



## **Request for Proposals 2008 Program**

**Alexis Park Resort Hotel & Conference Center  
Las Vegas, Nevada, April 2 – 5, 2008**

The American Camp Association CampWest Conference is accepting proposals for innovative and dynamic sessions of all sizes. The target audience for the conference is camp professionals – experienced, new and seasonal directors; administrative staff; and supervisory staff including beginning supervisors.

The theme of the conference is “**Building Connections: Creating camps that Make a Difference**”. We will integrate our learning from the brain development research in 2006, social intelligence experiences in 2007 and explore how our connections to each other and environments create meaningful experiences. This theme will be developed throughout the conference in a variety of program delivery systems according to the critical issues statements below.

Prior to completing the proposal, please review the Critical Issues that relate to the theme of the conference. All presentations should relate to one or more of the critical issues statements and selection for presentation will be made based on that relationship.

### **Critical Issues Areas**

1. Neuroscience has discovered that the brain is sociable and designed to connect. Even the most casual encounters, positive and negative, prime our emotions. Brain research also tells us that young people make decisions based on emotion rather than judgment. How do we use this knowledge to intentionally promote positive camper to camper relationships; camper to staff relationships; youth involvement and proactive relationships with the natural world?
2. Supportive relationships provide the strongest camp impact on youth development. How do we capitalize on this knowledge in training and managing camp staff?
3. Shared insights help our social brains to develop stronger connections. How do we promote connections with parents to market the value of the camp experience and foster parent cooperation throughout their camper’s participation?
4. A healthy youth development experience includes interactions with peers and adults that are physically and emotionally safe. How can camps structure program opportunities and design facilities that capitalize on creating connections with others? How can camps capitalize on the use of technology to improve and enhance connections that are socially responsible?

5. Brand strength is directly proportional to the number and strength of the connections within the community. How can our connections to other camps and ACA increase our application of shared skills to build on our brand promise? How can our connections to vendors, government agencies and other community businesses & organizations increase our brand potential?

### **Guidelines for Speaker Registration and Expenses:**

Appearing before colleagues in the camp profession is an honor and a privilege. In the learning community created at CampWest, we share a “joint responsibility” to help develop the profession and share knowledge. **It is expected that participants speaking at the conference will register for the conference. All related expenses for registration, travel and hotel accommodations and meals will be at the speaker’s expense unless a specific request has been approved in writing by the conference committee.**

It is also expected that speakers are available to present at any time during the conference schedule. Presentation date and time assignments will be at the discretion of the program committee.

**If speakers are not already registered with a camp, you may have a discount of \$50 off an individual registration. When your presentation is accepted, your registration fee will be credited the \$50. If registered with a camp or as an exhibitor, there is no discount.**

**Workshop handouts must be received by Friday, March 21, 2008 for copying.**

After reading the above Guidelines for Speaker Registration and Expenses please signify your agreement by initialing here CJ

## CampWest 2008 Program Session Proposal

Please complete the following information and return it by **November 15, 2007** electronically as an attachment. *Please DO NOT imbed content in the body of the email.*

Presenter(s)

Cory Jones

Title

Camp Manager, Fire Captain (ret.)

Credentials

Certified Camp Director (ACA), Certificate in Wildland/Urban Interface Fire (CDF)

Address City State Zip

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Session Title

### **Your Camp and the Next Firestorm... Are You Prepared?**

Description of session content (50 words or less, be specific and precise):

Most camps are located in the Wildland/Urban Interface or 'I-zone'. This workshop focuses on what actions the Camp Director and other decision makers should take to protect the life safety of campers and staff. Come learn what to do before, during and after a firestorm has threatened or destroyed your camp.

Participant outcomes:

With increased intensity and frequency of firestorms, decision makers need to be increasingly proactive in planning for the property and life safety of their camps. This session illustrates what conditions need to exist for Strike Team Leaders to decide what properties can be saved and which may be lost. Site design, architecture, landscaping, water resources, shelter-in-place facilities and fuel load all relate to effective firefighting. Attendees will have an increased awareness of firestorm dynamics and what decisions they can implement to effectively protect property and lives in their camps.

Relationship to critical issues of conference:

Risk Management

Session length                      Maximum number of participants

75 minutes                              none

Target audience

Camp consultants, architects, executive directors, camp directors, site managers, camp board members, insurance professionals, risk managers, maintenance staff.

Does this session promote a specific product, service, organization or business? If yes, please explain

*(Educational session presenters that plan to promote a specific product, service, organization or business are expected to be an exhibitor in the Exhibit Hall and will be*

*classified as a "Commerce Session". Please see the Exhibitor Registration Brochure for more information).*

No

What published works would you like to have available for sale in the bookstore? Please list the title(s), publisher and ISBN.

None

Has the session been presented elsewhere     yes        no

If yes, where?

CampWest 2006

Has the session been submitted to other conferences     yes        no

If yes, which ones?

I submitted to 2008 ACA National after the deadline. It may be used if someone else cancels.

Please list name and contact email and phone number for at least one reference who has seen you present at previous conferences or educational functions.

Greg Copeland, [www.scpsohio.com](http://www.scpsohio.com), (216)696-6767

Chris Erickson, [cerickson@calpaccamps.org](mailto:cerickson@calpaccamps.org), (310)454-6699

Paul Cogger, [pcogger@calpaccamps.org](mailto:pcogger@calpaccamps.org), (626)568-7335

*Audiovisual needs (Please ask only for AV equipment that you feel is a must for your presentation due to the high cost for equipment rental. Please plan to bring your own laptop, if needed):*