Committee if the funds

related to the 1990 ACA Conference had not enabled members of the new Committee to be at that Conference and, similarly, funds from the Ontario Camping Congress for the subsequent Committee meeting.

The leadership who have so generously given of their time and resources have been outstanding. But this limitation has prevented participation of many individuals in situations where they cannot afford the significant costs of travel and board for Board meetings. This is especially true in emerging associations.

As one looks back over the various individuals who have given leadership, there is a preponderance of persons from the private or independent camps who may have been in a better position to help cover their expenses than camps sponsored by non-profit entities. This could mean that often the Board misses out on the insight from that portion of its membership at the international level. If the Board recognizes this challenge, there may be ways to involve those portions electronically or otherwise.

With members in over 70 countries, the issue of **involvement** will become significant. The new Ambassador program has the potential to involve volunteers with specific responsibilities in each of those countries. However, the job description as proposed takes a significant commitment of time that may be beyond the expectation of some. Methods to communicate initially and to provide support on a regular basis to such Ambassadors will be a challenge for ICF Board.

Since the new Assembly depends on participation from Ambassadors in a representational function, methods to involve those who cannot travel to a Congress location will be important if ICF's goal is to be achieved. Fortunately, today there are many new methods and tools to enable individuals to be involved. The challenge is to use those in such a manner that that involvement is personal and practical.

Professional development is a new thrust of ICF that began within Congress programs and now is even more direct in the International Camp Director Courses. The Board has given some discussion to the issue of how to insure that a Congress program provides the sort of professional information and training that makes it a worthy investment of funds on the part of the participants. Congress programs have varied greatly. Naturally, the hosting association is anxious to provide an event that offers a picture of its culture and traditions. This has been an outstanding feature of each and every Congress. To start with, it is not easy to develop a list of speakers and presenters of small group sessions known beyond the host country that provides professional development for all participants. This is only

complicated when one recognizes the variety of needs that grow out of the different styles of organized camps from country to country. Fortunately, today there are many new methods and tools to enable individuals to be involved. The challenge is to use those in such a manner that that involvement is personal and practical.

Emerging movements will provide a challenge. As the camps multiply in countries such as China and Africa, ICF will face the challenge of encouraging coming together in associations without being involved politically. ICF has struggled from its inception how to find appropriate representation for camps in Africa or India. The current interest in China also presents a challenge. If the Ambassador program is to be the "grassroots" of the Fellowship, it will be a challenge to give the necessary support for those persons to be effective.

The growing political and ideological conflicts that have scattered around the world in recent days provide another challenge to camping in not only trying to grow but being able to communicate. These conflicts make it difficult for whatever camps or camping leadership exist in such settings to continue to survive. Yet, the ability of the camp experience to find commonalities and diminish differences is needed more than ever in these areas. Can ICF find ways to provide support and encouragement across such lines?

Governance will continue as a challenge. The governance of ICF is in the midst of change as it tries to determine how the new structure works. Will it work as it was envisioned, and what adjustments may be needed? A strong effort was made by the leadership to interpret the structure emerging out of the visioning process to the membership. It is apparent that, though the membership is supportive of the effort, individuals do not fully understand what is different and how it will affect the services of ICF. In interviews, even past Steering Committee members were unsure how the new structure would work. Hopefully, the Assembly in Turkey will provide another opportunity to help individuals understand how the structure is to work. The newsletter is another avenue that could be used to help the broader membership understand the steps that the Board is taking between Congress events.

Ultimately, fellowship could be the greatest challenge to the organization. ICF is expanding. ICF is getting much larger. ICF is talking a lot about marketing and business acumen. ICF continues to need to increase funding to accomplish new goals.

To the individual member, most of these items are not the reason they

joined ICF. In interviews conducted in 2013, the words heard were: friendship…networking…connection…widening of perspective… sharing… understanding differences….broadened perspective…professional development.

The challenge lies in making sure that there is no disconnect between the effort of elected leadership to broaden, enlarge, and gain financial growth with the desire of the membership to connect to the values such as those mentioned in the interviews.

After all, this fellowship began as a diverse group of individuals who wanted to simply exchange information and develop exchanges of campers/staff with other camps. These individuals were very wary of a formal organization such as has now evolved through several stages to a corporate structure with significant ambitions. Everyone knows that butterflies are very delicate creatures whose environment is critical for its survival. The new structure must provide a friendly and comfortable environment for our butterfly and its original values.

