

CAMP KEEN
CAMP EVERGREEN
CAMP SINCLAIR
DAYTON YMCA CAMPING
1940

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

Dayton, Ohio

DON D. BATTELLE
PRESIDENT
MAURICE F. GOGLE
GENERAL SECRETARY

117 WEST MONUMENT AVENUE
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October 21, 1940

Board of Trustees,
Dayton Y M C A,
Dayton, Ohio.

Gentlemen:

A thoughtful reading of the following 1940 camping season report reveals that it has been a successful one. Credit for this success is due Mr. Roehm, his associates, camp leaders and the Camp Committee.

Your Camp Committee, in no spirit of criticism or condemnation, but in one of frankness and a burning desire to see our Association camping program on a par with the other "Y" activities, feels that as long as this phase of our work is handicapped as it is, we are losing a most valuable opportunity in the building up of our boys' department, and in the character development of our youth.

The physical equipment of Camp Kern is inadequate. The site itself has many drawbacks. Swimming and boating in the Little Miami River are far from satisfactory. While Camp Kern has back of it fine traditions, in this day of campers' demands and camp competition, tradition is not sufficient. Your Camp Committee sees no possibility for enlarging our Camp program until our entire organization - trustees, staff and members, realize that it is impossible to operate a 1940 camp with an outmoded 1925 equipment.

Unless our Association, in the very near future, takes a long forward step in this exceedingly important phase of our work, we will find this door of opportunity closing in our faces.

Your Committee urges that this matter be given not only the Board's most serious thought, but also definite, aggressive action. Your Committee awaits your recommendations.

Sincerely,


Chairman, Camp Committee.

FOREWORD

The word "camping" in its earlier connotation does not carry with it what we mean by "camping" under the direction of the YMCA. Perhaps we can approach it best by defining what it is not.

Camping is not :

1. A semi-military set-up with numerous lineups, salutes, and K. P. discipline.
2. A place where young boys are subjected to unnecessary hardships to make them tough.
3. A repetition of the building gymnasium program with setting-up exercises, gymnastics, and baseball leagues.

Camping is instead :

1. A chance to live harmoniously in the out-of-doors with few of the artificial restrictions of life in the city.
2. Association with God's handiwork in nature's many forms, and an appreciation of things of the spirit.
3. A controlled environment for constructive guidance and all-round development.
4. A place where reasonable comforts are afforded to safeguard health and safety.
5. A program that utilizes the environment of lake or stream, woods, rocks, trees, plant and animal life.
6. An educational experience supplementing the work of the schools. Many schools have their own summer camps because they realize the advantages camps have in the learning process.

Camping is the high point experience in the life of a boy and gives the camp staff an unexcelled opportunity for the building of character. As part of an all-year program with boys it can accomplish much more proportional to the time involved than the program in the YMCA building or club.

The building program for boys and the camping program should supplement and reinforce each other. If either is inadequate or obsolete, the other is bound to suffer.

We need to find a way to close the gap in our all-year program of boys' work services and be able to offer Dayton boys a camp with equipment and facilities to match our modern building.

Ralph D. Roehm,
Camp Director.

Report on Cooperative Use of Camp Evergreen
Owned by Springfield YMCA
by the
Dayton YMCA - June 10 - 20 - 1940

When it became apparent that Camp Ross-Hocking, the government built camp near Chillicothe, would not be available for use this summer, the Camp Committee was in something of a quandary. Several possibilities were investigated, among them Camp Nelson Dodd operated by the Ohio Area Council and Camp Alfred Willson owned by the Columbus YMCA. Neither of these camps were available and it was February 15th when it was learned that there was a possibility of using Camp Evergreen, the Springfield YMCA camp. After some negotiation, the period June 10 - 20 was arranged for Dayton boys.

The period held at Evergreen this summer was satisfactory in every respect. It gave Dayton boys a fine camp experience on a small lake with excellent swimming, boating and canoeing facilities. The management of the dining room and store was in the hands of Willis Miller, Springfield Boys' Work Secretary and his staff. We paid a flat rate of \$13.00 per boy for the ten-day camp period. A credit for leadership provided by Dayton and for promotion was allowed on this total.

The Dayton YMCA had full charge of the camp program while in camp. Since fewer leaders are required at Camp Kern, four Springfield staff members were used during the Dayton period at our request. They made a fine contribution to the life of the camp and added much because of their past experience in the camp. A fine cooperative spirit characterized the relationships of the Dayton and Springfield groups.

The meals were adequate and varied, and quite satisfying. The weather was good for early June; only two rains falling during the period.

