

The *DCE Connection*

A newsletter for the *Developer of Counselor Education*

Winter 2003–2004

2003 Conference Issue



Midwest Region Holds First Conference

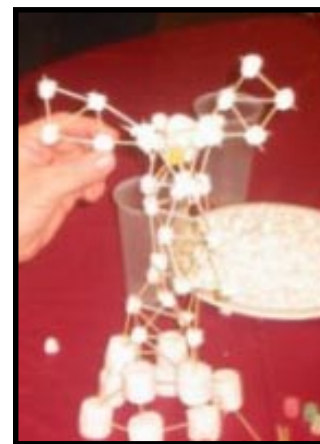
On November 15, the Midwest Region held their first ever counselors' conference. Thirty-five counselors traveled to Pella, Iowa from their homes in Canada, Illinois, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Iowa.

Brian Seifert, Hawkeye Council chaplain, presented opening devotions. He explained the meaning of the words in the

Cadet Hymn. This was very significant, because many times we sing this song without really thinking about what the words actually mean.

Counselors had an opportunity to attend two workshops in the morning. At lunch they were served a delicious meal of lettuce salad, lasagna, and French bread. For dessert they had hot fudge

sundaes on brownies. After the meal, counselors were encouraged to use their imagination and build something out of toothpicks, large marshmallows, small marshmallows, and gumdrops.



One popular workshop was the blacksmithing workshop.

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Midwest Conference *(Continued)*

In the afternoon two more workshop sessions were offered.

One workshop taught counselors how to get boys into the Bible lessons so they could learn God's Word; another showed how to go in depth into the ministry approach to cadeting. Some counselors learned how to organize their clubs and cadres for the Cadet season.

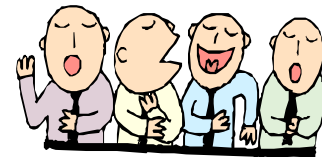
In fun hands-on workshops, counselors made boats and raced them in a rain gutter, learned about lashing while making a catapult, or made a glass etching project. Unique workshops gave men opportunities to make rope or to try blacksmithing by making something using steel, a very hot fire, hammers, and anvils. A

Bruce Meyer (right) puts his hot air to good use in the First Annual Rain Gutter Regatta.



final workshop gave counselors a chance to find out what is happening with the 2005 International Camporee.

Although many counselors drove five or more hours to attend, they agreed it was worthwhile and it was decided to hold another conference next year. Illiana Council is looking forward to this and agreed to serve as host.



Conference Info

Northwest Region

Ferbruary 21, 2004
Sonlight CRC, Lynden, WA
Workshop Sessions

Workshops planned include:

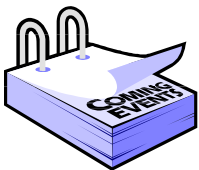
- ADHD Kids
- Discipling Boys
- Jr. Cadet Program
- Head Counselor Certification
- Games
- Point System
- Bible Lessons
- Counselor Crash Prevention
- Fly Tying
- Leatherwork
- Woodworking
- Cycling

Schedule

- 8:30 Sign in, coffee & rolls
- 9:00 Opening devotions and worship
- 9:45 Workshop session 1
- 10:45 Workshop session 2
- 12:00 **Dutch oven and salmon BBQ**
Lunch & activity
- 1:00 Workshop session 3
- 2:00 Workshop session 4
- 3:00 Break
- 3:15 Keynote speaker
- 4:00 Dismissal

Coffee and snacks available throughout the day.

Cost per person
\$25 US – \$35 CDN



DCE Training

<u>Phase 1</u>	March 25–27, 2004	Grand Rapids, Mich.
<u>Phase 2</u>	To Be Announced	Grand Rapids, Mich.
<u>Phase 3</u>	October 21–23, 2004	Flamborough, Ont.

Conference Dates

Northwest Region	February 21, 2004	Lynden, Washington
North Region	March 20, 2004	Calgary, Alberta
N & S Central Regions	November 6, 2004	Kalamazoo, Michigan
Eastern Region	November 13, 2004	Toronto, Ontario

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Conference 5 in Michigan

One of the most exciting aspects of counselor training since DCE was overhauled five years ago has been the advent and success of regional training sessions. The two regions comprised of Michigan councils had never met together before 1999, when — without knowing what to expect — the RTCs hosted the first conference in 1999. It turned out to be a solid beginning, and a springboard for the following years. The future looks good.

This year, counselors from all over Michigan headed for Second CRC in Grand Haven, where Musk-O-Tawa Council served as host. From 8:30 AM until 3:30 PM, counselors never had the chance to get bored. They each had the opportunity to attend five workshops from the 20 offered. Add in an opening keynote address, coffee breaks, lunch, and closing remarks, and it was a full day. Next year the troops head to Kalamazoo for the conference, After that, who knows? There's talk of heading to Grand Rapids. It's a popular event, and there shouldn't be any trouble finding hosts.

—Dick Broene

Top: One workshop showed quick and easy crafts. The favorite by far was the marshmallow gun made of PVC pipe.



Center: During a break, the men seemed to gravitate toward a television which was showing the University of Michigan playing Michigan State in football.

Lower Right: Hands-on workshops were popular. This one taught leathercraft.



Lower Left: Ken Pontius owned the friendly face at the registration table. Ken was one of the original DCEs, 21 years ago.



Eastern Region Conference 19

The Eastern Regional Conference was a combined GEMS/Cadets counselor affair again this year, after missing the GEMS last year. Held on November 8, participants assembled at Toronto District Christian High School. Attendance was quite low. About 125 people attended, of which 35–40 were Cadet counselors.

The day started with opening devotions, roll call, and announcements; and then moved to one of the highlights that has become an important part of most Eastern Regional conferences — praise and worship. This year that was led by the Praise Team from Brampton Second CRC. Eastern Region loves to sing praise.

The keynote speaker, Pastor Erick Schuringa, spoke on the conference theme *Called by God — Chosen to Serve* and reminded us of the importance of our calling. Twenty workshops were offered, giving everyone plenty of choices.



Workshops included:

- Reaching out to your community through Cadets/GEMS**
- Overcoming public prayer phobia**
- Glass etching**
- Cutlery mobile**
- Leading worship services**
- Frame-it craft**
- Listening with discernment**
- Web page basics**
- Prayer**
- Understanding youth culture**
- Electricity**
- DC motors**
- Christmas scroll saw craft**
- Knotty variations**

Of course, the lunch was very good, and we again took time for praise and worship.

After closing, the day ended with a delicious banquet enjoyed by all who remained.

Special thanks to the counselors of Algonquin Council and the GEMS counselors of the area for planning this conference.

The 2004 conference is already in the works and the date is set for November 13.



Bob Luyk paints his picture frame holder.



Mike Vandermeer makes his Christmas ornaments on the scroll saw.