The "butterfly" has made it through an evolution of 25 years. Its leaders and members have the ability to enable it to expand its horizons of flight greatly in the next quarter of a century, carrying its values of friendship and understanding to go far beyond political and ideological boundaries to those we serve…..to further the mission of *camping for all*.

Bringing Together a World of Outdoor Experience

APPENDIX

NOTE

Without doubt, there will be errors and omissions that will be discovered in this historical record, and the authors apologize in advance. Though it will not be possible to correct them in the printed volume, it may be possible to correct items in the electronic edition and certainly in the historical record of ICF. Please address any corrections and/or omissions to the following address: lpulliam@campingfellowship.org

IN MEMORY

Just as camp leaders leave their mark on their campers over the years, so those who provide leadership in our Fellowship leave a mark on each of those they touch over the years. The example of commitment, unselfishness, and caring sets a standard to which each of us may aspire. Each of the leaders listed here has provided such an example and has touched the lives of many within our Fellowship.

Their leadership lives on!

1989 - David Sands (Canada) - Liaison for Canadian Camping Association with the 1987 ACA/International Camping Congress, Washington D. C.

1995 - Michael Antonov (Russia) – President, Russian Camping Federation and Co-Chair for the 1997 Fourth International Camping Conference, St. Petersburg, Russia.

1998 - Robert McCausland (Switzerland) - Founder of Village Camps, Switzerland and supporter of ICF from its inception.

1990s – Robert (Bob) Metcalfe (England) - Director, YMCA National Centre, Founding member of ICF Steering Committee, European Regional Representative.

2000 - Bill Bowker (Australia) – Co-Owner, Kangaroobie, Victoria; Founding Member of ICF Steering Committee. Australian Regional Representative and Vice-President, ICF Steering Committee; Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award.

2002 - Hilda Carvallo (Venezuela) – Co-0wner, Campin Rincon Grande, Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award.

2002 - Charles Pantin (Venezuela) – Co-0wner, Campin Rincon Grande, Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award.

2003 - Albert Goryunov (Russia) – Director of Camp Khalzev, Promoter of Russian Camping Association and active in ICF Congresses.

2003 - Michael Sidorenko (Ukraine) – General Director of International Children's Center Artek; President, Ukraine Camping Association; Ukraine Representative on ICF Steering Committee.

2003 - Oswaldo Urioste (Brazil) - Founder of English Camp, Brazil; long-time member of ICF.

2003 - John Latimer (Canada) – Director, Kilcoo Camp; President, Ontario and Canadian Camping Associations, Co-Chair First International Camping Congress Committee.

2003 - Prof. Minoru Matsuda (Japan) – Founder, Osaka Youth Outdoor Activity Center; founding member and President, National Camping Association of Japan; Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award.

2003 - James (Pop) Hollandsworth (USA) – Faculty, Asheville School and Sr. Staff Member, Camp Sequoyah , North Carolina; long time active participant ICF.

2006 - Dorothy Walter (Canada) – Active member, Ontario Camping Association and ICF.

2011- Tamara Truschkovskaya (Russia) – President "Adults and Kids" of St. Petersburg; Co-Chair for 1997 Fourth International Camping Conference, St. Petersburg; Abbott Fenn Druzbah Award.

2013 - Jack Pearse (Canada) – Founder, Camp Tawingo, Ontario; President of Ontario and Canadian Camping Associations; Founding Member, Member Emeritus and Chair, ICF; Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award.

2014 - Irene Hooper (USA) – Founder, Seacamp, Florida; Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award.

AWARDS

Druzhba Award – American Camping Association
This award was to recognize efforts to build bridges and development between the USSR and USA by the camping community in the late eighties. The Fund was established with American Camping Association by a gift from Abbott Fenn, a long-standing, active member of the American Camp Association and former owner/director of the Keewaydin Camps in New England.

1990 - Jean McMullan & Alford Lake Camp (USA)

Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award – International Camping Fellowship
Funds held by the American Camp Association were transferred to ICF, and the award was established to provide special recognition of an individual, camp, or organization which has made a significant and sustained contribution to international camping.

