History of the Boys' Brigade
THE OBJECT of The Boys' Brigade shall be "the advancement of Christ's Kingdom among boys and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self-Respect and all that tends toward a true Christian Manliness."
Dr. J. E. Chapin
Founder of The Boys' Brigade in Neenah, Wisconsin
They Wanted an Army

A GROUP of six boys were seated on the steps of the old Michelson Hall (site of Neenah's Post Office) one night in the late fall of 1899. The nine o'clock curfew had already sounded. These boys had something on their minds. Presently Dr. J. E. Chapin, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Neenah, happened by and questioned the boys as to why they were in disobedience of the curfew regulations. Not every man would have understood the problems of boyhood, but Dr. Chapin was one who did. The boys sitting on the steps of Michelson Hall wanted an "army." The patriotic fervor of the Spanish-American War was still warm, and these boys wanted a place where they could meet with their friends and where they could have military drill. After a brief conversation, Dr. Chapin said, "Boys, we'll see what can be done."

Something was done. On January 22, 1900, the Boys' Brigade was born in Neenah, with the following forty-six charter members:

Sam Allender  Fred Fenton  Dan Kimberly  Ben Kraemer
Robert Barnett  Henry Fenton  Hubert Lansing  Ben Leavens
George Baum  Jay Gillingham  John LeTourneaux  Fred Nitzel
Harry Bishop  George Handler  Rodman Oshier  Henry Paine
Byron Bell  Frank Hughes  John LeTourneaux  David Price
Howard Buxton  Norman Hawkinson  Fred Nitzel  Eli Parmenter
Thomas Clausen  Henry Hanson  Henry Paine
William Davis  Ben Haertl
Harry Fish  Ralph Hoeper
Harvey Fish  Paul Hoeper
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<th>Henry Rabe</th>
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<td>George Sande</td>
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During the remaining years of his ministry (to 1903), Dr. Chapin induced men of his congregation and community to take positions of leadership in the newly-organized Boys' Brigade. Among the early leaders were Charles Johnson, Oscar Lindsey, George Jones and Vernon Holden, who acted as Captain and Drill Master. Holden was succeeded by James Sorensen.

In 1901, Mr. Shattuck, at Dr. Chapin's insistence, took over the leadership for a brief period, and this brief period stretched out into a life association.

Dr. Chapin died in 1911. For many years thereafter a memorial service was held about his grave, commemorating his own life and service and that of successive Boys' Brigaders who had passed from this life.

In the summer of 1909 Mr. and Mrs. Shattuck journeyed to Europe. While in Britain they were guests of Sir William Smith, founder of the British Boys' Brigade. They saw all they could of the British organization, met many of the leaders, and were impressed by the simplicity of the British organization and uniform in contrast to the overdone methods and nomenclature of the American organization which had taken root in our middle Eastern states.

Returning in the late fall of that year, the work in Neenah was patterned approximately after the British model. From then on our association with the overseas organization and its leaders has been close and cordial.
S. F. Shattuck
He has lived with the Boys’ Brigade for 60 years.
How Our Organization Grew . . .

When we think of the Boys' Brigade, we think of people. We think of the thousands of boys and men who have given something of themselves to make the Brigade what it is today.

Buildings of brick and mortar are needed, but the building of lives is our goal.

The Brigade has had many "homes" during its sixty-two years of service. A review of the Brigade's "homes" is part of the story of "How Our Organization Grew."

At the turn of the century (1900) there stood on the property now occupied by the Neenah Post Office a low-lying brick building known as Michelson's Hall. It was on the steps of this hall that Dr. Chapin found six boys one night, late in 1899, who wanted "an army." Early Brigade meetings and drills were held in this hall. When the U. S. Government took over this property, Brigade activities were moved to a roller rink that stood on the canal bank, north of West Wisconsin Avenue; thence to the lecture room of the Presbyterian Church, which, at that time, occupied land on the west side of Church Street, now used for a parking lot. The lecture room had a cork floor covering, and to protect it, a canvas of the same size was spread across the floor on drill nights. This was a dual-purpose canvas. In the Brigade's early camps at Mud Creek, it was hung between two trees and served as a mess tent!

The next habitat was a so-called "gymnasium" built in 1905
on a plot of ground now occupied by the Bergstrom Paper Company’s boiler house. This was a wooden structure covered with corrugated metal. Walls were stuffed with shavings for winter comfort. From the outside the building resembled a warehouse. On the inside was a 40’ × 80’ open floor with a gallery for spectators along the north wall. Under the gallery was a space for changing clothes, and in the northwest corner was a coal-fired furnace that did its best to combat winter temperatures. Weekly drills were held here and balance of time given to basketball and other games.

This building served a useful purpose through the years of the first world war and up to 1928, when the Bergstrom Paper Company purchased the real estate for a new boiler house.

