



WE BUILD LEADERS

THE BRIGADE

Sure & Steadfast

109 W. Columbian Ave. ★ P.O. Box 665 ★ Neenah, WI 54957-0665 ★ 920-725-3983 ★ www.bgbrigade.com

"A little slice of heaven in 2011"

ONAWAY ISLAND SUMMER CAMPS BEGIN IN JUNE



Summer adventures and lifelong friendships await you at Camp Onaway.

Register *TODAY* for the best summer camping program with the most affordable rates at bgbrigade.com.

2011 Camp Onaway Schedule

LTC	June 13-18
Boys' 2	June 18-25
OAC	June 25-July 2
Family	July 2-9
Girls' 1	July 9-16
Boys' 3	July 16-23
Girls' 2	July 23-30
Boys' 4	July 30-Aug 6
Girls' 3	Aug 6-13
Anchors (5th grade)	Aug 18-20

ANCHORS - 5TH GRADE MINI SUMMER CAMP

NEW!! A camp designed specifically for 5th graders as an introductory overnight camping experience. Called "Anchors," the camp will be held August 18-20.

Registration forms and more information at bgbrigade.com under Onaway schedule.



Sap covered staff members amidst storm damage (2001).

REMEMBERING 2001

Storm generates response from Onaway Family and Friends

This summer, June 11 marks 10 years since a summer storm caused extensive damage across Wisconsin. Camp Onaway lost nearly 50 mature trees and suffered extensive damage. The high ropes course was a complete loss. Our Onaway family put their own plans aside and arrived ready to clean-up and repair. Less than 6 days later, the island was ready for 119 campers attending Leadership Training Conference.

At the core of the clean-up efforts were 14 Chore Staff and 2 Lifeguards. One day of Chore Staff training was nearly complete when the storm hit. The remainder of that week saw little in the way of traditional training. Kitchen duties, boat driving and garbage runs became less important than having the island ready for the kids.

We look back and wonder where the time has gone. We look forward to decades ahead of us where a mutual love for an island will keep many coming back to take care of her. *We connected with some of our 2001 summer staff to see where their lives have taken them since...*

Ben Buss - I was recently married to the best woman in the world! We live in Menasha and adopted a black lab named Abbie from the humane society! We enjoy spending time with family and friends, many of those friends are friends from camp.

Heather (Wilcox) Epley (lifeguard) - 10 years! Brian (Boys' 3 leader) and I have been married for 7 years and have two busy boys. Carter is 3 and Declan is 18 months. I am very happily employed as a registered nurse at Theda Clark in labor and delivery. We are also lucky enough to be a part of family camp in the summer. I am thankful to say that I still am friends with most of the staff from Onaway. Friends and family for life.

Scott Farrell - Currently I am a police officer in the Town of Menasha. I am married to my wonderful wife Angie and we have 2 beautiful children Henry (2 years) and Ellen (9 months). I still live in Neenah and am glad to say that I still see many members of the 2001 staff on a regular basis.

Kyle Hopfensperger - I have been through much in the last 10 years. I was a young and lost boy who struggled with the challenges of life. Since then I have served my country for 4-1/2 years and have developed into a dedicated hard working US Air Force officer cadet and pilot candidate. If the Boys' & Girls' Brigade has taught me anything, it is that no matter where you are at in life it is never too late to succeed. The courage to point your life in the right direction comes from within. (continued page 2)

From the Director's Desk

As all parents well know, guiding kids as they progress to adulthood is often a roller coaster experience. The Brigade is privileged to collaborate with parents and families to make the outcomes of that ride for youth as positive as possible. We understand that the kids themselves often struggle with that rollercoaster, and many times it feels to them that they are cranking to the crest only to drop off into a fearful unknown. It is good for them to know that someone is taking that ride with them; we stand ready to coach and lead them by helping them build positive relationships in a positive environment. Safe and trusted interaction with adults and peers helps them build self-assurance in themselves, therefore instilling their confidence and courage in making good decisions on their own. When they know we care they are more likely to choose good attitudes, and good attitudes lead to outstanding participation and a longing to belong and pass along their experiences with a desire to belong to the ranks of volunteers that pass along their experiences.