1999 - International Children's Center Artek (Ukraine)
2000 – Prof. Minoru Matsuda (Japan)
2001 - Armand Ball (USA)
2002 - Bill Bowker (Australia)
2003 - Charles Pantin and 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 - Rebyachya Respublika Camp "Children's Republic" Tyumen (Russia).

2010 Photo - Armand Ball receives Abbott Fenn Druzhba Award presented by Abbott Fenn

Butterfly Award – International Camping Fellowship
This award recognizes an individual, camp, or organization that has made a significant contribution internationally to the causes of camping (environmental, humanitarian, or educational) over a period of time. **"**Your contributions have enriched the International Camping Fellowship and advanced the cause of camping across the world."

2008 - Camp Counselors USA – CCUSA (USA)
2008 - James "Pop" Hollandsworth (USA)
2008 - Mary McCutcheon (Canada)
2013 - Outdoor Recreation Industry Council of NSW, Inc. (Australia)
2013 - Asia Oceania Camping Fellowship

ICF Letter Award of Merit
The ICF Letter Award recognizes a significant contribution made by an individual, camp, or organization to the cause of world understanding and peace through camping. The Award is written as a personal, plaque-mounted letter outlining the specific contribution to ICF made by the recipient and upon which the award is based.

2008 - Mike Stewart (Canada)
2008 - Claudie Camirand (Canada)
2008 - Armand Ball (USA)
2008 - Dick Chamberlain (USA)
2008 - Connie Coutellier (USA)
2008 - Jack Murdock (USA)

EVOLUTION OF THE ICF INTERNATIONALCAMP DIRECTOR COURSE

In the 1960s, the American Camping Association developed a program called the Camp Director Institutes. It was a two-part residential training program for camp directors with the second half occurring some months after the first half. It was then tied to a certification program for camp directors.

By 1990, the Association had dropped the certification program and the Institutes. A Basic Camp Director Course was developed, and a curriculum partially drawn from the earlier Institutes. Courses were held for 3-4 days before a national conference and sometimes in a conference setting at other times of the year. *Basic Camp Management* was the text for the course, and several experienced directors developed the curriculum for the course. Among those directors were Armand Ball, Beverly Ball, and Connie Coutellier. Over the years, participants came from 39 of the 50 states, and one course continues today in conjunction with the Midwest ACA Conference each year.

The earliest use of a modified version of the Basic Camp Director Course at the international level occurred in 1993.

In February, the St. Petersburg Association of Children's Camps held a Basic Camp Director course with Armand Ball, Beverly Ball, and Jack Murdock comprising the training team. This experience led the Association to translate and publish *Basic Camp Management* in Russian.

The Instituto Panamericano de Educacion Fisca in Barquesimeto, Venezuela, invited Edie Klein from the University of Georgia (USA) to teach a course on camp management incorporating a week of classroom instruction followed by a week of practicum. This course was repeated in 1994.

Prior to the 1995 American Camping Association Conference in Orlando, 50 camp directors from Russia gathered at nearby Cedarkirk Conference Center for a camp director training course led by Armand Ball. Other members of the faculty included: Chuck Ackenbom, Beverly Ball, Dick Chamberlain, Linda Grier, Irene Hooper, Elena Istomina, Jane McCutcheon, Jack Murdock and Jack Pearse.

In 1995, the Balls conducted two additional camp director courses. One was sponsored by the Bermuda Ministry of Youth, Sport and

Recreation and the other by the Instituto Panamericano de Educacion Fisca in Barquesimeto, Venezuela. Each of these experiences led to modification of portions of the course given internationally as compared to the traditional course offered by the American Camp Association in the USA.

In 1997, the Host Committee of the Fourth International Camping Congress (Russia) offered an International Camp Directors Course, but there were not enough registrations to hold the course.

In 2000, the Host Committee of the Fifth International Camping Congress (Japan) included a Camp Director Course that was held post-Congress at KEEP Conference Center near Kiyosato. At this point, *Basic Camp Management* had been published in Japanese, and the Balls taught the course.

In 2005, the Host Committee of the Sixth International Camping Congress (Mexico) included a Basic Camp Director Course to be held pre-Congress at Explora Camp near Cuernavaca. Armand Ball, Richard Chamberlain, Connie Coutellier, and Jack Murdock served as the training team and named this course an International Camp Director Course, since there were participants from five countries.