DEVELOPMENTS OF THE ’20s

1928 was an eventful year. The old “gym” disappeared, the Danke Creamery property at 211 South Commercial Street was purchased, and Wesley Hall, of the Methodist Church, became available for mass activities of the Brigade. The remodeled creamery building provided space for office, a few group rooms on the ground floor and seating for fifty people on the upper level. Then came the fire in 1937 that destroyed the Methodist Church and its Wesley Hall.

Fortunately, there came with the Danke purchase, two 60’ × 120’ lots, fronting on South Commercial Street and Columbian Avenue. Plans were drawn for a quonset-like gymnasium extending westward from the rear of the creamery building. Money ($32,000) was forthcoming and the gymnasium-drill hall came into being late in 1938. These facilities carried the organization through the 1940’s and up to the mid-1950’s, when
it became obvious that more space must be had. The Directors of The Boys’ Brigade Association were confronted with the alternative of going to the outskirts of the city and erecting a building suitable for its burgeoning organization, or planning a new building on its “L-shaped” property facing South Commercial Street and Columbian Avenue. The latter alternative was chosen.

Gordon Altenhofen and Jack Casper, after months of planning, in which the ideas of many leaders were assembled, and, with the helpful advice of Walter Wilde, of the Fluor Brothers organization, came up with a building program that seemed to meet every need. Considerable money ($374,000) was required, and this was produced by Old Boys and many friends of the Brigade. The old creamery building was retained, but underwent a facelifting to conform to the new structure. The gymnasium, built in 1938, was razed to make room for the enlarged quarters. The cornerstone of the new building was laid, with proper ceremony, on November 18, 1956, and the formal dedication occurred on January 20, 1957.

EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS BY MR. D. K. BROWN ON THE OCCASION OF THE CORNERSTONE LAYING CEREMONY NOVEMBER 18, 1956:

On this occasion, the purpose of which is the cornerstone laying of this splendid new building, it is a privilege to say a few words on behalf of the Directors of The Boys’ Brigade Association.

In this community we see much evidence of business expansion, and increasing population, which is indeed gratifying. We also see a commensurate growth in our churches, and now we see this structure nearing completion which will be dedicated to the youth of the Twin Cities for the building of character, which can truly be called an investment in human nature.

During the Brigade lifetime over 3,000 boys have passed through
its ranks, representing about 15,000 boy years. They are scattered all over the globe, and their Brigade training has been manifest wherever they have gone. I need not stress the effect the Brigade has had on the reduction of juvenile delinquency in our locality.

As you know, the Brigade is a part of the Community Chest, and glad to be so, which largely covers operating expenses, but the capital investment in buildings and equipment, both past and present, has been privately provided.

There are 353 boys now enrolled, with Gordon Altenhofen as Captain, and 62 voluntary leaders. It is fitting to state that these leaders are the backbone of the organization. Let me also at this time express deep appreciation to all former officers and leaders who have had a large part in the growth and success of the organization, as well as to Jack Casper for his devoted service as coordinator of operations.

The motto of the Boys’ Brigade begins with the words, “The advancement of Christ’s Kingdom among Boys.” In these critical times what better purpose could be imagined than to instill these words into the minds and hearts of all Brigaders so they may go out into the world to work for peace and good will among men.

THIRD FLOOR, 1960

Addition of the third floor in 1960 illustrates the response of the program to new needs and opportunities as they develop.

During 1959 certain of the leadership group were disturbed over the proportion of American boys who are disqualified from Military Service due to physical unfitness. $800 was voted by the directors of The Boys’ Brigade Association to equip a basement room for a body building experiment. Dick Meyer assumed the leadership of this activity. The experiment “took.” More space had to be provided. Happily, the supporting walls of the south wing of the new building were planned for an additional floor. Fluor Brothers Construction Company was
again called in and the third floor was built during the spring, summer and early fall of 1960.

Thus was born another useful activity under the direction of Dick Meyer, George Chedomir, Ken Jarman, Jim Murphy, Al Bigalke, Dick Jelinski and Allan Harding.

Building costs were $73,479.64  
Equipment 4,217.93  
\[ \text{Total: } 77,697.57 \]

During November of 1960 Yale’s famed swimming coach, Robert Kiphuth, was induced to come to Neenah to counsel with our physical fitness leaders, and the next year (1961), at Jim Murphy’s invitation, the gymnastic team from the University of Wisconsin put on a memorable exhibition.