Without the guidance a program like Brigade has to offer, we all know that kids can make poor choices which can lead to negative outcomes in their life. Some of the consequences can severely impact their future, like their failure to complete their education, involvement in drugs and alcohol, and, too many times, even suicide.

Brigade makes the difference in these precious young lives because you make the difference. Your choice to be a part of Brigade, whether it is through volunteerism or resource assistance is extremely important to the future of Brigade. In this newsletter you will see many successes that you helped create. I ask you to continue to be a part of the lives of youth, be a part of Brigade, and be a part of the mission to build leaders.

Thank you,



John Dery

P.S. Vehicle and boat donations help raise important support for youth programs. It's easy and you receive a tax benefit. Call us to learn how.

(continued from page 1)

Chris Kaufert - After 6 years in the plastic pallet field Chris recently took a position working for Midwest Industrial Rubber where he is working on a one of a kind machine that is revolutionizing the conveyor belt industry.

Leslie Kramer - I graduated from the UM-Twin Cities in 2006 with dual degrees in Marketing and Supply Chain Management. After working as an Assistant Buyer for Marshall Field's/Macy's for two years, I now work as a Product Marketer for 3M. I have not been back to Onaway since 2002, but hope to make it back when I have more vacation time!

Kate Mutchler - Kate just returned home from Micronesia with the Peace Corps and is working as an Outward Bound instructor down in Florida.

Ryan Peterson (Lifeguard) - I live on a small farm in Brillion where I teach physics, chemistry and engineering. I married Jessica in 2004 and we chase our animals, our dog Trix and our two young children, Ayla and Archer.

Amber (Buss) Pheifer - I followed my dreams and started my own business, Pheifer Photography. I have 3 beautiful children, 2 naughty dogs, and a wonderful husband. This summer I will hopefully be attending family camp to let my children fall in love with an island that will always hold a special place in my heart.

Josh Schultz - married for 4 years to Sammy who I met 10 years ago. We live in Oshkosh and have 2 super cool boys Henry 3 and a half, and Charlie who is almost 2. *And we are really happy.*

MISSION: We Build Leaders.

VISION: The Boys' & Girls' Brigade will be recognized as the center of excellence for youth character and leadership development.

OBJECT: The Object of the Boys' & Girls' Brigade shall be the advancement of Christ's Kingdom and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self-Respect and a spirit that reflects a true Christian life.

The Brigade is published by:

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United Way Fox Cities

Board of Directors Elects First Female Board Chair

On February 22, at the annual Board meeting of the Boys' & Girls' Brigade, Attorney Kate Seifert was elected as the first female chair of the board of directors in Brigade's 111 year history. Attorney Seifert served as the vice chair of the board in 2010. Other yearly officers elected for an annual term were: Brian Borchardt, vice chair, John Anderson, treasurer, and Dave Pheifer, secretary. One member, Margaret Murphy, was reelected for a second term of service.

Four new board members were elected to serve three-year terms. The new members are John Ahles, John Anderson, Katie Engleman, and Steve Foster. John Ahles, is on the Rapid Prototyping and Product Development team at Kimberly Clark and resides in Neenah. John Anderson is a Residential Lending Officer for Associated Bank in Appleton and resides in Neenah. Steve Foster is a vice president at Sturm Foods and resides in Neenah. Katie Engleman is the Director of Human Resources at Oshkosh Corporation-Defense.

The Brigade is deeply grateful to retiring board members Becky Arndt, Tom Ter Horst, Steve Truchinski, and Jane Wells. They provided solid leadership and made significant contributions during their terms of service. We welcome the new board members, are excited to be led by our first female chair, and look forward to their contributions to further the mission of the Brigade.



BRIGADE GRADUATES!