In 2008, the Host Committee of the Seventh International Camping Congress (Canada) included an International Camp Director Course to be held pre-Congress at Le Saisonnier, near Quebec City. The training team (Armand Ball, Richard Chamberlain, Connie Coutellier, Jack Murdock) from the Mexico course once again led the course and made some modifications in the content of the course to relate to the international participation.

Ball received permission from the ICF Steering Committee to offer a course for Trainers in conjunction with the ICDC, with the hope that Trainers would be able to teach the course in their home regions. Ball and Coutellier had developed a curriculum for the Trainers. This was the first course to actually be approved by the ICF Steering Committee, as the previous courses were sponsored solely by the Congress Committees.

In 2009, the ICF Steering Committee officially assumed responsibility for the International Camp Director Course program.

Two International Camp Director Courses were led during 2009 by Trainers trained at the Quebec ICDC. One had 32 participants and two trainers in Bogota, Colombia, and one had 21 participants and

five trainers in September at Anglesea Recreation Camp, Victoria, Australia.

Thus began the decentralization of ICDCs with trainers organizing courses in their respective regions but using a common curriculum model under the auspices of ICF.

In January 2010, the training team of the Balls and Murdock returned to Russia and taught the ICDC and Trainer Course sponsored by the Camping Association of the Tyumen Region (Russia). The course was held at Rebyachya Respublika Center January 16-20, and there were four trainers and 48 participants. The faculty members were Armand and Beverly Ball and Jack Murdock.

Later that year, an ICDC was held in Australia at Urban Camp, Melbourne, Victoria, for 28 participants. The trainers were Andrew McGuckian, Matt Bowker, Brendan Smith, and John Woods, all from Australia.

In 2010, the ICF Steering Committee appointed Connie Coutellier (USA) as International Coordinator for International Camp Director Courses. It was agreed to channel all ICDC management through her and ICF Headquarters to maintain a common approach to the program. Coutellier updated the ICDC Trainer guide, curriculum, and the power point presentations to include the new ICF logo, references to new BCM text, and clarification on ICF ownership and hosting organizations.

Since 2010 the ICDC coordinator has worked with trainers and host organizations to provide the following courses:

In 2011, ICDC was held in Columbia for 19 participants. The trainers were Juan Mario Gutierrez and Luis Gabriel Tobon. Handouts were translated into Spanish.

In 2011, ICDC was held in Ontario, Canada, for 19 participants. The faculty were Jane McCutcheon and Jen Dundas.

In 2011, ICDC was held in Australia at Vision Valley, Sydney NSW, for 14 participants. Trainers were Paul Colagiuri, Andrew McGuckian, and Brendan Smith, assisted by Maree Feutrill and Rebecca Fox.

In 2011, ICDC and Trainer Course were held at Breakthrough Village in Shatin, NT, Hong Kong, in conjunction with the 2011 International Camping Congress. There were 18 participants, 13 Trainees, and 4 Faculty members in attendance. The faculty were Connie Coutellier

USA, Juan Mario Gutierrez – Colombia, Gordie Kaplan – USA, and Andrew McGuckian – Australia.

In 2012, ICDC was held in Mexico at Campamento Esperanza with 26 participants from Mexico, Venezuela and Colombia completing the course. The training team was Juan Mario Gutierrez (Colombia) and Simon Sambrano (Venezuela), Lead Trainers, and Tomas Lopez Victoria and Giuliana Paulova del Castillo D, presenters from Mexico. The course was hosted by the Mexican Camping Association (MCA).

In 2012, ICDC was held in Australia at YMCA Lake Dewar Lodge, Victoria, for 27 participants. The Trainers were Matt Bowker, Paul Colagiuri, Rebecca Fox, Maree Feutrill, and John Woods. Simon Sambrano assisted.

In 2012, ICDC was held in Malaysia at Outbac Broga with 14 participants from Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, and the Philippines completing the course. The training team included Andrew McGuckian from Australia, Tennant Kiu from Singapore and Hank K. Yap from Malaysia.