**COMMUNITY USE OF BRIGADE FACILITIES**

When the new building was planned and dedicated in January, 1957, it was foreseen that many community organizations would solicit time and space not reserved for the Brigade program. That demand has exceeded our expectation. Forty-three community groups have been served. The following are typical:

- Women’s Tuesday Club
- National Guard use of rifle range
- Church youth groups
- Campers & Hikers Club
- Golden Age Club
- City Recreation Department
- Election polling place
- Blood bank
- Boy and Girl Scouts
Y.W.C.A.
Churches and Sunday Schools
Rehearsal facilities for school bands and orchestras
Police Department meetings
Post Office department meetings
Welfare department meetings
Union-Management negotiation meetings
High School Girls' Rifle Club
Women's physical education class

PRIDE IN THE BUILDING

The new Boys' Brigade building has been in constant use for five years since its dedication in 1957. Hundreds of boys have used it, and no one has abused it. They have cared for it as if they owned it. Hats off to the gentlemanly conduct of Twin City boys!

Great Spirit, help me never to judge another until I have walked in his moccasins for two weeks.
—Sioux Indian Prayer
Nothing Goes Without

LEADERSHIP

All will agree that buildings are significant, but nothing worthwhile moves and endures without dedicated leadership. The Boys' Brigade has had just that, and while we pay tribute to the male leadership, let us not overlook the self-sacrificing interest of wives and mothers. Without their cooperation the job could not be done.

Space does not permit mention of all of the men who, through the quality and quantity of their service, have contributed to the vitality of the Boys' Brigade over these many years. It seems fair, however, to mention these few:

During the latter years of Mr. Shattuck's active leadership, Harry Thomas, now resident in Waukegan, Illinois, did "yeoman" service. E. C. Draheim, now a citizen of Rhinelander, Waldemar Bergstrom, deceased, and Kevill Larson, carried the work through the war years of 1917-18.

In September, 1919, Leo O. Schubart, who served with the A.E.F., became Captain of the Boys' Brigade. He served in this capacity till 1934, remaining in the organization as a group leader. Subsequently he became a founder, director and eventually President of The Boys' Brigade Association. Under his captaincy, the Brigade movement in Neenah moved into the group program, which provided opportunity for service to many men of the community who have not only given of
their talents to the work, but have enriched their own lives through this fellowship of boys and men.

In 1934, Lyall C. Stilp was elected Captain and carried on until 1941, at which time he was appointed advisor of the Brigade. He was a founding member of The Boys’ Brigade Association, and later served for many years as secretary. At this writing Lyall is Vice President of the Association.

At this juncture, Paul Stacke was elected to the captaincy. Paul served until December, 1942, when he joined the Marines.

Howard Neubauer succeeded Paul Stacke, until Kimberly-Clark transferred him to Coosa, Alabama, in 1946.

Howard Anermeyer then did a six-year term in the captaincy, from 1946 to 1952. He later became a Director of The Boys’ Brigade Association. Howard took over at the close of World War II, when the Brigade was on a plateau. He built up the leadership staff, increased the enrollment and enriched the program. All though the years his time and talents have been at the service of the Brigade.

Chester Wittenborn was thereupon elected to the office and served for two years, until Marathon moved him to Kansas City in late 1953.

Following Chet came Gordon Altenhofen, whose organizing ability brought the Brigade through a period of rapid growth, from 1953 to 1958. It was during this era that the new building fronting on Columbian Avenue was built. Within the present year (1962) Gordon was transferred by “Canco” to Green Bay, taking with him the good wishes of a host of Boys’ Brigade friends.

Dave Jones took over the office of Captain in 1958. His term of office is characterized by mounting membership and by a corresponding increase in leadership personnel.
During the latter days of the old “gym,” built in 1938. This building was demolished in 1956 to make room for the new Brigade home, dedicated in January, 1957.
The Danke Building purchased in 1928. At the rear, the gymnasium built in 1938.

D. K. Brown speaks for the directors of The Boys' Brigade Association at the cornerstone laying November 18, 1956. Left to right: Dr. Ira Schlagenhauf, Gordon Altenhofen, Leo Schubart, George Massey, D. K. Brown.

JACK CASPER ENTERS THE PICTURE

Coming into 1951 it became apparent that the burden of detail was too great to be carried by men with full-time jobs. The answer was to find someone with the personality and the adaptability to fit in as a coordinator of program and personnel. Jack Casper, then employed in a local dental laboratory, had shown an interest in work of the Brigade. It took little urging to induce him to ease into the program, for he had within himself an urge for social service. Not only has he given invaluable support to successive Captains, but his counsel and service is sought by numerous social and civic organizations of the community, including the Neenah Rotary Club.

Jack cast his lot with the Boys' Brigade, full-time, in April 1951. No man is ever indispensable, but Jack comes close to being that man.

OUTSTANDING BRIGADER AWARD

Annually, the Outstanding Brigader Award is made to the senior boy who, in the estimation of the leadership, has done most for the Brigade and for the younger boys of the company. This is a difficult decision for the adult leaders to make. There are always so many others who have done outstanding jobs.