Ninety-four boys and a staff of twenty enjoyed this experience greatly, and would like to repeat it next year, or until such time as the Dayton YMCA camp expansion plans are realized.

CAMP KERN

A rehabilitation program was begun this summer at Camp Kern which made the camp more desirable. Among the improvements were :

1. A new shower house.
2. A new swimming pier.
3. New built-in bunks with springs and mattresses
in two cabins.
4. New roofing on several cabins.

The swimming was better than last year inasmuch as there was less rain and consequently less high, muddy water. However, the Warren County Board of Health asked the camp to refrain from swimming in the river at one time during the summer.

Attendance was up to capacity - 75 - the first two weeks, but fell off in the second two weeks. The scheduling of a County week will eliminate the crowding and spread the group over the entire period.

A total of 143 different campers were enrolled at Camp Kern under the auspices of the Central YMCA. The Fifth Street YMCA used the camp for a ten-day period, and the Dayton Boys' Club for a similar time at the close of the season.

Day Camp Sinclair

Sinclair Park on Shoup Mill Road was the site for the fifth year of YMCA day camping. Chartered buses took the boys to the park each morning and returned them to the YMCA in the afternoon for a swim. Each boy brought his own lunch and the camp furnished milk. A highly successful season of eight weeks operated between June 25 and August 16. One hundred and eighty-five different boys were enrolled in Day Camp in 1940, and these boys attended a total of 863 days.

Attendance Summary - 1940
Camps Evergreen, Kern, and Sinclair

Different Boys Served in Camp - 602
Total Camping Days Attendance During Season

Central YMCA - Established Camp	-	3,302
Central YMCA - Day Camp	-	<u>1,073</u>
Total - Central YMCA	-	4,375
Fifth St. YMCA	-	840
Dayton Boys' Club	-	<u>860</u>
Grand Total Camping Days	-	6,075

A TYPICAL DAY'S PROGRAM AT CAMP

- 7:00 A.M. - Everybody up! Wash and dress!
- 7:20 A.M. - "Sunrise Circle" devotions
- 7:30 A.M. - Flag raising and personal inspection
- 7:45 A.M. - Breakfast (followed by doctor's call)
- 8:15 A.M. - Work period (cabin and camp duties)
- 9:00 A.M. - Recreation period - Boating, Nature Study, Crafts, Tennis
- 10:15 A.M. - Instruction and passing of swimming tests - Beginners
- 11:00 A.M. - Instruction and passing of swimming tests - Intermediates
- 11:45 A.M. - Leaders meeting - by villages
- 12:30 P.M. - Dinner
- 1:15 P.M. - Rest hour -- an inactive period for reading, writing letters
or sleeping
- 2:00 P.M. - Crafts - Ta-Wa-Si village
Boats - Os-Wen-Ta and Wa-Cin-Yan villages
- 3:15 P.M. - Crafts - Os-Wen-Ta and Wa-Cin-Yan villages
Boats - Ta-Wa-Si village
- 4:30 P.M. - Swimming Period
- 5:30 P.M. - Flag Ceremony
- 5:45 P.M. - Supper
- 6:15 P.M. - Store Open
- 6:45 P.M. - Recreation period
a. Mass games, softball, aerial dart, tennis, treasure hunt,
etc.
b. Boating
- 8:00 P.M. - Evening Program - general campfire for all groups will be
held in Council Ring. Villages will have own
meeting several nights.
- 8:45 P.M. - Bed time (younger boys must be in bed by 9:00 at the very
9:15 latest and older section by 9:30)
Evening devotions - ten minutes to get ready for bed and
ten minutes for devotions
Sunday Schedule - A special schedule will be issued for
Sunday.

CAMP COUNSELORS TRAINING COURSE

DAYTON Y M C A

June 8 and 9, 1940

Saturday, June 8

FIRST SESSION

1:00 P.M.

Prayer.
Introduction of Counselors and staff members.
Camp Evergreen - Equipment and buildings.
Villages - Ta-wa-si, Os-wen-ta, Wa-cin-yen.
Councils.
Objectives of modern camping - camp, parents, boys.

2:00 P.M.

The Counselor and group guidance.
Helping individual boys.

3:00 P.M.

Swim in pool.

SECOND SESSION

4:00 P.M.

Devotional periods - "Sunrise Circle" Chapel.
Bible Story Contest, Bedtime Devotions.
Religion in Life.

5:00 P.M.

Adjournment.

Sunday, June 9

THIRD SESSION (At Camp Evergreen)

6:30 P.M.

Evergreen traditions.
Program of the Day.
Records and Forms.