

The *DCE Connection*

A newsletter for the Developer of Counselor Education Winter 2004–2005



2004 Conference and Summit Issue

Midwest Regional Conference

It was a well run regional conference, something one would expect from the men of Illiana Council. On October 30, 2004, counselors from the Midwest Region drove to New Lenox, IL for a day of worship and workshops. The planners made good use of DCEs as leaders. Even Ken Dekker, retired from cadeting, returned to lead a session on “Leadership,” something our culture sorely needs.

Many workshops were tied in with merit badges, such as As-

tronomer, Wood Carving, Welding, Money Management, and Glass Etching. Others were especially helpful for head counselors. Attracting Community Kids, Planning Your Cadet Year, and Community Service are good examples of those.

In all, there were about 50–60 men. Although most were from Illiana, they also drew from Hawkeye and Chicago West Councils.



Ken Zylstra (left) and Ken Dekker (right) were both assistant camp directors at the last international camporee. Ken D. was host chairman of the one before that, and Ken Z. is chairman of the next one. They had plenty to talk about.



Above: Regional Training Coordinator Wayne VanMersbergen addresses the assembly.

Left: Wayne Lewis makes a point about counselors' duties with his group.

In This Issue

- Midwest Region Conference 1
- North Region Summit update .. 2
- DCE Calendar 2
- Conference Information 2
- N & S Central Region Conference 3
- North Region Conference 4

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Winter 2004–2005 Issue

North Summit Update

On November 13, the North Region DCEs met in Woody Nook CRC for their 2nd Annual DCE Summit. The eight DCEs who attended took advantage of the opportunity to fellowship, exchange ideas, and encourage each other and the North Region RTC, Del VanDenBerg.

This annual summit allows the DCEs to discuss common challenges and joys of the Cadet ministry in councils from Edmonton, AB to Bozeman, MT. One key issue was improving communication between councils and DCEs. The DCEs came up with a number of good suggestions which they will put to use.

The DCEs set the agenda for this summit. After devotions, RTC VanDenBerg asked them for a "consent agenda" that placed the needs of the individual DCEs first in priority.

This new agenda approach was well received and promoted a great deal of exchange of information. The DCEs indicated that the Summit accomplished what it set out to do. This is what

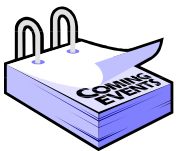
some of them said about the summit:

- I was left geared up for the Cadet season again and ready to help.
- The discussion helped me look at and set accomplishable goals.
- I really appreciated the communication and free sharing of ideas between DCEs.
- Excellent use of time!
- Finding that I am not alone in my struggles as a DCE.
- The fellowship!

When asked "Did the Summit make you aware of any other information about being an effective DCE?" a few of the responses included:

- I need to concentrate on the "needs assessment" of my council.
- We need to communicate better — including phone.
- I need to concentrate on looking at needs of the clubs rather than listening to their wants.

The meeting closed with an enthusiastic commitment to return for another summit next year. The trip to Lacombe, AB was well worth it for all!

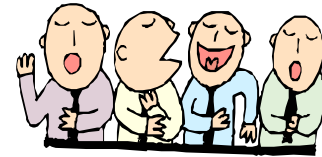


DCE Training

- Phase 1** March 17–19, 2005 in Flamborough, Ontario
- Phase 2** To be announced (Fall, 2005)
- Phase 3** To be announced (Fall, 2005)

Regional Conferences Scheduled

Northwest Region	March 5, 2005	Langley, BC
North Region	Fall, 2005	To be determined
N & S Central Regions	November 5, 2005	Sparta, MI
Eastern Region	November 12, 2005	To be determined
Midwest Region	To be determined	



Conference Info

Northwest Regional Conference

March 5, 2005

Immanuel CRC
21713 50th Ave
Langley, BC V3A 3T2

Keynote Speaker: B. DeRegt

Workshop Sessions

- Counselor Boot Camp
- Snowshoe Building
- Games
- Using the *Quest* Magazine
- New Counselor Refresher Course
- Alternative Bible Lessons
- Your Cadre as a Ministry Tool
- Planning and Pulling off Cadre Outings
- International Camporee
- Woodworking
- Abuse Prevention
- Art Projects
- Cycling

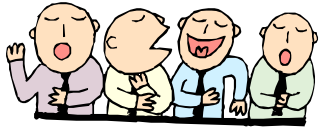
Schedule

- 8:30am Sign in, coffee and rolls
- 9:00am Opening devotions and worship
- 9:45am Workshop session #1
- 10:45am Workshop session #2
- 12:00n Lunch and activity
- 1:00pm Workshop session #3
- 2:00pm Workshop session #4
- 3:00pm Break
- 3:15pm Keynote speaker
- 4:00pm Dismissal

Cost: \$25 US / \$35 CDN per person

Editor

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Central Conference

The North Central and South Central Regions continued their history of holding a combined conference last fall as about five dozen men converged on Kalamazoo, Michigan for a day at the Millwood CRC. With eighteen workshops to choose from, there was something for everyone. The list included such manly topics as fishing, trapping, international camporee, GPS, paintball, archery, and marksmanship.

Those interested in crafts could learn to make ropes or snowshoes, or tie flies (the kind for catching fish). Or they could go to Stan Schipper's workshop on small crafts, and see more projects made with wood than most men will ever be able to do.

During the break times, a kitchen crew brought out a variety of snacks. Once it was fruit, another time pastries, another breads, and so forth.

All in all, it was a good day.



A fine line up of wood crafts in Stan Schipper's workshop.



A balancing act with nails — it's not as hard as it looks!

The two regional training coordinators, Lee Dobbs (left) and Terry Kimber (center) share a relaxing moment with Paul Reidsma.



CCC President Henry Bosch (left) and Harry VandenBerge are faithful attenders at these events.



It may look like a tiny water tower, but it's actually a high powered GPS unit.



North Region Conference



Praise and worship — the counselors of the North Region can sing!



They make BIG fires that keep everyone warm.

Think of a regional conference, and you probably think of a Saturday at a church or school, with praise and worship, good speakers, good workshops, good food, and good fellowship. September 17 and 18 saw a conference in the North Region but with a difference.

Although there were worship, speakers, workshops, and food; there was no church or school. Instead they had cabins and trailers. The conference was held at the campground from Rocky Mountain House CRC. It offered a kitchen, dining hall, amphitheater, and bunkhouse cabins for sleeping. Some men brought their own trailers. About 15–

20 men arrived Friday and set up camp. Then they met at the amphitheater and spent time in praise and worship. They heard an excellent speaker remind them of the importance of their task in the ministry of cadeting. After this it was time for some fellowship around the fire and some coffee or hot chocolate. Of course camping isn't the same without some rain, and they had that too.

After a good night's rest they awoke to a hearty Alberta breakfast of flapjacks, eggs and bacon, and the fixin's. That was followed by a workshop lead by Bernard Teeninga, the Cadet Corps training coordinator.

After a break the participants could choose from a workshop on one night crafts or pinewood derby tips.

The conference was also unique in that the afternoon consisted of a choice of going quadding (if you had a quad there) or going on a tour of a sour gas refinery. About half did each. Supper that night featured buffalo stew.

Eventually, some participants left for home while the rest enjoyed another night around the fire. Everyone had a good time and left inspired for the upcoming season.



Sometimes you need to make do with what you have for workshop rooms.



Cedar post snowmen are popular at conventions and conferences — Jeff Notenboomer's snowman is ready for the Alberta cold winter.