

INTRODUCTION

Child and Youth Care Work seems to be going through a similar pattern of growth to the one followed by many new workers. In our first year, we learned the ropes and found out that we have what it takes. In our second year, we polished the basics and began feeling comfortable with our role. And now in our third year, we are continuing to polish, expanding horizons, and getting serious about hanging around for awhile.

In the first section of this issue, Words, we are asked to give more thought to the words we use in our practice. Dana Lewis (*Words, Things and Fuzzy Sets in Child Care*) begins by encouraging us to examine the meaning of words more carefully and then Craig Waggoner (*A Call For Contributions to a Lexicon for Child Care Workers*) invites us to participate in developing a professional dictionary. Next, in a section titled *Tips and Thoughts*, two workers share some ideas and suggestions on two basic areas of practice: behavior management and activity planning. John Sullivan (*The Art of Working With Manipulators*) offers helpful suggestions for dealing with a pattern of behavior that has frustrated most of us at one time or another. Chris Gudgeon (*We Can Work It Out*) encourages us to get the kids involved in weight training and gives us some tips for getting started.

The Feature Article section includes two research articles and a concept paper. Bill Wasmund (*Personality Characteristics of Group Therapists in Adolescent Residential Settings*) tests the hypothesis that the personality characteristics of positive peer group leaders differ significantly from characteristics of individuals involved in more traditional therapy. Kim Townley and Kathy Thornburg (*Burnout in Infant and Toddler Child Care Staff Members*) identify variables which contribute to a process that has plagued the field for years. This article is our first contribution from the early childhood segment of the profession.

We close the second section with Karen Vander Ven's, "From Child Care to Developmental Life Cycle Caregiving: A Proposal for Future Growth." She challenges us, as she has in the past, to broaden the scope of our thinking and action as caregivers.

Fred Schreier (*The Death of a Child Care Worker*) gives us our first short story. His graphic account of a series of disastrous events in the lives of two workers painfully reminds us of what the work can be like without professional support. Two "old" pros, Ray Peterson and George

Cohen, round out the issue with reviews of two recent contributions to the literature. Their insightful comments about "Group Care Practice with Children" (Ainsworth and Fulcher, 1985) and "Working with Troubled Youth" (Savicki and Brown, 1982) entice us to take a further look at these current texts.

Also included is an announcement for the first Al Trieschman Prize. This is a groundbreaking international competition for the best original contribution to the literature of child care and applied child development. Finally, this issue marks the beginning of a cooperative relationship with the Child and Youth Care Learning Center at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The Center will serve as the editorial home and be responsible for printing and binding the journal.