

SSPRPA Day Camp Workshop  
Friday, June 4, 2010  
**“Hydrate Your Mind”**

**Director’s Track**

**10:40am-11:25am**

**General Risk Management & American Camp Association**

PRESENTOR: Gordie Kaplan

*Gordie has a long, established career in the camping. He currently is the Executive Director of the Illinois chapter of the American Camp Association and has been for the past 40 year. He shares his knowledge of camp at nationwide trainings and conferences.*

This session will be focused on general risk management and safety concerns at your camp site. Gordie will share ways that the American Camp Association may be able to help you achieve a safer environment for your staff and campers.

**11:35am-12:20pm**

**Balancing Your Role as Supervisor & Friend**

PRESENTOR: Donna McCauley, *Professor/Coordinator Recreation Therapy Recreation Management*

*Donna has been a speaker for the past 20 years has been a faculty member at Moraine Valley Community College coordinating the Associate of Applied Science Degrees in Recreation Therapy and Recreation Management. She teaches various courses, designs the curriculum, hires adjunct faculty, recruits students, and serves as Internship Supervisor. She has been a presenter at several National, State and Local Professional Conferences on various Recreation Related Topics.*

Your role as the Site Director has a tremendous impact on the success of the day camp experience for you, the staff and campers. Questions to ask yourself:

Are you a solid effective communicator? Do you have the ability to resolve conflict and solve problems?

Do you know how to give and solicit feedback? Can you inspire trust and confidence in your staff?

How good are you at building Teamwork? Do you know how to give constructive advice and emotional support? Join this workshop as we discover effective ways for you to perform your role!

**1:20pm-2:05pm**

**Becoming a Leader is a Lifelong Journey!**

PRESENTOR: Donna McCauley, *Professor/Coordinator Recreation Therapy Recreation Management*

It might be helpful to view Leadership as a Personal Journey a path that each one of us is on every day of our lives. During this summer experience as a Site Director everything you do, everything you say, and every decision you make all constitute part of your leadership development. Ask yourself, Is doing this going to help make you the type of Leader you want to be? Join this workshop as we look at helpful ways to act like and be a leader that warrants staff respect.

**2:15pm-3:00pm**

**Parks and Recreation: More than Fun – It’s Essential**

PRESENTOR: Mike Selep, MPS, CPRP Interim CEO of Illinois Park and Recreation Association  
*Mike is the Interim CEO with the Illinois Park & Recreation Association (IPRA), where he serves the 2,800 recreation professional members throughout the state of Illinois. He received his BA from*

*Gustavus Adolphus College in Speech Communications and Political Science and Masters in Public Service from DePaul University. He is a Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP) and has worked within the recreation profession in a variety of capacities for the last 19 years (over 130 years in dog years).*

Since most people spend a third or more of their day working, it is important to find work that stimulates and ignites a passion within an individual. We will discuss how the work that you are doing through parks and recreation is not only a fun way to spend a summer, but it a place where you have the ability to make a difference in the lives of those that you serve. The work that is done in parks and recreation is essential to a thriving, growing community. Find out how what you do at your agency contributes to the overall quality of life to the community that you serve. Parks and recreation is not only in the business of fun, it is in the business of community building through active, civil engagement.

## **General Sessions I**

### **10:40am-11:25am**

#### **Leadership-The True Role of a Summer Camp Counselor**

**PRESENTOR:** George Shimko, Owner of GSBS Stars Basketball

*George Shimko is currently the owner of GSBS Stars Basketball. He was the General Manager of Basketball Operations for the Chicago Bulls Basketball Schools and Training Academy, which reached over 25,000 children. George played basketball at St. Xavier College, he earned the Gold Medal in the World Games as a player on the Salfas Lithuanian team, and competed overseas against the Soviet National teams. George was awarded second place at the Illinois Association of Park Districts 2007 Best of the Best Gala for Sportsmanship. These are only a few of many accomplishments and awards that George has received.*

This session will teach participants how to be a leader who can effectively motivate people of all ages. We will focus on ten important themes that will help create a balanced and enriching environment that will foster leadership. We will also discuss six important factors in determining a counselor's effectiveness as a leader, coach and positive mentor. Learn leadership techniques that will help build self-esteem in every person under your direction.