Following is a listing of Outstanding Brigader Awards since its institution at the end of the 1949-50 season:

Richard Jelinski 1949-50
Dean Wisthoff 1950-51
William McKinnon 1951-52
Aubrey Fowler 1952-53
John Owen 1953-54
Robert Neubauer 1954-55
Lyall Stilp, Jr. 1955-56
Robert Graham 1956-57
Dick Werling 1957-58
Steve Stilp 1958-59
John Lenz 1959-60
Robin Graebner 1960-61
Jim Hedlund 1961-62

MINIWANCA SCHOLARSHIPS

Another recognition of inestimable value is a scholarship to the Christian leadership camp of the American Youth Foundation, at Camp Miniwanka, on the east shore of Lake Michigan. This award was also established in 1950, first to one boy and, later, to two top-flight boys each year. There they associate with boys from many states and other countries.

1950 Richard Jelinski
1951 Dean Wisthoff
1952 William Kutscher
1953 Aubrey Fowler
1954 Jim Steffen
   George Kresse
   Chuck Hutchins
1955 Gene Schultz
    Robert Neubauer
1956 Donald Miller
    David Peck
1957 Tom Kuehl (Don Meyer went as an alternate)
    Don Pansch
1958 Dick Werling
    Ronnie Larson
1959 Steve Stilp (Todd Boehm went as an alternate)
    John Lenz

In 1954 three boys received this award because of a three-way tie.
1960  John Severson
      Peter Koerwitz
1961  Jim Hedlund
      David Hanson
1962  James Johnson
      Robert Wisniewski

While announcements of the Outstanding Brigader Award and winners of Miniwanca scholarships are the most dramatic features of Award Night, the most moving and meaningful moments are when Junior and Senior boys come forward with their sixth grade groups. This represents leadership training at its best.
Camps

IT WAS during the summer of 1903 that the first camp of the Boys’ Brigade was held near Stockbridge, on the east shore of Lake Winnebago. That camp was named “Camp Chapin” in honor of the Brigade founder. Mr. Shattuck, telling of the first camp, related how the Brigaders were packed into a forty-five foot boat, named the “Callavine,” (property of S. F. Shattuck and C. B. Clark), and made the crossing to the east shore of Lake Winnebago without accident. This was in the early days of the gasoline engine. Two or three early owners of power boats assisted in getting the boys to and from camp.

During the summers of 1904 and 1905, camps were held on the same site adjoining a little harbor known as “Mud Creek.”

TO THE DELLS OF THE WISCONSIN

In 1906, the Brigade was ready for further adventure. Under Mr. Shattuck’s leadership, a water-borne expedition to the Dells of the Wisconsin was proposed. This was before the dam below the Dells was built, which raised the water at the Dells and destroyed much of its scenic beauty. The old “Callavine” was again pressed into service, and Mowry and Carlton Smith, who were members of the Brigade, took their power boat. It was a rough and rugged trip compared with the luxuries of Camp Onaway. At the Dells a tent camp was set up for a few
The camp hike, 1905

1904 camp, east shore,
Lake Winnebago

By boat to Fremont, 1907. On return trip, they took shelter at Garlic Island during storm.
Bunks in the early days at Onaway, front to rear: Leo Schubart, Glen Osborn, Clarence Peterson, Dudley Young, Tom Price

The Old Mess Hall

First camp at Waupaca, 1907
Arriving Waupaca by train, 1915

Four-mile hike from Waupaca to boat landing

Woodrow Jensen, 1911. No one was ever gladder to reach the sixth grade and the Boys' Brigade!
A group of Onaway campers, 1915

Onaway campers, from one tent, 1916. Sam Ornstein, Harry Fricke, Edmund Lachman, Bill Jorgenson, John Hilton, Emalyn Owen

The camp of 1926
Camp in tow

Pete Weitz and Art Krause—early morning milk detail
Glasgow, 1909. Left to right: Norman Cave Allan, Lieut. in 1st, Glasgow; Sir William A. Smith, founder of the Boys' Brigade; Mr. Shattuck; Stanley Smith, Lt. in 1st, Glasgow.
1962 Miniwanca Scholarships presented to Bob Wisniewski and Jim Johnson by Mr. Shattuck

Dave Jones bestows Outstanding Camper award on Bill Casper, 1962.
days. Meals were not such as present-day parents would approve. Such cooking as was done was performed by George Handler over an open fire.

**THE WAUPACA LAKES**

The next year, 1907, was another rough and tumble sort of a camp—leaving Neenah by boat, sleeping the first night in a lumber yard at Fremont, then loading our belongings, including camp stove, tents and supplies onto a horse-drawn dray, leaders and boys hiked from Fremont to the Waupaca lakes. Mr. Shattuck says he never did know how the whole gang ever got together for a nine o'clock supper at the camp site on Columbian Lake. But once established, the camp was a success, with meals of top quality cooked by Bertha Spiegelberg, who became as popular with boys of that day as did “Ma” Dick and Hilda Kohl with boys of later generations.