In 2013, an ICDC Course and a Trainer course were held in Australia at Baden Powell Scout Camp in Sydney. This course preceded the 5th Asia Oceania Camping Congress in partnership with the AOCC and Australian Camps Association. The course had 22 participants and 4 trainees from 5 countries. The faculty consisted of Paul Colagiuri, Connie Coutellier, and Andrew McGuckian, with assistance of trainers Shima Ali, Maree Feutrill and Rebecca Fox.

Over 380 persons from at least 18 countries have participated in 14 Courses since the year 2000.

With 23 of the 33 trainees committed to active leadership, a strong coordinator, and the continued commitment of the ICF Board to the ICDC, it appears that the ICDC will continue as a major contribution to professionalism in the camping movement.

Connie Coutellier, ICDC Coordinator

International Camp Director and Trainer Courses

ICDC Participants and Trainers, Quebec, 2008

ICDC Trainers - 2010, Tyumen, Russia. Back Row: Alexander Myasnikov, Anton Desinov, Alina Ackenbom, Taras Kononets. Front Row: Armand Ball, Beverly Ball, Jack Murdock

ICDC Participants and Trainers, Hong Kong, 2011

STEERING COMMITTEES AND BOARDS OF ICF

The Founding Committee (1988):

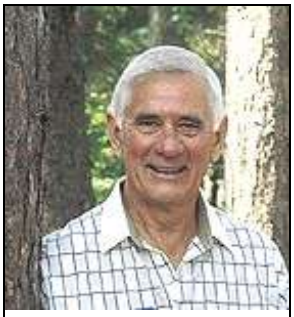
Armand Ball (USA)
Bill Bowker (Australia)
Richard Chamberlain (USA)
Teresa Lucas (Venezuela)
Don MacDowall (Australia)
Robert Metcalfe (England)
Jack Pearse (Canada)
Sachiko (Sako) Tanaka (Japan)

The Founders (1994):

Armand Ball (USA)
Phillippe Bertholet (Belgium)
Bill Bowker (Australia)
Richard Chamberlain (USA)
Valery Kostin (Russia)
Teresa Lucas (Venezuela)
Don MacDowall (Australia)
Robert Metcalfe (England)
Jack Pearse (Canada)
Sachiko (Sako) Tanaka (Japan)

ICF PRESIDENTS - 1988-2014

Dick Chamberlain
1988-1997



Jack Pearse
1998-2002

Jenny Bowker
2003-2008

Valery Kostin
2009-2014

John Jorgenson
2014-

1988-1994 STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair & Regional Coordinator	Richard Chamberlain – USA
Secretary/Newsletter/Membership	Armand Ball - USA
Regional Coordinators:	
Africa	Francis Donker - Ghana
Australia/Oceania/India	Bill Bowker - Australia
Canada	Jack Pearse - Canada
Eastern Asia/Japan	Sachiko (Sako) Tanaka – Japan
Great Britain/Europe	Robert Metcalfe – England
Latin America	Teresa Lucas - Venezuela

Added in Boston, 1990:

Regional Coordinators:	
Europe	Philippe Bertholet - Belgium
Russia	Valery Kostin - (USSR, 1990-91; and Russia, 1992 on)

August, 1994-December 31, 1997 STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair & Regional Coordinator (USA/Caribbean)	Richard Chamberlain – USA
Secretary/Newsletter	Armand Ball – USA
Treasurer/	Jane McCutcheon – Canada
Membership (1996-1997)	Linda Grier - USA
Regional Coordinators:	
Africa, Australia/Southern Asia	Bill Bowker - Australia
Canada	Jack Pearse - Canada
Eastern Asia/Japan	Sachiko (Sako) Tanaka – Japan
Europe	Mantha Christou – Greece
Latin America	Pedro Paredes – Venezuela
Russia/CIS	Valery Kostin - Russia
Upcoming Congress	Michael Antonov – Russia

1998-2000 STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair	Jack Pearse - Canada
Vice-Chair	Bill Bowker - Australia
Secretary/Newsletter Editor	John Jorgenson - Canada
Treasurer	Jane McCutcheon –Canada
Membership Registrar	Linda Grier - USA
Regional Representatives:	
Australia/India/Oceania/Africa	Bill Bowker- Australia

Canada	Jeff Bradshaw - Canada
Europe/Middle East	Mantha Christou - Greece
Far East	Sachiko Sako Tanaka -Japan
Latin America/Cuba	Pedro Paredes -Venezuela
Russia/CIS	Valery Kostin - Russia
USA/Caribbean	Chuck (Charles) Ackenbom – USA