Following is a list of 12th grade Co-Leaders who (in most cases) have shared their lives with us for seven years as members of the Boys' & Girls' Brigade. As they prepare to graduate from high school and Brigade, we're proud of all they've accomplished.

We hope graduating Brigaders will always think of Brigade as home, don't be a stranger.

Here are the names of these incredible grads, their parents' name(s), and in some cases their future plans and comments.

Eric Argall (Kim & Joyce Argall) attending UW-Platteville majoring in Agricultural Business, *"One of the most important things to me at Brigade was having the opportunity to be able to lead a group of 6th graders. It really taught me leadership and how to mentor."*

Stewart Berry (Scott & Lynn Berry)

Michael Burr Jr. (Richard & Barbara Bodenhausen) enlisting in the military, *"Brigade taught me how to respect yourself and others. Awesome people to work with, they know what they are talking about."*

Parker Campbell (Brian & Lori Campbell)

Will Carpenter (Teri Beyer and Keith Carpenter)

Jake Clausing (Bob & Kate Clausing) attending Stevens Point to work for the DNR, *"I learned that the actions I do, the 6th graders will do."*

Erin Drake (Francis & Jill Drake) attending Purdue or Drake for Pharmacy, *"The Brigade has been a positive influence on me. The camps and the weekly nights have allowed me to make new friends and break out of my comfort zone."*

Christopher Easton (Mary Kay Easton and the late Robert Easton)

Tyler Ellisen (Stephen & Kelli Ellisen)

Ben Fahrenkrug (Mark & Sue Fahrenkrug)

Ben Firgens (Mark & Paige Firgens)

Branden and Erika Fleming (Susan and Mark Fleming)

Jacob Forster (Linda Reinke)

Harley Fredriksen (Craig & Jennifer Fredriksen)

Rachel Gartzke (Mike & Sherri Gartzke) attending Concordia majoring in Elementary Education, to 6th graders she says, *"You may not like every single activity you do at Brigade, but there will be some that you love. No matter what though, the friends you make and the relationships you create will be unforgettable and some of the best memories you have."*

Stephanie Gill (Garrett & Gretchen Gill)

Nicholas Hanson (James & Katy Hanson)

Carrie Hanzek (Steve & Gail Hanzek)

Jeana Johnson (Jeff & Jean Johnson) attending Marion University for nursing, *"The most meaningful thing at Brigade to me is the variety of people I have met and the lifelong friends I have made. I have also learned to be more patient, caring, and optimistic."*

Marla Klein (Jack & Suzanne Klein) attending Hallmark Inst. of Photography, *"Brigade is not just a building that you go to every week. It's a part of who you are that will come to have a place in your heart and affect the way you view the world, and the way you have the ability to engage in that world after Brigade."*

Patrick Koenig (David & Tracey Koenig)

Kurtis Konrad (Mark & Shelly Konrad) attending UW-LaCrosse for physical therapy, *"The friends who stick with the program through 12th grade share an unspoken bond with you. I would tell a 6th grader to try Brigade. Just go for it. It doesn't matter if your friends are going or not, you will make new friends along the way. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain."*

Kyle Kurszewski (Steve & Brenda Shaurette)

Michael McAuliffe (Mike & Vicki McAuliffe)

Zachary McKeown (Daniel & Kim McKeown)

Morgan Rae (John & Bobi Rae)



Jasmine Schoening (Darin & Jennifer Schoening)

Jensen Seager (Jill Seager)

Eric Strohmeier (Jeff & Natalie Strohmeier)

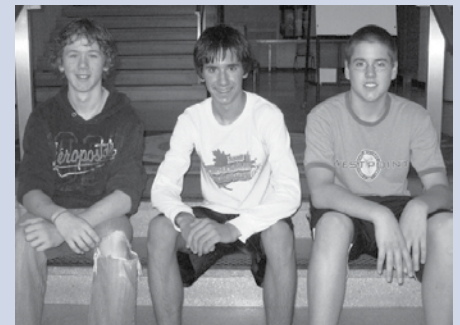
Amanda Weiss (Don & Carla Weiss)

Grant Zastrow (Steven & Carrie Zastrow)

Matt Zuleger (Dan & Mary Zuleger) attending FVTC for criminal justice and joining the National Guard, *"Brigade helps develop young men to become great leaders. I would like to thank everyone who helped me become who I am."*

Grads, we're so proud of you. May God bless you with bright and successful futures!