**DISCOVERY OF ONAWAY ISLAND**

It was on one of the exploratory trips during this camp that a six-acre island between Rainbow and Hick’s lakes was discovered. The island was completely overgrown with bush and poison ivy, but it looked good to the Neenah boys. Over the following fall and winter, conversations were had with the owners, and permission was obtained to camp there in June of 1908, and again in 1910 and 1911.

After three years of experimenting, the island was bought in 1912 by Messrs. Harwood and Shattuck and christened “Onaway” (Indian for “wide-awake.”) Mr. F. J. Harwood, of the Congregational Church of Appleton, had at this time es-
established a Boys' Brigade company in his church, and for several years the two companies camped together and put on joint demonstration drills in the two cities. Subsequently the Appleton Boys' Brigade faded out and was supplanted by the Scout movement.

In 1914 the island property was turned over to a corporation known as the Onaway Camping Association. Stockholders of this Association were F. J. Harwood, S. F. Shattuck, C. H. Sage, Miss Helen Babcock, Miss Elizabeth Babcock, T. E. Orbison, Leo O. Schubart and Lyall C. Stilp.

Thus, through the following decades, camping at Onaway has been the climax of each year's program.

**ONAWAY DEEDED TO WISCONSIN SYNOD OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Coming into the decade of the 50's, it became obvious that the limited use of Onaway Island by the Brigade and kindred organizations could not produce income sufficient to cover operating costs, replacements and occasional new buildings, boats, kitchen equipment, etc. Mr. Shattuck had picked up the deficit tabs across the years and couldn't be expected to live forever. No other director of the Onaway Camping Association was interested in stepping into his shoes. The alternative appeared to be the finding of some organization with a broader financial base to whom the island might be given. Conversations were carried on over several years with the Presbyterian Synod of Wisconsin. On June 7, 1955, a deed of gift was signed, giving the Onaway property to the Wisconsin Synod of the Presbyterian Church, provided they raised $50,000 (which they did), to guarantee proper maintenance of buildings and grounds.
In this deed of gift was a paragraph assuring the Boys’ Brigade of two weeks’ camping privileges each year.

The Synod created a governing committee of five, on which the Boys’ Brigade is represented.

Actually, Leo Schubart, Howard Angermeyer, Jack Casper and other leaders have, as of this writing (1962), taken over all Onaway maintenance problems, including opening and closing of camp, year after year.

**OUTSTANDING CAMPER AWARD**

This award, established in 1931, brings to view a typical list of top-flight young Americans who will be of service to their generation wherever they go.

1931  Donald Meyer  1951  Wayne Holz
1932  Donald Meyer  1952  John Owen
1933  Carlton Krause  1953  James Steffen
1935  Howard Angermeyer  1954  Charles Hutchins
1936  Robert Hansen  1955  Lyall Stilp, Jr.
1937  Robert Jackson  1956  Stephen Schultz
1938  Harold Borenz  1957  William Kuehl
1939  Harland Hesselman  1958  Olivier Hoppe
1940  Donald Erdmann  1959  —  Gary Tollefson—
1941  Robert Stecker  1959  Younger Boys’ Camp
1942  Jack Renner  1959  David Hanson
1943  William Roth  1959  —  Larry Button—
1944  Charles Bentzen  1959  Younger Boys’ Camp
1945  Charles Bentzen  1960  Peter Sorensen
1946  Eugene Brooks  1960  Barry Mallow—
1947  James Kellett  1960  Younger Boys’ Camp
1948  Walter Bredendick  1961  Chuck Wolf
1949  Richard Jorgensen  1961  Larry Button
1950  Peter Thomsen  1962  William Casper
International Camps and Contacts

DENMARK 1951

In 1951 came an invitation from the Danish branch of the Boys' Brigade, known as Frivilligt Drenge-Forbund, to send a delegation to an international camp at Marselisborg, in Denmark, the following year (July 15-22, 1952). Our acceptance was instant. Funds were forthcoming and on July 3, 1952, Chet Wittenborn, leader, with three boys, Bill McKinnon, Ralph Kinsel and Aubrey Fowler, left for the overseas adventure, stopping in England enroute, and making valued contacts with British boys and leaders, notably Reverend Tom Richardson, Vicar of Nottingham, and the Smith Brothers, Stanley and Douglas, sons of Sir William.

This camp added another valued friend in the person of Reverend Jens Daniel Bitsch-Larsen, one of the Danish Brigade leaders.

ENGLAND 1954

The next exposure to the courtesies of our overseas cousins came in 1954, when Gordon Altenhofen and Jack Casper led a delegation of four Brigaders (Bob Neubauer, Lyall Stilp, Jr., John Owen and Tom Kuehl) to an international camp on the playing fields of Eton. Reminiscent of this experience was the
Founders Camp, Eton, 1954. 2,000 boys from 19 countries

Caribbean International Camp, Jamaica, 1958

Mr. McVicker, of the British organization, visits the wood-working shop
rain and the mud, along with the warm-hearted reception by
British men and boys.