2001-2002 STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair	Jack Pearse - Canada
Vice-Chair	Mantha Christou - Greece
Secretary/Newsletter Editor	John Jorgenson - Canada
Treasurer	Jane McCutcheon - Canada
Membership Registrar	Linda Grier Pulliam -USA
Regional Representatives:	
Australia/India/Oceania/Africa	
Canada	Jeff Bradshaw - Canada
Europe/Middle East	Mantha Christou - Greece
Far East	Sachiko (Sako) Tanaka - Japan
Latin America/Cuba	Pedro Paredes -Venezuela
Russia/CIS	Valery Kostin - Russia
USA/Caribbean	Chuck Ackenbom – USA
Ukraine (as of 2002)	Michael Sidorenko*

2003-2005 STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair	Jenny Bowker - Australia
Vice-Chair	Mantha Christou - Greece
Secretary/Newsletter Editor	John Jorgenson - Canada
Treasurer	Jane McCutcheon - Canada
Membership Registrar	Linda Grier Pulliam - USA
Regional Representatives	
Australasia	Bill Oakley - Australia
Canada	Jeff Bradshaw - Canada
Europe/Middle East	Mantha Christou - Greece
Far East	Sachiko (Sako) Tanaka - Japan
Latin America/Cuba	Pedro Paredes – Venezuela
Mexico/Central America	Genaro Ortiz Tirado - Mexico
Russia/CIS	Valery Kostin - Russia
USA/Caribbean	Chuck Ackenbom –USA
Congress Representatives	Juan Mario Gutierrez/Paredes/Tirado

2006-2008 STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair	Jenny Bowker - Australia
Vice-Chair	Sachiko (Sako) Tanaka - Japan
Secretary/Newsletter Editor	John Jorgenson - Canada
Treasurer	Chuck Ackenbom - USA
Membership Registrar	Linda Grier Pulliam - USA
Regional Representatives:	
Australasia	Bill Oakley - Australia
Canada	Jeff Bradshaw - Canada
Europe	Alexis Sideris - Greece
Japan/East Asia	Sako Tanaka – Japan
Mexico/Central America	Genaro Ortiz Tirado - Mexico
Russia/CIS	Valery Kostin - Russia
South America	Juan Mario Gutierrez - Colombia
Africa	Phil Lilienthal (ex officio)
Congress Representative	Jacqui Raill - Canada

2009-2011 STEERING COMMITTEE

Chai**r**	Valery Kostin - Russia
Vice Chair	Sachiko (Sako) Tanaka - Japan
Membership/Newsletter	Linda Grier Pulliam - USA
Treasurer	Charles Ackenbom - USA
Secretary	John Jorgenson - Canada
Website	Alina Ackenbom - USA
Regional Representatives:	
Australasia	Paul Colagiuri - Australia
Canada	Jeff Bradshaw - Canada
Europe	Alexia Sideris - Greece
Japan/East Asia	Fumio Mooroka - Japan
Mongolia	Tulshig Tuvshin - Mongolia
Russia/CIS	Anton Denisov - Russia
Turkey	Fahrettin (Fahri) Gozet - Turkey
USA	Don Cheley - USA
Ukraine	Svetlana Vagner - Ukraine
Latin America	Juan Mario Gutierrez
Congress Representative	Anthony Po- Hong Kong

2011-2014 BOARD

President	Valery Kostin – Russia
General Secretary	John Jorgenson - Canada
Treasurer	Jill Dundas – Canada
Honorary Vice President and Member at Large	Anton Denisov, Tulshig Tuvshin, Fumio Morooka, Alexia Sideris
Communication Chair	Carole Cheley - USA
Development Chair	Fahri Gozet - Turkey
Membership Chair	Linda Grier Pulliam - USA
Program Chair	Don Cheley – USA
Congress Oversight	Bill Oakley - Australia
Ambassador General Secretary	Jeff Bradshaw - Canada

2014-2017 BOARD (in process)

President	John Jorgenson- Canada
Past President	Valery Kostin

Emeritus Members
Armand Ball
Jenny Bowker
Dick Chamberlain
Jack Pearse
Sachiko (Sako) Tanaka

ICF STEERING COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETINGS

ICF GOVERNANCE - ADOPTED 2011

PRESIDENT

- Represent ICF in all matters
- Chair Board and Annual/General Meetings (and any other meetings like MAPE and General Assembly)
- Chair the Executive Committee discussions
- Liaise as needed with various members of Advisory Council(s): Past Board Members, Internal Association Partners, External Association Partners, Association President's and Executives

PAST PRESIDENT

Serves for one year after Congress

Ex-officio on Board & Executive

PRESIDENT ELECT

Determined in the year before becoming Pres.