#### **Crafty Campers: Have A Ball at the beach!**

**PRESENTOR:** Jacky Connelly, Preschool Teacher, Oak Lawn Park District

*Jacky Connelly is a graduate of DePaul University. She grew up working summer social programs for Chicago Park District while in school. This is the 21<sup>st</sup> year she is known as "Mrs. Jacky" working for the Oak Lawn Park District as an early education instructor. Her classes of the years have included Kiddie Krayons and Stories I & II, Parents & Tots, Pirates Delight, Puppet Place and Puzzle Pieces. Jacky has also taught after school programs for 3rd to 5th graders, been a speaker for the IAPD/IPRA Conference, and happily returns to the SSPRPA day camp training session for the seventh time.*

Pack your sunglasses and come along for a fun filled crafty time at the "beach." Toss the old beach ball to discover colorful new beach friends and crafts that will delight your campers while incorporating tips and easy lessons for you.

#### **It's a Rain Day: Time to Improvise!**

**PRESENTOR:** Dan DeWalt, COVERED BRIDGE STUDIOS & COVERED BRIDGE CHILDREN'S THEATRE  
Artistic/Executive Director & Instructor

*Daniel Wm. DeWalt is an Actor, Director and Writer with credits on stage, in film and television, in addition to his work as a Producer. Daniel has studied at a number of theatre schools, most notably THE SECOND CITY*

*TRAINING CENTER & CONSERVATORY where he graduated as an Improvisational Actor and Director. Daniel is also a Business Administration graduate of NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY with a minor in Theater. He has worked for a number of theatrical companies and has a variety of teaching credentials and awards. Daniel has worked with over 7,000 students in his theatre work since 1993 and has directed hundreds of plays, commercials, sitcoms and films.*

In this fun and exciting program we'll learn how to teach our students some simple improv games while developing skills that will serve them well in their everyday life. The workshops will include some of the current and graduate students from our improv programs who will demonstrate some games and we'll ask some of the counselors to join in and help find the 'funny'. There will be some resource material passed out as well. While this program should help you fill out those 'rain days', the danger is that many of your children will want it to downpour every day when they see how much they enjoy performing in this theatrical style.

### **Team Building & Ice Breakers**

PRESENTOR: Karen Elm, Irons Oaks

*Iron oaks, an environmental learning center, serves over 35,000 participants annually. They offer both low ropes initiatives-Team Building and high ropes courses as well as climbing towers.*

This session will give you the ability to help get to know your campers better by learning different icebreakers and team building skills. The Ice Breakers will give you the opportunity to ease the awkwardness of the first day of camp. The Team-Building skills will give you the ability to get to know the other counselors and the campers much better and have trust between the groups.

### **Theater Activities for Children**

PRESENTOR: Monica Minogue

*Monica Minogue is the founder and instructor of StagePlay! Musical Theater for Kids. Monica started this program 7 years ago and is now offers it at 7 different southwest suburban park districts. The program is extremely successful with maximum enrollment much of the time. Monica has many participants that return every session because of her effectiveness in teaching and allowing the kids to have fun in the process.*

The focus of the class is theater games for children of all ages. Beyond playing the games, the activities and techniques shared will provide a structure for use in your own situation of developing community and connection. This class is based on a training manual written by Michael Rohd "Theatre for Community, Conflict, and Dialogue". This class demands active participation

### **Putting Yourself in Someone Else's Shoes: Ability Awareness**

PRESENTOR: Tami McMahon, Program Coordinator, SSSRA

After this course staff will have a better understanding of what it is like to have a disability. Camp Counselors and staff need to be aware of a variety of ways to include all campers in activities and how to adjust activities to fit their special needs campers. Inclusion aides are only part of the picture when adapting games and activities for all to enjoy, it is up to all camp staff to creatively adapt so all campers can take part in the fun!

### **Playground Safety**

PRESENTOR: Ken Novak, Lemont Park District

*Ken has been in the park & rec field since 1982 as a park maintenance superintendent at the Lemont Park District and currently, risk manager for the South Suburban Risk Management Group. He is a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) and has given presentations for the Lemont Safety Village to participants for the past 4 years. He is a member of the PDRMA Advisory Committee and has been involved in numerous training and education sessions throughout his career.*

Playgrounds can be very hazardous to your day camp program. This session will make you aware of some of those hazards. Furthermore, you will be able to foresee any hazards and protect your campers from any harm. It is recommended to send staff to this session that have not had this important playground safety training!

