

COCAcon 2019

Preliminary Schedule of Events

November 14th-17th

Louisville, KY

www.cocacon.org



Key Information

- [Conference Website](#)
- [Conference Registration](#)
- [Hotel/Accommodations](#)
- [Northwestern Mutual Camp Spirit and Spirit of COCA-I Excellence Award Nominations \(Deadline September 15th\)](#)
- [American Cancer Society Conference Scholarship \(Deadline August 30th\)](#)
- [COCAcademy](#)
- [Call for Speakers](#)

Conference Fee \$450 (COCA-I Members)

Register by September 15th and save \$50 off the \$450 attendance fee.

Important Dates – Mark Your Calendar

- August 30th - American Cancer Society Scholarship Applications due
- September 15th - Conference Early Bird Discount Expires
- September 15th - Northwestern Mutual Camp Spirit and Spirit of COCA-I Excellence Award Nominations due

Questions? Feel free to contact:

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COCAcon Preliminary Schedule

Thursday November 14th

2:00 pm – 6:30 pm
8:30 am – 3:30 pm
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
2:15 pm – 4:30 pm
5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
9:00 pm – 11:00 pm

Conference Registration & Information Desk
[Pre-Conference - Grief and Bereavement Keynote & Workshops](#)
Teambuilding Activity
Sessions
President's Reception
Hospitality Suite

Friday November 15th

7:00 am – 7:30 am
7:30 am – 8:15 am
8:30 am – 5:30 pm
8:30 am – 10:00 am
10:00 am - 3:30 pm
10:15 am – 12:30 pm
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
2:00 pm – 4:15 pm
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm
5:30 pm -
9:00 pm– 11:00 pm

Activity TBD
Breakfast
Best of Show Showcase
[Keynote – Tom Rosenberg, President & CEO ACA](#)
Exhibits Open
Sessions
Regional Meetings & Lunch
Sessions
Annual Meeting
Dinner on Your Own
Hospitality Suite

Saturday November 16th

7:00 am – 7:30 am
7:45 am – 8:30 am
8:30 am – 10:00 am
10:15 am – 11:15 am
11:30 am – 12:30 pm
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
1:30 pm – 5:00 pm
5:30 pm – 9:00 pm
5:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Activity TBD
Breakfast
[Keynote- Jim Cain](#)
Sessions
Sessions
Lunch
Sessions
Silent Auction
Awards Banquet & Entertainment

Sunday November 17th

7:30 am – 11:45 am

TBD

Friday - Saturday

[COCAcademy](#)

Grief and Bereavement Pre-Conference

Thursday November 14th 8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Keynote - 8:30 am - 10:00 am
Workshops 10:15 am - 3:30 pm



Andrea Warnick

Helping families, professionals, volunteers, and communities support grieving children, youth and adults

Andrea Warnick is an educator, registered psychotherapist, nurse, and thanatologist. She specializes in ensuring that adults, children and youth have access to caring and informed support when experiencing the serious illness, dying, or death of someone close to them. She has learned through her 20 years of experience that such support goes a long way towards helping individuals of all ages integrate their grief in a way that allows them to thrive in life.

Pre-Conference Fee Significantly Discounted to Only \$50.

