# CHINESE FAMILY CAMP



#### **OUR 64 CONSECUTIVE YEAR HISTORY**

LAWRENCE WANG NOVEMBER 2022

## THE DEFINING YEARS

• PRE 1958

1958

1959

#### PRE 1958

- MIDWEST C.S.A.S.
  - C.S.A.S. "CHINESE STUDENT & ALUMNI SERVICES"
  - AN ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO SERVING CHINESE STUDENTS AND ALUMNI LIVING IN THE MIDWESTERN STATES

#### PRE 1958

- MIDWEST C.S.A.S.
  - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
  - DR. PETER TCHEN & DR. JOHN TCHENG LEADERSHIP POSITIONS
  - REVEREND ELLEN STUDLEY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

# DR. PETER TCHEN



## REVEREND ELLEN STUDLEY



#### PRE 1958

#### GLEN EYRIE FARM CAMP

- LAKE DELAVAN, WISCONSIN
- 90 MILES NORTHWEST OF CHICAGO
- OWNED AND RUN BY THE BUZZELL FAMILY

#### • "8 FAMILY GROUP"

- LIVED IN THE CHICAGO REGION
- CHEN, CHU, LIANG, LIAO, LIU, LO, TAN, YANG

## PRE 1958

- GLEN EYRIE FARM CAMP
  - DAVID CHEN ATTENDED THIS VIA A "SCHOLARSHIP" ARRANGED BY REVEREND STUDLEY
  - HE WAS THE ONLY CHINESE ATTENDEE

# MR. EDGAR BUZZELL



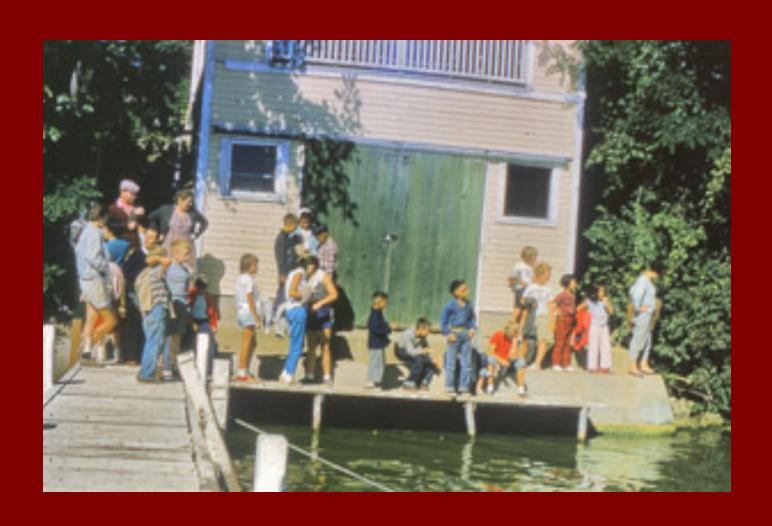
#### PRE 1958

#### GROUP VACATIONS

 REVEREND ELLEN STUDLEY AND SOME OF THE "8 FAMILY GROUP" PARENTS BEGAN TO PLAN GROUP VACATIONS

- "8 FAMILY GROUP" AND "OTHERS" BEGAN TO GO TO LAKE DELAVAN

# LAKE DELAVAN



#### PRE 1958 -> 1958

- MIDWEST C.S.A.S.
  - A SURVEY OF MIDWEST CHINESE PARENTS
     FOUND A KEEN INTEREST IN THE IDEA OF A
     STUDY CAMP FOR CHINESE CHILDREN
  - THE BUZZELL FAMILY AGREED TO HAVE THE STUDY CAMP AT THEIR GLEN EYRIE FARM CAMP
  - THE END RESULT BECAME KNOWN AS THE CHINESE CHILDREN'S STUDY CAMP

- BEGAN ON SUNDAY 8-10-58 AND LASTED 2
  WEEKS AT THE GLEN EYRIE FARM CAMP
- ORIGINALLY LIMITED TO CHILDREN 8-12 YEARS
  OLD
- GOAL: EXPOSE CHINESE CHILDREN LIVING IN AMERICA TO THE HISTORY, CULTURE AND LANGUAGE OF CHINA