Rehearsed and costumed before leaving the States was an
American Indian dance which “stole the show” on shipboard
and at stunt night in camp. This camp was in recognition of the
hundredth anniversary of the birth of Sir William Smith.

Later in the summer (September 1954) an impressive assem-
bly of leaders from the British Isles and all countries of the
British Commonwealth met at Glasgow. Mr. and Mrs. Shat-
tuck attended this historic meeting at the urgent invitation
of Stanley and Douglas Smith.

Both the camp at Eton and the Convocation at Glasgow
resulted in renewal of old associations and forming of new
friendships, including Mr. William McVicker, General Wilson-
Haffenden and Mr. Fred Brame, Manager of Simpson’s Pic-
cadilly.

JAMAICA 1958

The third international outing occurred in 1958 (April) when
Dave Jones, Jack Casper and Charley Neubauer took ten out-
standing Brigaders to Jamaica: Fritz Block, Tom Steinmetz,
Steve Hildebrand, John Severson, Bill Kuehl, Dick Dwelle,
Tom Mott, Dave Hanson, Don Pansch and Tom Smith. They
made the round trip Chicago to Kingston by air. This camp
proved to be somewhat trying, in view of the crudity of the
facilities, such as cold water and no soap for washing dishes,
and, judged by our standards, insufficient diet. The heavy
Negro population of the island, however, provided a rare edu-
cation in interracial relations.

Among the choice results of this experience was close friend-
ship with the Caribbean organizer, John Edbrooke, and with Lindley Rankine, a Jamaican, then a student in a Methodist Theological Seminary.

During the following summer, Lindley Rankine accepted our invitation to visit the Twin Cities and participate in both older and younger boys' camps at Onaway, where he captured the imaginations of leaders and boys.

**SCOTLAND 1963**

As these lines are penned, another overseas experience is in prospect. The Scottish branch of the British Boys' Brigade organization has invited the Neenah-Menasha organization to be their guests at an international camp on the grounds of Trinity College, Glenalmond, Perthshire, August 14-22, 1963.

*Give us grateful hearts, our Father, for all Thy mercies, and make us mindful of the needs of others.*

—The Book of Common Prayer
Brigade Anniversaries

It was on January 22, 1904, that the first of an extended series of anniversary banquets was held. A Brigade Alumni Association was formed in 1908, under whose direction many subsequent annual dinners were staged.

The high point of this series of anniversary occasions was reached on the evening of January 20, 1940, when more than 300 "old boys," many of them fathers of boys then in the Brigade, came together in the then new gymnasium on South Commercial Street to celebrate the fortieth anniversary.

The Fiftieth

1950 marked the fiftieth year of Boys' Brigade service to its community. The month of May, rather than January 22, was set for the observance. Months in advance plans and preparations were made by a committee of Old Boys and citizens, with Leo O. Schubart and Earl Williams as Co-Chairmen, composed of James Webb, Sam Pickard, William Draheim, Nathan Wauda, John Neubauer, Nathan Bergstrom, Gilbert Neff, Karl Oberreich, Les Mais, John Bouquet, Carlton Krause, Howard Angermeyer, Robert Kuehl, George Sande, Lyall C. Stilp and Irving Stilp.

May 13 was the red-letter day! The weather man cooperated with a warm, cloudless afternoon. A parade with bands and floats, contributed by industrial and civic organizations, wound
its way through the hearts of our Twin Cities. It seemed like every able-bodied person in Neenah and Menasha lined the streets.

That evening saw an assembly of Old Boys and friends that taxed the capacity of St. Patrick’s dining hall. Ernie Draheim came from Rhinelander to preside as toastmaster.

Mr. Shattuck was submerged with tokens in recognition of his years of service to boyhood. He felt like he was caught with no place to hide!

Following is the Golden Jubilee Banquet Program:

The National Anthem
The Invocation
Old Boys Welcome, Committee Recognition
Introduction of the Toastmaster
Toastmaster’s Opening Remarks
Introduction of the Charter Members
Presentation of the Long Distance Cup
“Howdy” to Dr. Walter R. Courtenay of Nashville, Tennessee
Speaker: Sunday Vesper Services
Introduction of the Speaker
Banquet Address
Remarks from the Father of the Boys’ Brigade
Dedicated Song in Closing—“For Fifty Years”
Benediction

The celebration was carried over into Sunday, when Dr. Walter R. Courtenay, former Neenah pastor, now pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Nashville, spoke to Old Boys and their families at a vespers service.
Along the way of the 50th anniversary parade, May 13, 1950.