## **General Sessions II**

**11:35am-12:20pm**

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## **The Power of What You Say**

PRESENTOR: Jon Grill, Site Director, Tinley Park-Park District

*Jon Grill is a Day Camp Director at the Tinley Park-Park District. This will be his fourth year as director of the Tinley Park-Park District's Vogt Woods Day Camp; he was a counselor for over six years and a camper before that.*

Words have power you cannot imagine. This informative workshop will highlight the importance of what you say to children and the harmful effects of negative put-downs and teasing.

## **General Sessions III**

**1:20pm-2:05pm**

### **Hand's On First Aid**

PRESENTOR: Jane Benedict, Palos Heights Recreation Department

*Jane Benedict has a Bachelor's Degree in Recreation Administration and a Master's in Business Administration both from Aurora University. She began working in recreation at Carol Stream Park District, primarily in aquatics. Another career opportunity with the American Red Cross enabled her to obtain instructor trainer status. Her time with St. Charles Park District dealt with early childhood, preschool and summer camps. She is currently with the Recreation Department of Palos Heights where she is the Assistant Director.*

This hands-on session will help you deal with typical, day to day first aid emergencies. Working with kids opens up many levels of small incidents to a large crisis, learn how to calmly and effectively deal with minor medical injuries.

### **It's a Rain Day: Time to Improvise!**

PRESENTOR: Dan DeWalt, COVERED BRIDGE STUDIOS & COVERED BRIDGE CHILDREN'S THEATRE  
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### **Spin on Sports and Cooperative Games**

PRESENTOR: Chris Hall, Oak Lawn Park District

*Chris Hall has been the Sports Camp Director for the Oak Lawn Park District for the past 6 years. He has an undergraduate degree in elementary education/physical education from DePaul University and a master's degree in Physical Education/Coaching from Chicago State University. Chris is a Jr. High P/E teacher for the past 5 years in Joliet. He has been coaching for the past 14 years in many different sports including basketball, wrestling, Cross country, soccer, basketball and volleyball.*

In this session you will learn some new cooperative games that have popular sport elements included as well as games that engage campers to work together to reach a common goal. Most of these games can be played indoors and outdoors. This will be hands on session with maximum participation from the audience. Some of the games include Flutterball (spin on basketball), Scramble (spin on football), Kickball/Dodge ball (combination of both), and Kinball/Cat and Mouse (cooperative games).

### **How to be a Risk Manager**

PRESENTOR: Gordie Kaplan, Executive Director, Illinois chapter of the American Camp Association

Learn ways to make your camp site safer and learn to proactively look for hazards.

### **Day-to-Day Activities for TR Camps**

PRESENTOR: Jacqueline Canty

*Jacqueline Canty is a graduate of Benedictine University. Jacqueline is a certified Special Education teacher, with certification as a Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBSI). Jacqueline is active in the education system with experience in the classroom as a job coach and as a substitute teacher. Jacqueline started at the Oak Lawn Park District in 2000, assisting with various social clubs for adults with disabilities. Jacqueline became the Special Recreation Coordinator in 2006. She is responsible for creating, leading, and staffing social groups for children and adults with intellectual and physical disabilities, organizing weekly activities, and interacting with participants. Jacqueline is also responsible for placing individuals with special needs in general recreation programs with the coordination of an inclusion aide. Jacqueline conducts annual trainings for staff to ensure that all staff is aware of their expectations, disability awareness, and the needs of each participant. In addition to this, Jacqueline oversees the Special Recreation Summer Day Camp, which includes interviewing, hiring, scheduling, and visiting the sites daily.*

Planning for TR Camps: Come to this session for a fresh look at how to plan and implement a very successful TR camp this summer! With ideas on how to coordinate staff, plan activities, and even attend some common camp field trips! Sample schedules, staff advice, and even some "hands-on" games will be shared!