Ex-officio on Board & Executive

VICE PRESIDENT

Covers for President as necessary

Member of Executive

TREASURER

All Financial Matters

Member of Executive

GEN. SECRETARY

Executive/Board Management

Member of Executive

Communication Services

Website

Newsletter

Social Media

Membership Services

Registrar

Member Service

Contact Management

Business Development

Branding

Strategic Partners

Corporate Sponsors

Fundraising

Ambassador & Outreach

General Assembly and MAPE Meetings

Ambassador Communication

Congress Oversight

Bid Guidelines

Congress Liaison

Future Bid Coordination

Program Services

ICDC Courses

Awards Programs

Research

New Program Development

Member at Large

Elected by Ambassadors

Attend annual meeting of ICF Board

Head and help committees, task forces and projects

Member at Large

Elected by Ambassadors

Attend annual meeting of ICF Board

Head and help committees, task forces and projects

Member at Large

Elected by Ambassadors

Attend annual meeting of ICF Board

Head and help committees, task forces and projects

Member at Large

Appointed by Board

Attend annual meeting of ICF Board

Various committees, task forces & projects

AMBASSADORS
(General Assembly)

- One ambassador elected or appointed per country from the total ICF membership within that country. Represent and assist ICF within the country.
- Attend the next International Camping Congress (to participate in General Assembly)
- Communicate to Executive Committee and Board to provide direction and advice. (at General Assembly)
- Elect three Members-at-Large that 'balance' the Board's ability to serve the global camping community

August, 1988	Founding Committee met at Camp Tawingo, Huntsville, Ontario, Canada
February, 1990	Boston, Massachusetts. USA
January, 1991	Toronto, Ontario, Canada
October, 1991	Dinant, Belgium
September, 1992	Moscow, Russia
September, 1993	Kangaroobie, Victoria, Australia
March, 1994	Third International Congress, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
February, 1995	Orlando, Florida, USA
October, 1996	Athens, Greece
October, 1997	Fourth International Congress, Saint Petersburg, Russia
May, 1998	Caracas, Venezuela
September, 1999	Tokyo and Yamagata, Japan
October, 2000	Fifth International Congress, Tokyo, Japan
April, 2001	Nicosia, Cyprus
May, 2002	Camp Friendship, Palmyra, Virginia, USA
January, 2003	Sixth International Congress, Bundoora, Victoria, Australia
February, 2004	Mexico City, Mexico
October, 2005	Seventh International Congress, Mexico City, Mexico
February, 2007	Quebec City, Quebec, Canada
September, 2007	Camp Yamal, Kiten, Bulgaria
February, 2008	Nashville, Tennessee, USA
October, 2008	Eighth International Congress, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada
October, 2009	Taipei, Taiwan
February, 2010	Denver, Colorado, USA
November, 2010	Bogota, Colombia
February, 2011	San Diego, California, USA
November, 2011	Ninth International Congress, Hong Kong, China
October, 2012	International Children's Center Artek, Ukraine
October, 2013	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
October, 2014	Tenth International Congress, Antalya, Turkey

INTERNATIONAL CAMPING CONGRESSES

Before formation of ICF	**Chairs**
1983 Toronto, Ontario, Canada	John Latimer and Jack Murdock
1984 Washington, D.C., USA	Charles Ackenbom and Charles Butler

After formation of ICF:	
1994 Toronto, Ontario, Canada	Jane McCutcheon
1997 St. Petersburg, Russia	Tamara Trushkovskaya and Svetlana Shorina
2000 Tokyo, Japan	Prof. Tetsuo Sakai
2003 Melbourne, Victoria, Australia	Don MacDowall
2005 Mexico City, Mexico	Genaro Ortiz Tirado
2008 Quebec City, Quebec, Canada	Jackie Raill
2011 Hong Kong, China	Anthony Po
2014 Antalya, Turkey	Fahrettin Gozet

