

Camp Wonderland 1924-1974





William Booth
Founder
Clarence D. Wiseman
General
Paul S. Kaiser
Commissioner
Territorial Commander
Andrew S. Miller
Lt. Colonel
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Greater Chicago Unified Command
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Dear Friend,

This brochure has been prepared to honor a camp 50 years rich in tradition and impact. Many have had a direct part in helping make Camp Wonderland an important part in the lives of thousands.

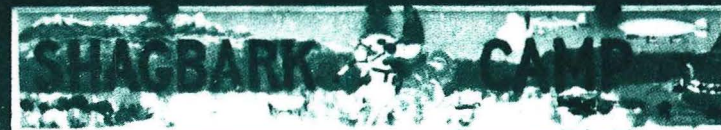
The pages that follow picture Camp Wonderland in its early days, its present stage, as well as a look into the future. Along with the Camp Committee I believe God will continue to draw men, women, boys and girls, from the suburbs as well as the inner city, from all sections of our area, to Himself, through the beauty and service of Camp Wonderland.

Thank you for your continued support and your interest in the future of Camp Wonderland.

God bless you.

Andrew S. Miller

Camp. Committee



Lt. Colonel Andrew S. Miller, Chairman
Edward Homer — Executive Secretary
Mrs. Lt. Colonel Andrew S. Miller
Major Earl Polsley
Captain Gary Herndon
Major Sven Ljungholm
Edward J. Lowcock
Major Herbert Fuqua
Captain David Riches
Howard Cox
Mrs. Major Earl Polsley
Mrs. Edward Homer

Past

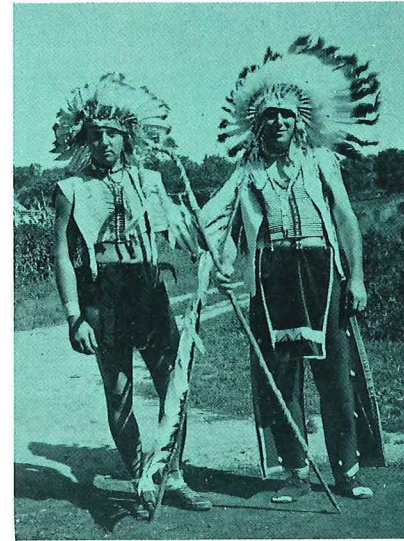
Camp Wonderland was founded in March in the year 1924 by the late Brigadier and Mrs. Richard Wiseman. At that time the site was composed of 60 acres of field and woods. Thanks to the insight of Brigadier Wiseman The Salvation Army decided to move their campsite from a small facility in Glen Ellyn to the wideopen spaces of southern Wisconsin at Camp Lake.

Shortly after the first visit of Brigadier and Mrs. Wiseman to the camp, the first outing was held. Cooperating with the Rotary Club Lt. Colonel's Lowden and Envoy and Mrs. Rhoda began a crippled childrens camp. Commissioner William Peart was there to greet the Rotarians and the children as they arrived. They became the first of thousands of boys, girls and adults to enjoy the facilities of the camp.

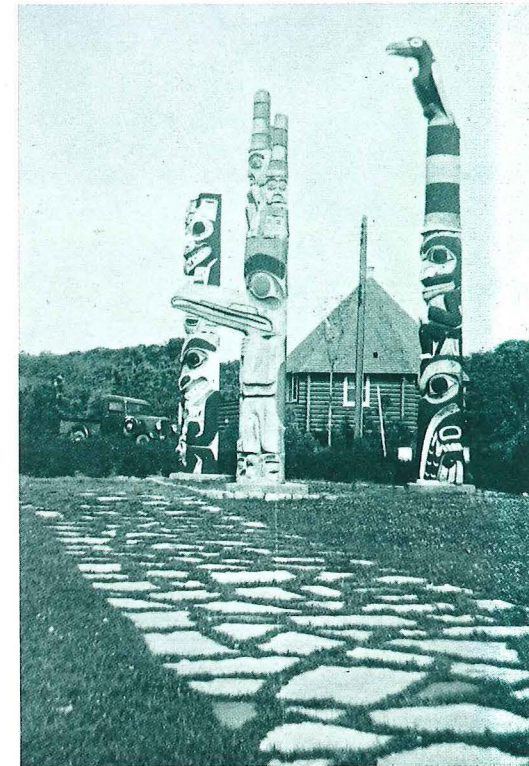
Also during that first year the Wonderland Dining Hall was built and it is presently the oldest building on the campgrounds.

