

## American Camp Association - Basic Camp Director Course

►A National course for day, resident camp directors and others with little or no directing experience◄

**Date:** Sunday, March 7th, 4pm through Thursday, March 11th, 2010 at 1:00pm

**Location:** Jewish Council for Youth Services, Camp Henry Horner, Ingleside, Illinois, Leibow Conference Center.

**Transportation Help:** We can arrange transport to/from O'Hare or Midway airports & Camp Henry Horner at no additional cost. Please plan to arrive at O'Hare (our # 1 choice for our convenience) no later than 2 PM, OR at Midway (our #2 choice but if the cost is much less for you we'll pick you up there!) no later than Noon on Sunday, March 7, 2010.

**Fees:** \$320 (ACA member) or \$370 (non-member) plus room and board (four nights/twelve meals and snacks): Single occupancy is \$325 (limited number so first come-first served), double is \$290 (limited number so first come-first served), and 3 or more in a room is \$260. Meals only \$120. Lodging includes linens and towels.

**Participation:** Limited to the first 25 to register. *This course requires pre registration no later than February 26, 2010* – New and less experienced camp directors, assistant and associate directors, camp administrators and people exploring a career in the field are all welcome to attend. You must register on-line and pay with a credit card:

[www.acacamps.org/education/bcdc/bcdcmidstates.php](http://www.acacamps.org/education/bcdc/bcdcmidstates.php)

### Course description and content:

Participants will expand their perspectives, learn new material and integrate all facets of directing their camp. The BCDC Instructors will bring their expertise affording a variety of experience and a depth of knowledge. The following thirteen core areas in four management tracks will be covered:

- *Strategic Management* – Leadership, Target Population, Mission & Purpose
- *Program Management* – Participant Development & Behavior, Program Design & Activities, Human Resources
- *Operational Management* – Risk Management, Business & Finance, Marketing
- *Camp Community Management* - Health & Wellness, Site & Facilities, Food Service, Transportation

The excitement of BCDC arises from comparing how you and others apply these common concepts in your own camps, then developing a “best practices” approach which small groups then apply to a model case-study camp which each group creates from mission to program activities and a site map. Through the four days run threads of common experience, mutual sharing and support for each participant. This is an intense course – come prepared for long days & evening sessions.

### Opportunity to Attend the Mid States Camping Conference:

You are cordially invited to also attend the 2010 Mid States Camping Conference, Thursday afternoon, March 11, 2010 through mid afternoon on Saturday, March 13, 2010. Mid States is held at Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, IL, 45” drive from Camp Henry Horner. The sessions, networking and community atmosphere compliment and enhance the BCDC experience. Full information & registration are available via [www.acamidstates.org](http://www.acamidstates.org)

**For more information or if you have questions about the BCDC contact Gordie Kaplan;**

Gordie Kaplan (312) 332-0833 [gordie@ACAil.org](mailto:gordie@ACAil.org) . Gordie started teaching an ACA camp director course for new and less experienced camp directors in 1967 as part of his first job. He led this two-session experiential course, which was twenty-three days long, from 1972-1980. He has worked for ACA at the section level since 1970. Helping camp directors with their professional development is his passion. Gordie has been teaching the ACA BCDC course every year since 1995.

Rita Yerkes, PhD. (815) 355-4452 [ryerkes@yerkesconsulting.com](mailto:ryerkes@yerkesconsulting.com) . Dr. Rita Yerkes is the owner/director of Yerkes Consulting. She is the former Dean of the School of Experiential Leadership at George Williams College where she taught Outdoor Pursuits Administration. Rita used the BCDC course curriculum for many years as one of the semester long classes offered by the College. Currently, she serves on the ACA, Illinois Board. She is co-founder of the Coalition of Education in the Outdoors, past President of the Council on Outdoor Education, past board member, president and accreditation council chair for the Association for Experiential Education. She has served as an editorial board member of ACA's *Camping Magazine*, ERIC Clearinghouse on Rural Education and Small Schools and the Journal of Experiential Education. She has authored book chapters, numerous journal articles and conference presentations.

The course text, *Basic Camp Management, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition\**, by Armand & Beverly Ball, an information letter, maps & a schedule will be sent to you after you register. \*Purchasing the text by itself would cost \$49.95.