

**Outdoor Ministry Association UCC
March 21, 2001
Camp Adams - Post consult meeting**

Present

Jeff Puhlmann-Becker, Dale Dressler, Dana Fisher, Greg Pitman, Pat Brown (Outgoing), Gary Halstead, Curly Stumb, Bryan Breault, Judy Luther (New)

Absent

Bud Schroeder, Jan Lovig (Outgoing), Frank Russel (Outgoing), Sharla Steever (New), Betsy Matten (New), Dave Knight (New), Barbara Broadbent(New), Kirsten Turner (New),

Regional Report highlights

Mid Atlantic - Gary Halstead

No response from NY Penn west. They are in an interim mode.

Penn Central doing well

Penn East folks expressed a desire more program type workshops at Consult

Southern Region - Curly

See Handout

Southeast Conference - Florida is experiencing a drought and the lake is very low. They are having minimal summer camp programs since Lake Byrd Lodge is old and is not up to code.

West Central - Judy

Placerville Kerry and Sharla are flying high. They have been there 5 years now

Missouri New buildings for Mo-Val. Shirley will be on sabbatical this summer

White Memorial was not here but came to Joint GL/Central Abetment

Nebraska feels healthy

Western Region - Pat

2002 Abetment will be in Hawaii Hawaiian government threatening to build a well on their site

La Foret, brand new director, Joel Jarvis, was here at consult

New England

Every site but Massachusetts was represented at Consult

Brian reported a new building to replace one that was burned by flames. They also have a new septic system and an addition to lodge.

Dana reported Rhode Island is building or completing a new building. They have new staff person for Outdoor Ministries - Ira Williams

Mike Silver from Deering Center is asking for support from OMA

Silver Lake is in the process of replacing 20 - 80 year old cabins. Asking churches to sponsor each new cabin.

New Hampshire - Horton Center has a new dining room and kitchen and also has a new maintenance facility and a new cabin.

Great Lakes

Illinois South has a new director – Kerry Bean could not come to Consult but expressed strong interest in being involved with OMA

Illinois some improvements but nothing major

Ohio Cynthia Speller is new and attended Consult

Michigan is more hopeful now than in the past

Wisconsin Moon Beach has new director - Carl Swensen A Capital campaign for both sites will raise \$500,000 - \$600,000 for capital improvements.

Indiana-Kentucky – Received a Lilly Grant and will be renovating and hiring a Program Coordinator.

Regional abatement will be in Michigan.

Business

Deering Center - Jeff asked Mike Silver for a letter from a UCC Church, Association, or conference to explain their relationship to a UCC entity before they will be included in directory. There is a history with UCC (owned by the national body of UCC) but trying to reopen as an incorporated body. They are working with Dick Chamberlain on site development and program plans.

Off year Work Camp - Curly

Deering Center and Hawaii are two sites that have expressed an interest in hosting an OMA work camp. There was discussion of how we decide whom to do a work camp for? We need to

develop criteria similar to what we do for evaluating Consult sites. ***Curly, Bryan and Dana will develop the criteria and a decision of where to go.***

Discussion on how we find information on other UCC related Outdoor Ministries Programs that are not currently included in the OMA directory. ***Greg and Dana to coordinate directory additions.***

Consult Report

Evaluations generally commented on the beauty of the outdoors and some frustrations with beds etc.

ACA and insurance pre-consult was well received and proved valuable to many who attended.

Discussed criteria for site selection for Consult XIV in 2003. Invitation letter will be sent to potential sites including those that submitted last year and those who showed interest while attending this consult. Potential sites are: Silver Lake, Placerville, Slumber Falls, Pilgrim Pines, Blowing Rock, and Pilgrim Center. Mid Atlantic and West Central regions have not had consult within the last 7 consults (14 years).

The planning committee for Consult XIV in 2005 will be Jeff, Greg, Dana, and Dale.

Discussion followed on the need for the Planning committee to make the board feel more included in Consult. It was suggested that special shirts for board members reinstated for 2003.

Jeff raised up a national staff goes to camp proposal from John Thomas "700 goes to camp" ***Dana will discuss the program with June Boutwell and will coordinate. Dana will report back to board by email and post.***

June Boutwell (via Jeff) requested that members of NACOM and OMA folks met together in Cleveland to educate her on history of both organizations. We will let her know who should be there. ***Jeff will contact June for more information on how we can support this endeavor.***

It was suggest by the National office that we send a representative to the Christian Education committee. ***Jeff will discuss this issue with June.***

OMA/UCC Brochure. Pictures and a producer are in place to make this happen. ***Pris Hardin, who led a workshop on Desk Top Publishing at consult, will assist Jeff in putting this together for a nominal fee.***

June Boutwell has offered to set up OM display as part of her display at synod as well as our usual T-shirt day. ***Gary will coordinate this with June. Linda Crowe, who will be attending Synod, had offered to help set up display.***

There was discussion of the investment of OMA money. There may be as much as \$10,000 that could be invested after Consult costs and are in and the brochure print has been printed. The UCC Cornerstone fund or United Church Foundation were raised up as ways for us to support the denomination with these investments.

Motion - Judy - To empower two of three officers, being the treasure, or the president, or the secretary to make financial decisions on behalf of board. - 2nd Curly. **Passed**

There was discussion regarding the OMA/UCC constitution. It is now 5 years old and already out of date.

A task force was formed to evaluate and possibly rewrite our constitution, which will then be presented at Consult 2003 for approval by the whole body. *Gary and Dale, agreed to work on this project.*

Jeff volunteered Marion to re-type current constitution and email copies to all board members for comments.

Motion - Bryan - All new members of the OMA board will receive copies of minutes from the previous two years and a copy of the constitution. - 2nd Dana. **Passed**

Discussions of list developed by OMA business meeting.

Job postings on the web site have been happening with good results.

Demographics - *Judy will work on gathering demographics information from UCC National, Chamberlain etc.*

Professional development. It was suggested that we place links on the web site for ACA accreditation information as well as information on commissioned ministry.

It was also suggested that we ask Mike Downs of United Church of Christ Insurance Board, if UCCIB could sponsor a two to three day retreat for developing documentation for ACA accreditation. *Jeff will contact Mike and Dana will help plan the retreat if the funding becomes available.*

Exchange program with other camps. A discussion concluded that we leave that up to list serve communication between camp directors.

International partnerships. UCC National can assist camps in this process *Greg will talk to KC about how national can help with this.*

We will meet as a board in the Fall 2001 at Mench Mill in Pennsylvania. *Gary will determine the date after he returns home.* November 11 and 12 were raised up as possibilities with travel days on the 10th and 13th. It was also suggested that the ACA documentation retreat be scheduled to immediately follow the board meeting.

Respectfully Submitted

Dale Dressler, Secretary