

National Conference on Outdoor Leadership

2009 Workshop Listing

Presenter Name: Bruce Bonney

Workshop Title: Collaboration- How We Approach Teamwork

Workshop Description: Through small & large group interaction, participants in this workshop will explore Collaboration chapter of the Backcountry Classroom 2nd Edition. Participants will exit this workshop with: Awareness of the IP3 as a tool for implementing specific strategies that develop collaboration and teamwork in the field and classroom Greater understanding of individual collaborative styles and the implications for leadership and decision-making.

Presenter Names: Amy Shellman & Alan Ewert

Workshop Title: Decision-Making in Real Time: Factors and Training

Workshop Description: A primary duty of outdoor leaders/instructors/guides is to make correct decisions in situations of uncertainty, potential hazards and within a real-time context. This interactive presentation explores the concepts of "instructor traps" and real-time cognitive processes through a combination of lecture/discussion, multimedia vignettes, and audience exercises. Techniques that enable attendees to recognize and deal with traps they may encounter will be addressed

Presenter Name: Mary Williams

Workshop Title: WEA 101

Workshop Description: Learn about how the WEA was formed and how the organization has developed into what it is today and where the organization is headed in the future. This session also takes a look at where WEA fits in professional outdoor leadership from both an academic and practitioner standpoint. We will also cover how to be involved with the Wilderness Education Association as an Affiliate or taking part in a membership committee. Last, we will cover the process and changes of the WEA Curriculum and Affiliation process and how it pertains to the onset of the Strategic Plan.

Presenter Name: Steve Gustafson

Workshop Title: Results- Destructive Testing of Ropes Course Equipment

Workshop Description: As part of the engineering of ropes courses, material selection is a critical component for a safer installation. This session will be hands on with actual product that has been destructive tested. Video will be shown of the examples presented. Much Q&A and Wow's! This is for the person who always wanted to know!

Presenter Names: Ivan Bartha & Jeannette Stawski

Workshop Title: Collaborative Outdoor Leadership Training

Workshop Description: Travel policies, resource allocation, static budgets and risk management issues are challenges facing many university outdoor programs. While many campus recreation programs share an academic counterpart, many more do not. In order to continue offering high quality and safe outdoor experiences, developing new and innovative ways to train staff is a must. This presentation explores a recent collaboration between St. Cloud State University and the University of Michigan to jointly train student outdoor leaders from each program. We will cover the logistics, planning process and outcomes. The conclusion of the presentation will be introducing some models for making collaborative training a more common and accessible option for university outdoor programs.

Presenter Name: Tom Steussy

Workshop Title: Pink Elephants Part II- Higher Education & Outdoor Leadership

Workshop Description: How do we know that our academic programs are producing highly effective outdoor instructors? What is employer staff training and the first year out of college “making up for” beyond our academic programs? Should we be teaching for graduate school success or for employment competitiveness? This interactive session will invite academics AND practitioners to share strategies to enhance student effectiveness post graduation. Practitioners/employers are encouraged to attend.

Presenter Name: Michael McGowan

Workshop Title: Increasing Stakeholders in WEA through Public Service/ Outreach

Workshop Description: Public outreach will build and sustain membership, promote affiliate courses and programs, attract corporate sponsors and gain WEA a place at the table with agencies making decisions regarding the use of public lands. This session describes a proposal to mobilize our most abundant and underused resource, NSP graduates, to provide public safety workshops that will give outdoor interest groups a concrete stake in the WEA mission.

Presenter Names: Michael Barker & Matt Scott

Workshop Title: Professionalizing the Ropes Challenge Course

Workshop Description: This session will cover the newest advances in equipment, technology and safety related to construction and operation of ropes challenge courses including canopy and zip line tours. An overview of the newest innovations from the US and Australia in safety, continuous belays, revolutionary cable tensioning terminations, and safety proof testing.

Presenter Name: Rich Petteruti

Workshop Title: Simplifying Rescues on Ropes Courses

Workshop Description: This presentation will focus on how to simplify rescue techniques on the ropes course. It will combine skill sets from the rock climbing and ropes course industry to show simple and safe solutions to most ropes course rescue applications. Audience will be asked to identify and solve different rescue scenarios and offer their own rescue stories.

Presenter Name: Keith Jacobs

Workshop Title: ACCT 7th Edition Standards- Understanding the Changes

Workshop Description: This workshop will explore the 7th Edition Challenge Course Standards, published by the Association for Challenge Course Technology. Specific focus will be placed on identifying and understanding the changes in the recently published 7th Edition Challenge Course standards.

Presenter Names: Steve Gustafson & Joe Steward

Workshop Title: The Ins and Outs of Canopy Zip Line Tour

Workshop Description: Canopy Zip Line Tours have technology from ropes courses but have taken new pathways in adventure education, the mainstream, and have unique demands on both the installer and operators of tours. Engineering, exotic locations, staff training, and participant management are all topics open for discussion. Industry trends will be addressed and the pending ANSI PRCA Standards.