Join the 2011—Youth Triathlon Hobby Club this summer



Pictured are Alex F. Kirk L., Andrew G. (l to r) members of the 2010 Triathlon Hobby Club

Tom Romnek, Brigade Captain and avid endurance athlete, encourages Brigaders interested in swimming, biking, and running to join the Youth Triathlon hobby club. The club meets throughout the summer months and helps promote healthy lifestyles. In August, members participate in the Oshkosh Area Triathlon in Winnebago. This sprint triathlon is a demanding athletic competition comprised of a 1/4 mile swim, a 15-mile bike, and a 3.1 mile run. The club typically meets on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. and Saturdays at 9 a.m. beginning April 6. For more information, contact Tom Romnek at pol@ironpol.com or

With a Little Help from our Friends Pressing Needs for Camp Onaway

Deck for Camp Onaway dining hall (\$6,000)
Help the chore staff restore the SCOW (\$8-12,000)
New boat motor (\$7,000)

If everyone contributed something to these projects, the boats would be ready to haul deck lumber alongside our Rough Craftsmen in May.

For a complete listing of needs please visit Brigade's website at bgbrigade.com



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Please join us . . . mark your calendars!

IN CONCERT.....

THE 5 MILERS

CLASSIC FOLK MUSIC OF THE 60'S



FOX CITIES PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
400 W. COLLEGE AVE., APPLETON

JULY 21, 2011 • 7:30 P.M. • \$15 PER TICKET

Purchase tickets at the PAC box office or call 920-730-3760

Let's pack the PAC with Brigade and Camp Onaway family and friends! Folk music of the 60's... what fun!

Proceeds from this benefit concert are MATCHED through the generosity of the J.J. Keller Foundation up to \$5,000 and benefit the Boys' & Girls' Brigade and the YMCA of the Fox Cities.

Your \$15 ticket generates \$30 for the Brigade and the YMCA!!

SPONSORED BY:

J. J. Keller Foundation, Inc. • Wasco Windows • WBAY TV

THE PASSING OF FRIENDS

"The lives of great men all remind us we can make our lives sublime and departing leave behind us footprints in the sands of time."

~HW Longfellow

Allan Harding

David Jones

2011 Calendar of Events

March 26	Youth Activity Fair at Brigade 9 am - noon
March 30	International tripper's fundraiser at Perkins 5-8 p.m.
April 3	11th & 12th Grade Youth Awards Banquet
April	Annual Intl Trip spring flower sale fundraiser
April 29	Intl Trip "Spaghetti for Suitcases" Event at Brigade 6 p.m.
April 29-May 8	Onaway adult work week
May 13-15	Onaway Women's Retreat/Scrapbooking Weekend
May 15	Bike Auction at Neenah Police Department
May 19	Sneak Preview for 5th graders and parents
May 20-22	Co-leader and young leader work weekend
May 30	Memorial Day Parade (Join us in the parade and make Brigade the biggest entry, everyone welcome!)
June 9-12	Chore staff training
June 16	Tee It Up for Youth Golf Outing at Royal St. Patrick's
July 2	International Trip departs for Denmark from Brigade
July 4	Community Fest - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!
July 21	Join us at the PAC for the 5 Milers benefit concert
June/July/Aug	CAMPS AT ONAWAY!!!
Sept 16-18	Girls' weekend at Onaway
Sept 23-25	Boys' weekend at Onaway
Oct 3	Brigade begins

More information on all of the above events available at www.bgbrigade.com or by calling 920-725-3983.