The camp was not officially opened until Independence Day in the summer of 1924. It was a great day as Salvationists and friends from all over the Chicago area gathered in a picnic atmosphere to hear the tuneful melodies of The Chicago Staff Band and participate in the dedication ceremonies.

With a growing camp, improvements were made, and the Corps-Seargant Major of the Waukegan Corps landscaped the area. As the first buildings and cottages were constructed, provision was made for Territorial Headquarters personnel and families to enjoy vacations and days away from the already crowded and growing Chicago Metropolis.



The camp did not acquire its present name until Commissioner and Mrs. William McIntyre moved from Boston to Chicago, at which time Mrs. McIntyre showed a special interest in the camp. It was her desire to make it similar to the camp near Boston, Mass. called "Wonderland". Mrs. McIntyre began a program of beautifying the camp with many magnificent gardens, and it was decided to name the camp "Camp Wonderland". Along with naming the camp and planting of gardens, a small zoo was started with several animals located approximately where the general store now stands.

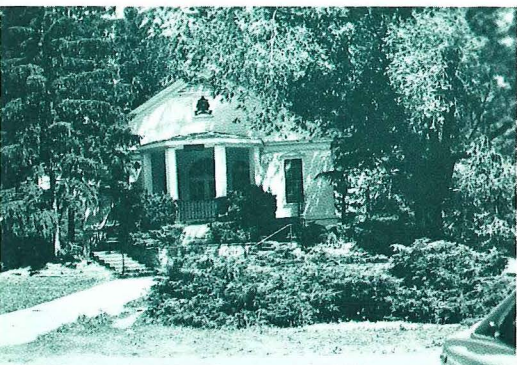
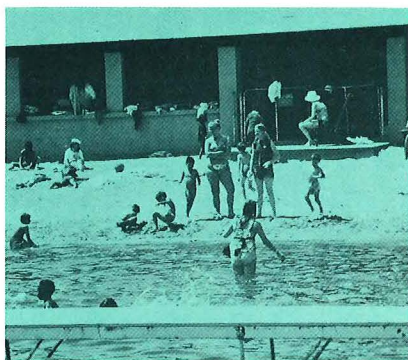


These are a few of the early beginnings of Camp Wonderland. In the years that have followed the camp has been the summer center of many events in the history of The Salvation Army in the midwest. In addition to the many who have been provided vacations in the country, there have been many international visitors from around The "Army" world.

Present

The year around program at Wonderland is as versatile and varied as the people using the camp. During the summer season camping experiences are provided for 1400 adults and children from the Chicago Inter-City and Suburban Service Units for seven day periods of camping.

These experiences provide opportunity for individual development in areas of athletics, out-door education, swimming and boating, as well as spiritual, social and personality growth.

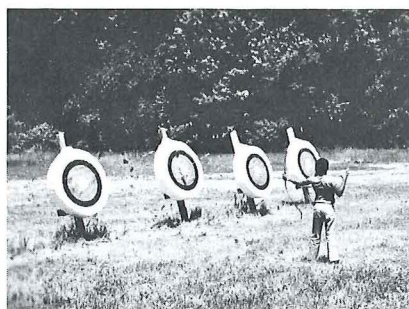


Salvation Army Divisional Youth Camps for Girl Guards, Boy Scouts, Sunbeams, Boys Club, and Music Camp have been and continued to be a regular part of camp. Approximately 700 young people take advantage of this fun filled time to develop their skills in a number of areas from nature study to music, with Bible study and spiritual growth.

Many others use Wonderland for vacations, holidays, picnics, seminars, and conferences.

During the year from September 15th to June 1st the camp is used by a variety of organizations for conferences, week-end camping, ski retreats, outdoor education, family vacations, and spiritual retreats.

The seminars, conferences, family vacations, small retreats are conducted in the Hilltop facilities which include 3 room suites, and rooms with private bath.