Presenter Name: Ivan Bartha

Workshop Title: Using Social Networks to Reach New Participants

Workshop Description: Over 100 million people visit the social networking websites Facebook & Myspace every month. While there are lots of preconceptions about who these visitors are, the reality is the social networking platform is a powerful tool to attract participants to your program. There has been a gap between wilderness education and technology for many years, but that gap is disappearing. There is a whole generation of students and future outdoor leaders that use social networks. This presentation will provide some basic training on social networking websites, how to target program participants and how to promote the outdoors in an era dominated by technology.

Presenter Name: Jack Drury

Workshop Title: Collaboration- To Infinity and Beyond: The Pixar Model

Workshop Description: Pixar, the company that has created blockbuster computer animated films such as Toy Story, Monsters Inc., Cars and many more, uses a collaboration model that is worth emulating. This presentation will explore how Pixar creates a collaborative environment that has allowed the company to have such consistent success in the incredibly competitive movie industry.

Presenter Names: Andrew Bobilya, Ken Kalisch, & Brad Daniel

Workshop Title: Benefits and Strategies for Facilitating Solitary Reflection within a WEA Course

Workshop Description: What is the role of solitary reflection within the WEA curriculum? During this workshop we will investigate benefits of solitary reflection and strategies for its implementation on WEA courses. Following a brief presentation summarizing recent findings of an ongoing Solo research project, participants will discuss best practices..

Presenter Names: Chris Pelchat & Lauren Barnes

Workshop Title: Leader of the Day Experiences

Workshop Description: Leader of the day (LOD) experiences are a vital part of learning to be competent leaders. This session will discuss strategies for running LOD experiences that increase the leaders confidence and competence while creating a more objective assessment process. Discussion will draw out best practices within the association.

Presenter Name: Jackson Wilson

Workshop Title: Emergent Group Development Models

Workshop Description: Group development models are important for students to know so that they can identify that their group isn't "broken" but only going through a difficult time. This session will consist of a series of activities designed for students to create their own group development models from popular culture sources before these models are compared to academic models such as Tuckman's "forming" model.

Presenter Name: Jack Drury

Workshop Title: A Step Back in Time- A Fireside Chat with Paul Petzoldt

Workshop Description: Step back in time and hear Paul Petzoldt tell some of his most famous stories. Presenter Jack Drury has compiled a DVD that allow today's generation of outdoor leaders to hear Paul tell some of his greatest stories and share some of his outdoor philosophy. Following the video a discussion will be facilitated to set the context of some of Paul's observations. This should a fun and enlightening presentation

Presenter Name: Scott Jordan

Workshop Title: Outdoor Leadership and Self Deception- A Model for Expedition Behavior

Workshop Description: Expedition behavior has been credited as a large factor leading to successful field experiences. Leadership and Self Deception: Getting out of The Box, a concept developed by the Arbinger Institute is a model that fits well with the idea of expedition behavior. Learn how it has been used on WEA courses as a platform for successful behavior in the backcountry.

Presenter Name: Keith Jacobs

Workshop Title: ACCT Challenge Course Practitioner Certification

Workshop Description: This session will outline and answer questions on the process used for the development of the standards, the current certification structure, the process to become certified, the requirements to attain challenge course practitioner certification, and information regarding future developments.

Presenter Name: Joel Cryer

Workshop Title: Can We Guarantee Absolute Safety on Ropes Courses

Workshop Description: Why is it in today's programming for ropes courses' risk is removed and safety is guaranteed, if you read the many different programs literature? This guarantee of safety is troubling and impossible to insure. We will historically examine how these two philosophies co-exist of absolute safety verses risk and is managed.

Presenter Name: Michael Barker

Workshop Title: OSHA and the Wilderness/ Outdoor Adventure Industry?

Workshop Description: PRCA session but designed for all. This session is a brief overlook at OSHA basics to help create awareness of where these requirements apply to the Wilderness / Outdoor Adventure industry. What constitutes an employee in OSHA's eyes. What is OSHA's General Duty Clause? Do I have to report injuries to OSHA? What requirements apply to me?

Presenter Name: Patrick Lewis

Workshop Title: Transference: A reflection on Outdoor Lessons Learned by Chris Cashel

Workshop Description: Presenter will introduce topic and show video interview of Chris Cashel. Interview will cover experiences gained in the field and how she uses knowledge gained in her everyday life. Following video small groups will have the opportunity to discuss personal outdoor experiences and how these experiences connect to his/her everyday life.

Presenter Names: Kim Collins & Ginelle Heller

Workshop Title: Leading for Pay?

Workshop Description: Round Table discussion about whether trip leaders should receive payment for leading outdoor trips and courses. If so, how much should we pay? Bring information about your program or other models. All leaders and administrators are welcome, as we'd like to have a breadth of experience present.

Presenter Name: Tom Welch

Workshop Title: Wilderness Water Quality: A Research and Practice Update

Workshop Description: This session will draw from the current medical literature to challenge the widely held assumption that North American wilderness waters are dangerous for consumption. The basic biology of enteric illnesses will be reviewed. Evidence-based best practices will be proposed and demonstrated.