One of the many floats in the 50th anniversary parade, May 13, 1950.

Another attractive float

Reminiscent of the 1903 camp of the Boys’ Brigade—transportation by 45-foot yawl owned by Messrs. C. B. Clark and S. F. Shattuck.
Charter members' reunion at 60th anniversary. Left to right: Byron Bell, Jay Gillingham, Harry Bishop, Harry Thomas, Harvey Thomas, Fred Wines, George Sande, Harry Fish.
THE SIXTIETH

In May, 1960, a quieter celebration was held marking the sixtieth anniversary. Eight charter members got together. They were Harry Bishop, George Sande, Jay Gillingham and Byron Bell, all of whom have lived their lives in Neenah. Four others, Harry Fish and Fred Wines came from the Pacific coast, Harry and Harvey Thomas from Illinois.

Fred Wines, prior to his take-off for Neenah, called on two other charter members, Henry Rabe, at San Mateo, California, and Fred Fenton, in Pasadena.

The high point of the reunion was attendance at Award Night Monday, May 16.

The next evening a dinner in their honor was served in the Brigade building, with Leo Schubart, Dave Jones, Gordon Altenhofen, Jack Casper and their wives in attendance.

A luncheon at Alex's Supper Club on Wednesday, the 17th, closed the festivities, and the eight charter members look forward to the 65th and 70th.
Basic Policies

It is pertinent to review the basic policies and precepts that have guided our organization across the years:

1. To promote a boy's allegiance to and regularity at the church of his parents' choice.
   This objective to be implemented by:
   a. A monthly attendance card signed by parent, pastor or church school officer.
   b. Attendance record (church or church school) to become a significant element for honors award.

2. To refrain from direct religious instruction, leaving such instruction to the several churches whose boys are admitted to membership in the Boys' Brigade.

3. To adhere to a conviction that a community becomes a better place in which to live where boys of all faiths may have the maximum of constructive and enjoyable common experiences during their growing years. This in the realization that the majority of boys in our Twin Cities will live their adult lives here.

4. To create a setting, through the varied programs, in which man-boy fellowship and friendship may develop; for it is out of such an atmosphere that life direction comes to teenage youngsters.
   There is something to be said for the adage, "Character is caught, not taught."

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The close-knit leader-boy fellowship, characteristic of our organization, encourages a sense of partnership, particularly between leaders and the older boys as they graduate into junior leadership responsibility.

5. To keep in evidence the Object of the Boys' Brigade as formulated by its founder, Sir William A. Smith, in 1883: "The advancement of Christ's Kingdom among boys, and the promotion of habits of obedience, reverence, discipline, self-respect and all that tends toward a true Christian manliness."

6. Finally, our function is to supplement, not to supplant, the influence of the home and the church; to complement, not duplicate, the work of the school.

THE CORPORATE STRUCTURE

When the Brigade became a property owner in 1928 through purchase of the Danke Creamery building, with its two 60' lots fronting on South Commercial Street and Columbian Avenue, it became necessary to incorporate under Chapter 180 of the Wisconsin statutes. This action was taken at a meeting on December 27, 1928. The meeting was held in the newly-acquired property at 211 South Commercial Street. There were present that day the following eleven men who became the first board of directors of the newly-born Boys' Brigade Association:


Officers elected were:
President        S. F. Shattuck
Vice President   D. K. Brown
Secretary        Leo O. Schubart
Treasurer        N. H. Bergstrom

Subsequently the board of directors was increased to twenty men, divided into four classes of five each, with the proviso that members of a class retiring after four years of service shall not be eligible to reelection until one year has elapsed.

Directors serving as of this writing (1962) are:


Officers, as of 1962, are:

President Emeritus  S. F. Shattuck
President           Leo O. Schubart
Vice President      Lyall C. Stilp
Secretary           S. F. Shattuck
Treasurer           David Jones

Among the functions of Directors of The Boys’ Brigade Association are supervision of all financial affairs, care and maintenance of building, interest in the program, and backing of the active leaders.

ENDOWMENT FUND

Among the actions of the Directors of The Boys’ Brigade Association during 1961 was establishment of an endowment
fund. It was the thought of the Directors that Old Boys, citizens and corporations might be moved to make gifts to this fund, or by paragraphs in their wills, to direct bequests to it. Moneys in the endowment will be used, at the discretion of the directors, for use in the program of the Brigade or to improve its physical equipment.

To establish the fund the Bergstrom Paper Company and one director made initial gifts totaling $150.00.

The Trust Department of The National Manufacturers Bank will administer the endowment fund without cost to the organization. Anyone desiring to participate in this endowment fund may draw check or paragraph in their will in favor of "The Boys' Brigade Association Endowment Fund."

CHARTER MEMBER OF COMMUNITY CHEST

The Neenah-Menasha Community Chest was organized in 1947 with the Boys' Brigade as a charter member.