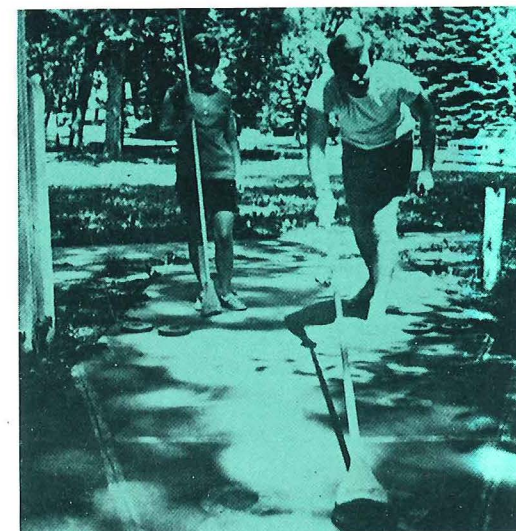
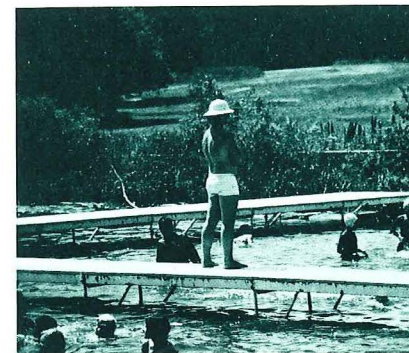
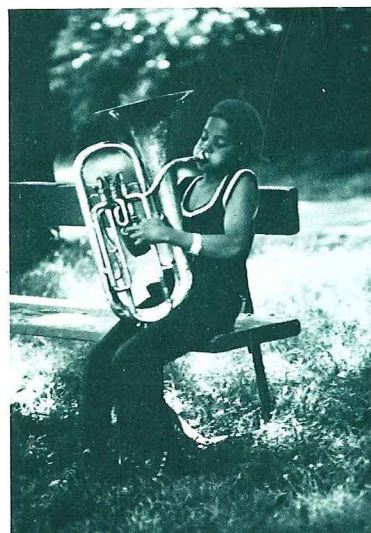
The Camping programs are housed in "The Village", in practical, heated cabins with bathrooms and hot and cold water; or in "Shagbark" a lovely log cabin motif which provides comfortable housing in a more rustic style.

The 400 ft. water front also includes 2 swimming areas along with a boat launching ramp and a dock for 24 row boats.

Other recreation facilities include 3 play grounds, 4 soft ball diamonds, an archery range, 2 tennis courts, and an outside basketball and volley ball court.

Winter activities include ice-skating, tobogganing, and a gym for indoor sports.

Nearly 15,000 people have used the facilities of Camp Wonderland during 1974.