Keynote Speaker

Friday November 15th 8:30 am - 10:00 am



Tom Rosenberg
President/CEO American Camp Association

Tom Rosenberg has a distinguished career in the camp profession and a long resume of service to ACA. He most recently served as the executive director of Camp Judaea in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Prior to Camp Judaea, Tom spent more than two decades with Blue Star Camps in North Carolina, most of those years as a director. Tom is a past national treasurer and board member of the ACA as well as a past board president and treasurer of ACA Southeastern. A founding board member of the North Carolina Youth Camp Association, Tom was awarded the Henderson County Chamber of Commerce's inaugural Camp Industry Leadership Award as well as the American Camp Association's National Honor Award and ACA Southeastern's Distinguished Service Award. With an educational focus in business, Tom graduated with distinction from the Marshall School of Business at the University of Southern California with an MBA and from the AB Freeman School of Business at Tulane University with a BS in Management. He is also a graduate of ACA's Camp Director Institute. Tom melds his experience in the camp profession with business expertise, inspirational vision, successful fundraising experience, professional agility, organizational skills, and strategic focus — attributes that are essential to achieving success as ACA's President/CEO. We are indeed fortunate to have such a thoughtful, dedicated, and experienced leader who is willing to take his commitment to camp, youth development, and ACA to a greater level. Tom, his wife Pam Sugarman, and their son Daniel live in Atlanta, Georgia.

Keynote Speaker

Saturday November 16th 8:30 am - 10:00 am



Jim Cain, Ph.D.
Teamwork & Teamplay

Dr. Jim Cain is the author of 16 team and community building texts, including the classic Teamwork & Teamplay, A Teachable Moment, Find Something To Do! and his latest book, 100 Activities that Build Unity, Community & Connection. He is also the creator of the innovative T&T Training Cards.

He has traveled to all 50 states and 31 countries (so far), sharing his knowledge on subjects ranging from teamwork and leadership to creative problem solving and trust building. His train-the-trainer programs are legendary and his conference keynotes/playnotes are active, engaging and tremendously fun. With regard to Jim's group facilitation skills, Tom Leahy of NCCPS remarked, "Jim, you are a Jedi Master!"

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Session Breakout Tracks

Including the Keynotes, Preconference and COCAcademy, there will be 45-50 breakout sessions of which 10-12 will be eligible for CEU credit



Programming (activities, camp, siblings, young adults, family camp 5-7 sessions)

Unique and successful camp activities, themes, arts & crafts, outdoor programs. Sports, games, performing arts, animals, nature, cooking. The list is endless. What worked, what did not. Which activities are best for specific age ranges, camper capabilities.



Staff Development (training, recruiting, volunteer management 5-7 sessions)

How do you recruit, evaluate, and train your staff and volunteers? Do you have tips and tricks to engage returning staff and counselors?



Fundraising (special events, grants 5-7 sessions)

Great fundraisers? Silent auctions, fun runs. Fundraising event ideas to create an entertaining and engaging experience for donors. How to put on a successful fundraising event.



Child Development (5-7 sessions)

Child development entails the biological, psychological and emotional changes that occur in human beings between birth and the end of adolescence, as the individual progresses from dependency to increasing autonomy.



Medical/CEU Eligible (10-12 sessions)

Camp health care providers can expect to care for campers with any of the medical and psychological issues seen daily by primary pediatric providers. Attend sessions that address procedures/protocols/ training used to ensure the safety and well-being of your campers.



Operations (risk management, board issues, legal, accreditation 5-7 sessions)

Every camp faces many of these same operational issues. Insurance, Board development and management, succession planning, marketing and branding, hospital/clinic relations.

COC Academy 2019 **with Scott Arizala and Sarah Kurtz McKinnon**



Scott Arizala
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Sarah Kurtz McKinnon
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What is the COCAcademy?

Something New! Something Just for You!

The COCAcademy is an invigorating departure from traditional conference tracks. Each workshop will turbocharge your inner expert by immersing you in challenging scenarios, simultaneously led by two camp professionals - Scott Arizala and Sarah Kurtz McKinnon.

For more information, see the Syllabus on the following pages.

Syllabus

FRIDAY, November 15th

10:15--11:15 **Leadership, Supervision, & Management Part 1 of 2: *Positive Management Principles***

Leadership development (Attendance at both sessions is recommended.)