CAMPING ASSOCIATIONS

(* indicates provincial or state associations)

National Union of Holiday Camps France	1909[1]
Camp Directors Association of America	1910[2]
*Ontario Camping Association	1932
Canadian Camping Association	1936
* Association des camps du Quebec	1937
*Manitoba Camping Association	1937
*Nova Scotia Camping Association	1941
*Outdoors Western Australia	1947
*New England Camping Association	1949
Christian Camping International	1963
National Camping Association of Japan	1966
*Saskatchewan Camping Association	1968
Federation of Camping and Caravanning of the Republic of China (Taiwan)	1975
*Illinois Section, American Camping Association	1975
*Camping Association of Victoria	1983
*Tasmania Camping Association	1984
Brazilian Christian Camping Association	1985
Venezuelan Camping Association	1988
Malaysian Camping Association	1988
*Adults and Children's Association of St. Petersburg	1992[3]
*Camping Association of Queensland	1992
Russian Camping Association	1993
Greek Camping Association	1993
Mongolian Camping Association	1993
Camping Association of Mexico	1996
Colombian Camping Association	1996[4]
Kenya Camping Association	1998
Ukraine Camping Association	1999
Bangladesh Camping Federation	1999[5]
* Camping Association of Hong Kong	2002
Asian Camping Fellowship	2003[6]
*Tyumen Regional Association (Russia)	2003
*Mari El Regional Association (Russia)	2003
Australian Camps Association	2005
Liberia Camping Association	2006[7]
European Camping Fellowship	2009
Camping Association of Turkey	2010

Asociacion Colombiana de Educacion en Camp Abierto	2010
Camping Association of Turkey	2010
*Puerto Rice Camping Association	2010
China Education Alliance	2013

[1]Changed to French Union of Colonies from vacation
[2]Changed to American Camping Association in1935 and to American Camp Association in 2004
[3]Changed to St. Petersburg Camping Association "Vzroslye i Deti"
[4]Merged into Asociacion Colombiana de Educacion a Campo Abierto in 2010
[5]Changed to World Active Society
[6]Changed to Asia Oceania Camping Fellowship in 2006
[7]Change to Camp for Peace, Liberia in 2011

No information was available on the founding dates of the following associations:

Korea	Korean Camping Association
Georgia	International Youth Association - TIP
*USA	New York Camping Association
*Russia	Tula Regional Association
*Russia	Tver Regional Association
*Russia	Samara Regional Camp Association
*Russia	Oryol Camp Association
*Russia	Chuvash Regional Association
*Russia	Orenburg Regional Association
*Russia	Ryazan Regional Association
*Russia	Irkutsk Camp Association
*Russia	Khabarovsk Regional Association
*Russia	Chelyabinsk Regional Association
*Russia	Moscow Regional Association
*Russia	Novosibirsk Regional Association
*Russia	Omsk Regional Association
*Russia	Perm Regional Association

INTERNATIONAL CAMPING FELLOWSHIP
Members and Affiliates - 2014

Australia	China	Hong Kong	Malaysia	Portugal	Spain	Venezuela
Azerbaijan	Colombia	Hungary	Mexico	Puerto Rico	Sweden	Vietnam
Bangladesh	Costa Rica	Iceland	Moldova	Republic of Benin	Switzerland	Zimbabwe
Bermuda	Croatia	India	Mongolia	Romania	Taiwan, ROC	
Bolivia	Cyprus	Indonesia	Myanmar	Russia	Thailand	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Dominican Republic	Ireland	New Zealand	Rwanda	Turkey	
Brazil	Ecuador	Italy	Nigeria	Saudi Arabia	Uganda	
British Virgin Islands	France	Japan	Pakistan	Serbia	Ukraine	
Cambodia	Georgia	Kazahkstan	Palestine	Sierra Leone	United Kingdom	
Cameroon	Germany	Kenya	Panama	Singapore	Uruguay	
Canada	Ghana	Latvia	Philippines	South Africa	USA	
Cayman Islands	Greece	Liberia	Poland	South Korea	Uzbekistan	