### **Yell, Run & Tell, Stop the Bullying, & Child Sexual Abuse Prevention**

PRESENTOR: Cook County Sheriff's Office

This session from the Cook County Sheriff's Department incorporates three great topics: Yell & Tell, Stop Bullying, and Child Sexual Abuse Prevention.

**Yell, Run & Tell:** Teaches three simple steps to keep children safe when faced with danger. This program will include practical scenarios, stories, and different role-playing.

**Stop the Bullying:** This section will allow you to teach the participants what bullying is and how to stop it. Counselors will learn the cause of, effects of, and non-violent solutions to bullying through activities and discussions.

**Child Sexual Abuse Prevention:** This section will teach you the early detection and warning signs of abuse.

### **Playground Safety**

**PRESENTOR:** Garrit Prince, PDRMA

*Gerrit is a Risk Management Consultant with the Park District Risk Management Agency, an intergovernmental risk pool of 151 park and recreation agencies in Illinois. He provides onsite risk management services to a select group of the PDRMA membership. Gerrit is a graduate of Illinois State University. He earned his Certified Safety Professional (CSP) designation in 1988, and his Associate in Risk Management (ARM) in 1996. He also holds the CPSI- Certified Playground Safety Inspector and CPO- Certified Pool Operator designations. He is a member of the Three Rivers Chapter of American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE).*

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### **101 Art Activities**

**PRESENTOR:** Dana Stewart, MAAT Manager of Cultural Art & Social Programs  
Western DuPage Special Recreation Association; Maggie Krohn, Recreation Coordinator, Northeast DuPage Special Recreation Association

This exciting, hands-on workshop will include a presentation of art projects, the importance of including art, a full summer of hand-outs and hands-on projects to do with your campers! Come away with a summer of art projects that are fun, easy and in-expensive!

### **Mixing Up Group Games**

**PRESENTOR:** Eric Lawhead & Joe Smith

*In his fifth summer as a camp staff member in the day camp program Eric was hired as the Day Camp Coordinator. Following his time with Bolingbrook, Eric worked for the Joliet Park District and did internships with the Schaumburg Flyers and Kane County Cougars. Following his internship with the Cougars and graduating, Eric was hired as the Athletic Supervisor at the Channahon Park District in January of 2008. At Channahon, Eric oversees all youth and adult athletics and is the race director on the two races held annually. In December of 2008 Eric became a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional and in April 2009 was named SSRPPA Young Professional of the Year. In 2009, Eric helped to found the SSRPPA Athletic Committee. Eric is also the Secretary on the IPRA Athletic Committee. Eric is currently pursuing his Master's Degree in Public Administration from Governor's State University.*

*Joe Smith is the Athletic Supervisor for the Worth Park District. Prior to working in Worth, Joe attended Eastern Illinois University where he studied Recreation Administration. Currently he is the co-chair of*

*South Suburban Parks and Recreation Professional Associations Athletic Committee, and an active member with the IPRA Athletic Committee.*

Learn some new games or create a new twist to some old classics! During this session counselors will be introduced to a several different games and techniques to modify games on the fly. Counselors will break in to groups and create a new game during the session and also have time for discussion of games you have seen being a huge successes and huge failures!

## **General Sessions IV**

### **2:15pm-3:00pm**

#### **The Power of What You Say**

PRESENTER: Jon Grill, Site Director, Tinley Park-Park District

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#### **Building Relationships-Camps & Pools**

PRESENTER: Jane Benedict, Palos Heights Recreation Department

This session will give you insight to the sometimes strained relationships between camp and pool staff members. Both Day Camp and Pool issues will identify and discussed for a better understanding. Participants will leave with clearer definition of the needs of both parties to enhance and possibly make great partnerships.

#### **It's a Rain Day: Time to Improvise!**

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## **Behavior Management Tips & Tricks**

PRESENTOR: Jacqueline Canty

Behavior Management: Behavior Management is easy when given the right tools. Come to this session to learn some tips on how to deal with even the most "difficult" camper!!! Real-life scenarios, successful tips, and a question-answer portion will be included in this session.

## **Yell, Run & Tell, Stop the Bullying, & Child Sexual Abuse Prevention**

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## **Summer Safety Tips**

PRESENTOR: Garrit Prince, PDRMA

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