Presenter Name: Scott Jordan

Workshop Title: Peer Review Parameters for Organizational Programs; A Practitioner's Accreditation

Workshop Description: The PRCA is beginning a process to review and accredit challenge course programs. This is an attempt to standardize and professionalize the field of the course practitioners and develop levels of competency in the ROPES course profession. This presentation will be a led discussion on parameters used to judge a program. The current plan is to evaluate a program on four foundational pillars; Business Structure and Practices (ethical), Construction and Maintenance of Facility, Staff Training and Competency, and Operations. The discussion will focus on what each pillar actually "looks like" in an organization that meets industry standards.

Presenter Name: Whitney Ward

Workshop Title: The 'YOU' in UTM: Finding your Place in the World

Workshop Description: 12 0481623E 4148358N GPS are everywhere these days from the can to the backcountry. 12 0488227E 4163567N But do you know what the numbers mean? 12 0472778E 4189599N Come and see what the numbers tell you as you learn to utilize UTM in your planning, risk management, and navigation. 12 0496116E 4141076N

Presenter Name: Ben Speicher and Ginelle Heller

Workshop Title: Aldo Leopold's Land Ethic: Fostering Sincere Care for the Outdoors

Workshop Description: Aldo Leopold, in his foundational essay The Land Ethic, declared that society should extend its ethics to include a respect and love of nature. He argued that soil, water, and biota have intrinsic value separate from any economic or practical value ascribed to them by humans. He went on to say that unless humans learn to care for the land beyond their personal benefit from it, conservation efforts will always be in vain. As outdoor educators, we often serve as important conduits for students desiring to experience the natural world. This presentation is an attempt to equip instructors with tools for fostering a love and respect of nature in students on courses.

Presenter Name: Mark Tozer

Workshop Title: Sustaining Expertise and Leadership in the Outdoors

Workshop Description: This presentation will bring together in a meaningful way a number of key ideas about how to sustain an individual's capacity to learn more effectively from their experiences as they build the knowledge and competencies necessary for good leadership. The proposal is that an essential developmental property is the formation of adaptive expertise.

Presenter Names: Brett Haverstick & Gary Macfarlane

Workshop Title: The Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act

Workshop Description: I will present the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act as a management option for remaining roadless lands of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana. I will examine if the conditions of existing roadless lands meets criteria outlined in the Wilderness Act of 1964, and its possible effect on the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Presenter Name: Michael Barker

Workshop Title: Another 'Necessary Journey' - ANSI Ropes Challenge Course

Workshop Description: Why ANSI American National Standards for the Ropes Challenge Course Industry? Two words - self-regulation. Examples of government, related standards and voluntary standards effecting our operations will be discussed. The "necessary journey" of an ANS for the industry will be covered including the direction safety, training and certification should take.

Presenter Names: JD Tanner & Emily Ressler

Workshop Title: Outdoor Ethics: Easy Way to Make Leave No Trace a Part of any Outdoor Program

Workshop Description: Leave No Trace can be easily implemented into any outdoor program or trip. This presentation will give you an introduction to the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics and showcase educational programs and materials that can help make Leave No Trace a fun and easy part of your outdoor program.

Presenter Name: Rachel Collins

Workshop Title: Professional Development in Outdoor Education and the WEA

Workshop Description: The field of outdoor education is continuing to grow every year, and therefore, is starting to define itself as a profession. In this session we will be discussing the markers of professional development in Outdoor Education, the role of Core Competencies in our field, as well as sharing recent research findings from a WEA professional development study conducted in 2008.

Presenter Name: Mallory Rickbeil

Workshop Title: Getting the Most from the WEA Website

Workshop Description: This presentation will focus on bringing to light many of the underutilized tools of the WEA website. In this presentation we will walk through step by step the process in which one becomes a site user and member, the tools available to members, and address any questions workshop attendees may have in utilizing www.weainfo.org.

Presenter Names: Hugh Gibson, Jerel Cowan & Mary Williams

Workshop Title: So you want to be an Outdoor Professional, Now What?!

Workshop Description: We will examine how to become an outdoor leadership professional through a guided discussion of our different paths taken. We will share our stories and work with you on your quest to being an Outdoor professional. Come and share our successes and mistakes to help you on your path.

Presenter Names: Mac McInnes & Gary Saunders

Workshop Title: Leadership Development through Service Learning

Workshop Description: The three-way partnership between Mount View JHS, Camp Susan Curtis and Unity College has been in place for five years. Through this program, Unity College students serve the Mount View JHS students using the facilities at Camp Susan Curtis. The Program has great implication for both Programming and Leadership development.

Presenter Names: Steve Spencer & Tammie Stenger- Ramsey

Workshop Title: Let's Get Wet: Service Learning on the Water with the Warren County Blueways

Workshop Description: This presentation details a service learning program/project involving Western Kentucky University's WEA Outdoor Leadership Program in a Blueways (river) trail system. The goal was active participation of students in completing a practical, valued local project (think globally, act locally) and could serve as a model for other communities