Let's face it: Our staff members and volunteers can sometimes really irritate us. It is easy to get annoyed when things go wrong—sometimes, it seems like our staff just aren't listening, or that they are even messing up on purpose! In this session, we will workshop what it takes to build a positive camp culture, where directors are guides and not police officers; where staff and volunteers ask the right questions (but not too many!); and where a foundation of mutual respect between supervisors and supervisees is built so that everyone at camp can learn and grow together.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Participants will learn what it means to have a positive camp culture
2. Participants will learn management techniques that use positive psychology in order to have productive and generative interactions with staff and volunteers
3. Participants will practice challenging management scenarios and work to determine how to address them while maintaining a positive camp culture

11:30--12:30 **Leadership, Supervision, & Management Part 2 of 2**

Leadership development

- Continuation of 10:15--11:15 session.
- Attendance at both sessions is recommended.

2:00--3:00 **Can I talk to you for a minute? Difficult Management Conversations Part 1 of 2**

Leadership development (Attendance at both sessions is recommended.)

The most sought after leadership training topic is working through difficult management conversations. This session covers the essential skills and characteristics that leaders and managers need to have effective and successful conversations. We will cover the six steps in every conversation, practical techniques and tips for each step, strategic language, and approach & response suggestions. We will broaden the framework of how we think about corrective conversations, by including ideas about building a culture of feedback at your camp and organization.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Participants will learn the outline of difficult management conversations
2. Participants will learn and discuss techniques for each step of the outline
3. We will workshop several leadership ideas and skills that create the foundation for more successful conversations.

3:15--4:15 **Difficult Management Conversations Role Plays Part 2 of 2**

Leadership development We will put it all into action in this interactive session. We will practice, debrief, and continue the conversation about meaningful and effective difficult conversations.

- Continuation of 10:15--11:15 session.
- Attendance at both sessions is recommended.

SATURDAY, November 16th

11:00--12:00 **Staff Training Part 1 of 2: *Teach Staff How to Think, Not What to Do***

Staff development (Attendance at both sessions is recommended.)

Training your staff and volunteers can seem like an impossible task. You have a limited amount of time (in some cases, just a few hours!) and you have staff at all different levels of experience. Most of us end up relying on the default: the efficient (albeit boring) lecture. However, staff training doesn't have to go this way. In this workshop, we will show you how to teach your staff *how to think* instead of *what to do*. No two kids or no two days at camp are ever exactly the same—it is most important to teach camp staff how to handle ambiguity.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Participants will reassess staff training schedule practices in order to maximize staff members' practical learning
2. Participants will learn hands-on techniques for training staff how to think and manage ambiguity
3. Participants will take away at least three interactive staff training modules that they can institute at their camps right away.

1:30--2:30 **Staff Training Part 2 of 2**

Staff development

- Continuation of 10:15--11:15 session.
- Attendance at both sessions is recommended.

2:45--3:45 **The Behavior Session: *Why do they do what they do?!?* Part 1 of 2**

Youth Development (Attendance at both sessions is recommended.)

Unfortunately, most discussions about camper behavior are about dealing with the negative stuff. However, there is a direct correlation between getting support, guidance, and creating the right environment for positive behavior and a decrease in negative behavior. So we are missing a big part of the conversation! This session will strike a balance by digging into the best techniques for supporting positive behavior as well as working through challenging behavior, including ideas and strategies for supporting campers with special needs. You'll leave this session with the best ideas in behavior management and ways to support and sustain these behaviors as the culture of your camp.

1. Participants will learn the philosophical underpinnings of seeing behavior as an expression and how to teach to under-developed skills.
 2. We will discuss and share strategies and techniques for supporting and guiding the best behavior and choices.
 3. Participants will learn how to strategies and techniques for working with challenging camper behavior.
 4. Participants will having a working knowledge of how to train, coach, and supervise their frontline staff on these ideas and principles.
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4:00--5:00 **The Behavior Session: *Why do they do what they do?!?* Part 2 of 2**

*Youth
Development*

- Continuation of 2:45-3:45 session.
- Attendance at both sessions is recommended.