Our allowed budget that year was $6,000. The pay roll consisted of one man—the janitor. One hundred eighty-three boys were on our membership roll. The cost per boy was $31.00.

Our budget for 1963 calls for $22,065. Our membership in 1963 is expected to crowd 800, bringing the cost per boy to approximately $27.00.

Entrance into the Community Chest of Neenah-Menasha made The Boys' Brigade an all-out Twin City organization.

FATHER McKINNON'S FRIENDSHIP

In January, 1957, Father McKinnon, Assistant Priest at St. Margaret-Mary Church, asked for copies of everything we had
in print dealing with the history and purposes of the Boys' Brigade. He had observed the operation of the Brigade and shared the feeling of many Catholic parents that their boys should be free to apply for membership. The material we produced was laid before his Bishop. Some months later Father McKinnon was empowered to let it be known that boys from Catholic homes may be free to apply.

In our conversations with Father McKinnon we discussed the possibility that the day may come when we shall be obliged to quota our sixth grade intake. That day came sooner than anticipated.

**POPULATION INCREASE AND MEMBERSHIP LIMIT**

Our growing cities and adjacent townships are producing boys at an accelerating rate that brings pressure not only on school officials, but on the leadership of all youth organizations. When the new Brigade building was dedicated in 1957, it was thought to be equal to all demands, but this complacency received a rude jolt. Early in 1962 it was determined that a limit of 800 must be placed on membership. To hold enrollment at or below that figure, 150 sixth graders, only, may be accepted each fall. Notice to that effect was published in the press during the spring of 1962. Furthermore, quotas are assigned to the various areas or groupings from which the Boys' Brigade draws its membership.
The Present Building and Program

The modern fireproof building, fronting on Columbian Avenue, includes:

- gymnasium
- drill floor, game and rifle range
- physical fitness department (third floor)
- complete kitchen and dining facilities
- room for picture projection, lectures, etc.
- ten group rooms
- seven special interest rooms, including woodworking shop, photography dark room and model railroad

Cost of the new structure, including renovation of the old creamery building, was approximately $451,697.

The Program

A chairman is appointed from the leadership at each grade level. These chairmen are members of the Steering Committee, which is, along with the Captain and Coordinator, responsible for the smooth functioning of the program. The program is constantly open to review as changing times, needs and desires of the boys dictate.

One hour of each meeting night is devoted to group discussion on some phase of the subject chosen for each age group, such as:

- Sixth Grade—Camping, nature study and Brigade history
- Seventh Grade—First Aid, hunter's safety, character building
EIGHTH GRADE—Travel and transportation
NINTH GRADE—Sports and sportsmanship
TENTH GRADE—Vocational guidance and leadership training
ELEVENTH AND TWELFTH GRADES—On-the-job leadership training through leadership of a sixth-grade group and working with adults in other areas of leadership

INTEREST GROUPS

A regular member in good standing may join a special interest group, such as:

- Beginner and advanced rifle club
- Beginner and advanced woodworking
- Beginner and advanced photography
- Archery
- Model building
- Stamp club
- Art club
- Radio club
- Tropical fish
- Fly tying
- Drum and bugle corps
- Model railroad club

AWARDS

Boys are periodically evaluated by the leaders. Twice each year the leader sits down with each boy in his group and counsels with him on his progress. He is scored on various character traits. At year’s end each boy who has been regular at church or Sunday School and Brigade and whose character gradings are satisfactory is awarded the Brigade medal.

Jack Casper
Dining Hall, Onaway

Setting up exercises
The chapel at Onaway
Construction and repair of radios. Left to right: Walter Green, Dave Heyn, Jim Rammer, John Zietlow, Jim Munchow, Jim Krueger, Mike Thelen, Barry Williams.

Fly tying. Left to right: Gary Arndt, Gale Crist, Peter Jansen, David Franz.
The art of fisticuffs. Left to right: John Kudrna, Bill Richey, Richard Wichmann.

Advanced photography. Mike Lynch demonstrates the making of enlargements.

1957—on the new rifle range and drill floor
Stamp club

Model railroad—always under reconstruction! Back, left: Emory Luebke; (kneeling almost hidden): William Plank; front, left: Steve Spanbauer; right, Charles Williams
The all-purpose gym—second floor of new building. There are eight baskets on the walls of the gym and the air is full of basketballs.

The pool tables are popular. Left to right: Olaf Witte and Ron Erickson get in some practice.
Thus does The Boys’ Brigade seek to cooperate with the home, the church and the school in the “promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self-respect and all that tends toward a true Christian Manliness.”

God be in my head,
And in my understanding;

God be in my eyes,
And in my looking;

God be in my mouth,
And in my speaking;

God be in my heart,
And in my thinking;

God be at mine end,
And at my departing.

—Sarum Primer
PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, One Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.