Future

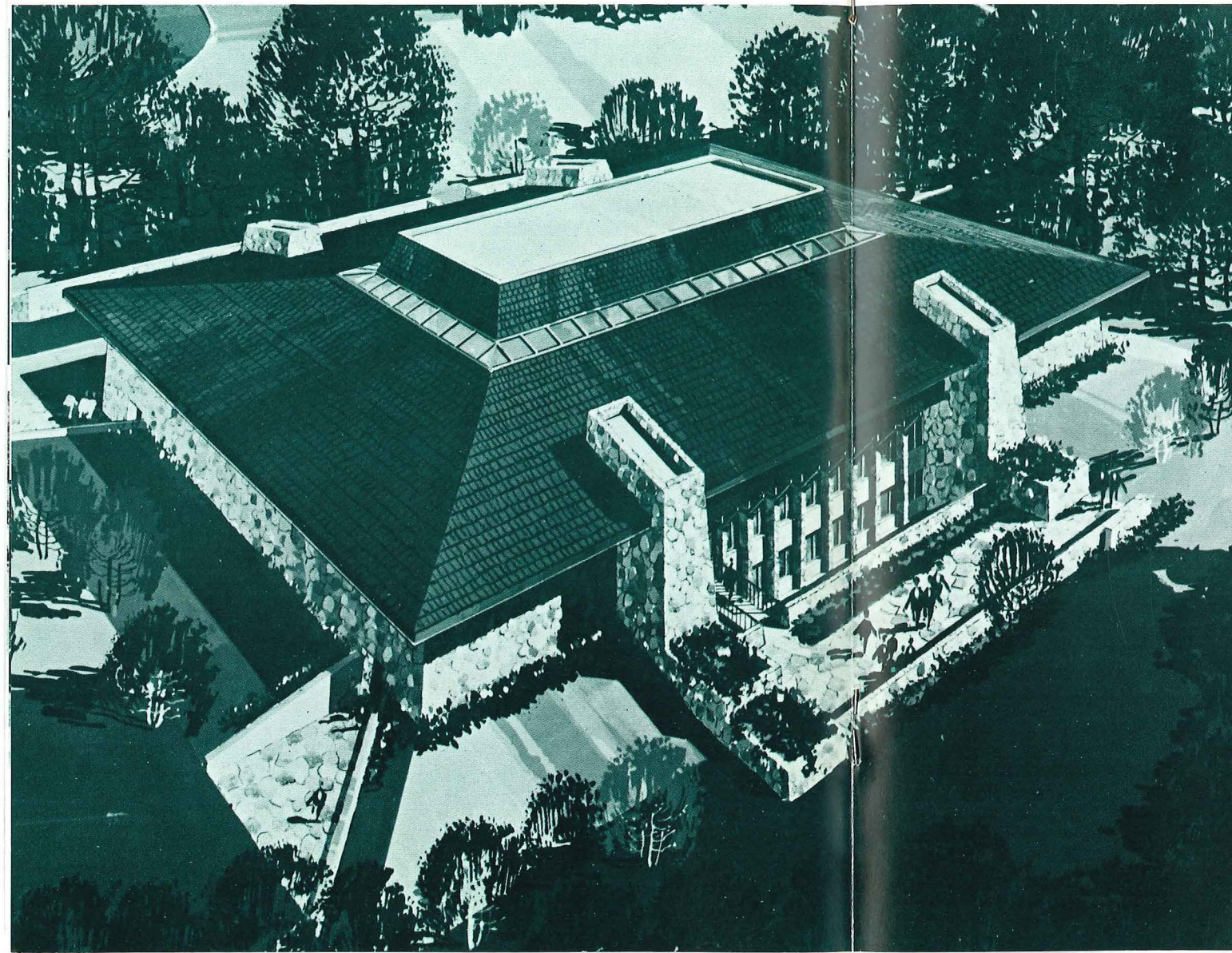
The Salvation Army is faced with an increasing need for a leadership training facility at the camp to accommodate its youth organizations, music training groups, adult home leagues, officers and soldiers' conferences, in addition to thousands of senior citizens and children of economically deprived families.

Realizing the need for year-round facilities to serve children from the Inner-City of Chicago and youth groups, the 80 cottages and housing units have been winterized.

The new leadership Training Center will allow The Salvation Army to approximately triple the number of persons served annually.

When the facilities are not being used by The Army, they will be made available to compatible agencies and churches for retreats and camping programs.

The Leadership Training Center will include three dining halls, an institutional kitchen, a large recreation room (which can be used as storm shelter), two large conference rooms (which can be converted into ten meeting or recreational activity rooms), two meeting halls and 14 living quarters for staff personnel.



Celebration

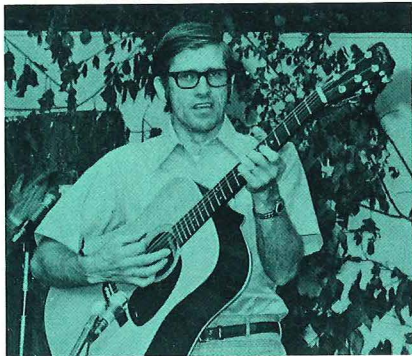
As Camp Wonderland was officially opened on July 4th, 1924, fifty years later over 1,200 Salvationists and friends gather again on Independence Day, July 4, 1974 to celebrate 50 wonderful years at Camp Wonderland.

During the day, the Home Leagues of the Northern Illinois Division of the Unified Command conducted their sales at booths located about the camp grounds. Mrs. Commissioner J. Clyde Cox, Mrs. Colonel George Nelting, Mrs. Lt. Colonel Andrew S. Miller, and Mrs. Major Earl A. Polsley officiated at the ribbon cutting ceremonies in the morning. Activities continued throughout the day.

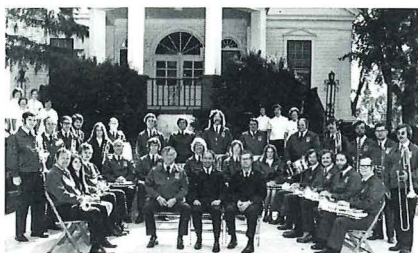
The events of the day concluded with a bicentinal pagent on the years of Camp Wonderland. "I nearly forgot to say Thank You" was produced and directed by Captain Clarence Harvey, music arranged by Edward J. Lowcock, conducted by James Curnow, and involving over 100 young and old. All had been or were sharing in the beauty and blessings of Camp

Wonderland. A look into the future was a scene involving Commissioner Cox and Lt. Colonel Miller as they presented plans for the new Conference Center, and the year round camping program.

Concluding the day, the Northern Illinois Youth Band under the direction of Deputy Bandmaster Gerald Shoults presented a "Mini-Concert". Its concluding number "Celebration" by Major Leslie Condon was a fitting climax to a wonderful day.



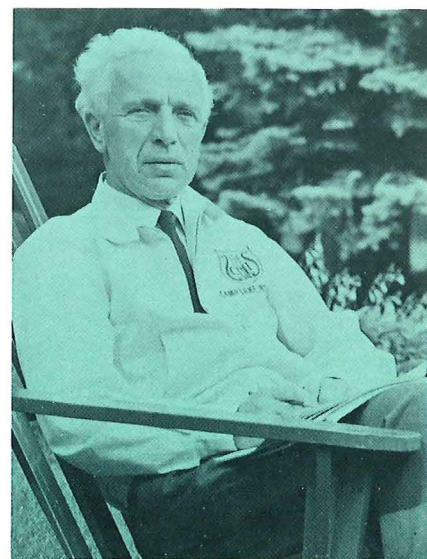
CMI



The Central Music Institute also had a reason to celebrate as this was the fortieth year musicians from the Central Territory gathered at Camp Wonderland for the 10-day encampment.

CMI has brought to the Central Territory through the years the finest in international music leaders of The Salvation Army. Names such as Erik Leizden, Bernard Smith, Eric Ball and Ray Steadman-Allen, to name a few, have had tremendous impact on students and faculty who were fortunate to spend 10 days with these outstanding musicians.

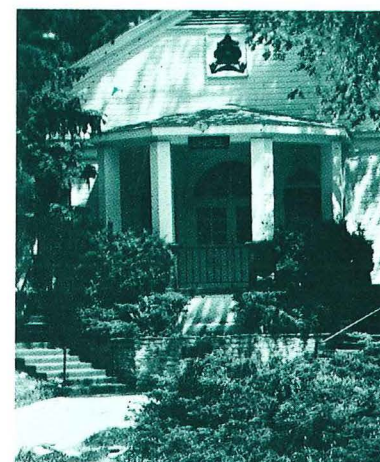
1974 was no exception to the high standard CMI has maintained over the years. Under the leadership of Brigadier Ron Rowland, Territorial Music and Education Secretary, along with International guest Major Leslie Condon of London, England many alumni and long-time friends of CMI were honored for their musical contribution in helping to make this music camp one of the finest in The Salvation Army World.



TBLI

Under the leadership of Major Edgar Overstake, Territorial Youth Secretary, a total of 293 persons, including children, were registered for this nine-day, power-packed Territorial Bible and Leadership Institute.

The timely slogan of T.B.L.I. "Christ Centered Knowledge is Power" was the key ingredient of the various classes offered. These included four in-depth Bible studies, classes in psychology, Christian living, the "how to" of leadership, development of leadership skills and techniques, and classes dealing with specific youth programs. Also included were classes on "Developing your Christian Life Style — Teens, Singles, Young Marrieds, and Senior Adults". Special activities were provided for children under 15 who accompanied their parents.



Pilgrimage

The final camp in the Anniversary summer of 1974 was the Northern Illinois Divisional pilgrimage over the Labor Day weekend. Approximately 700 Salvationists, young and old, attended the three day retreat to hear outstanding Salvation Army speakers including Lt. Colonel Edward O. Nelson, Territorial Correctional Services Secretary, Brigadier Rolan Quinn (R) former director of The Harbor Light Center in Chicago and Lt. Colonel Andrew S. Miller, Unified Commander. Special music for the weekend was provided by Major and Mrs. Bruce Robertson of Etobicoke Corps, Toronto, Canada, The Northern Illinois Youth Band, Edward J. Lowcock, Bandmaster, and The Northern Illinois String Band, Captain Ron Larsen Deputy Director.

During the entire camp many public and private commitments to the Service of Jesus Christ, were sealed by His Spirit in the beauty and quietness of Camp Wonderland.



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