- JEANNE CHEN
  - DIRECTOR
  - COUNSELOR AT GLEN EYRIE PRIOR TO 1958
- 3 ADDITIONAL CHINESE COUNSELORS
  - FRANK & HELEN CHENG (MARIETTA, OHIO)
  - YAO-WEN LI (IOWA CITY, IOWA)

- 7 CHILDREN ATTENDED AND 6 WERE THE COUNSELORS'S CHILDREN
- 3 OF THE 7 CHILDREN WERE YOUNGER THAN 8
- JEANNE CHEN'S CHILDREN, MILTON AND LAURA, ATTENDED

# JEANNE CHEN



# MILTON & LAURA CHEN



- THE 1 CHILD ATTENDING WITHOUT A PARENT WAS EILEEN HSU
- SHE WAS THE DAUGHTER OF DR. AND MRS.
  FRANCIS HSU OF EVANSTON, ILLINOIS
- DR. AND MRS. HSU <u>CAME UP TO THE CAMP 3</u>
  <u>TIMES</u> TO SEE EILEEN

- ONE HOUR CLASSES IN THE MORNING & AFTERNOON TEACHING CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CRAFTS
- OTHERWISE, THE STUDY CAMPERS FOLLOWED THE SAME SCHEDULE AS THE APPROXIMATE 30 NON-CHINESE GLEN EYRIE FARM CAMPERS
- 3 OF THE NON-CHINESE GLEN EYRIE FARM CAMPERS ALSO WENT TO THE CHINESE CLASSES

- CHINESE CHILDREN'S STUDY CAMP
  - FLAG RAISING / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
  - MORNING CALISTHENICS
  - FARM CHORES SUCH AS PICKING STRAWBERRYS AND TAKING CARE OF THE FARM ANIMALS

CHINESE CHILDREN'S STUDY CAMP

- WATERFRONT ACTIVITIES

- EVENING ACTIVITIES SUCH AS MOVIES, TALENT NIGHT AND SQUARE DANCING

# CRAFTS 1958



- DILEMNA: WHY DID ONLY 7 CHILDREN ATTEND?
- ANSWER: PARENTS WERE WARY OF SENDING THEIR CHILDREN AWAY TO A "CHILDREN ONLY" CAMP

## $1958 \rightarrow 1959$

- MIDWEST CSAS BEGAN IMMEDIATE PLANNING FOR 1959
  - FIND A CENTRALLY LOCATED AREA IN THE MIDWEST
  - ENTIRE FAMILIES WILL ATTEND

- A SMALL GROUP VISITED THE CITY OF SYRACUSE IN NORTHERN INDIANA IN THE SPRING MONTHS
- REVEREND ELLEN STUDLEY, EDITH YOUNG AND JEAN YANG WERE PART OF THIS GROUP

#### CHINESE FAMILY CAMP MISSION:

"To create an environment through group living in which children will happily share in Chinese culture & language, and to provide a recreational vacation for all"

- CHINESE FAMILY CAMP (CFC)
  - BEGINS AND LASTS FOR 2 WEEKS IN THE SUMMER OF 1959
  - LOCATED IN SYRACUSE, INDIANA
    - AT OAKWOOD PARK NEXT TO LAKE WAWASEE

#### CHINESE FAMILY CAMP

- 11 FAMILIES TOTAL
  - 4 STAYED FOR THE FULL 2 WEEKS
  - 5 WENT ONLY THE FIRST WEEK
  - 2 WENT ONLY THE SECOND WEEK
- JEAN YANG AND EDITH YOUNG WERE THE CO-DIRECTORS

#### • CHINESE FAMILY CAMP

- SLEPT AND ATE IN KIMMEL HALL
- MISS WHITMER WAS A BELOVED
  TEACHER
- FESTIVAL WAS IN THE ROUND CHAPEL

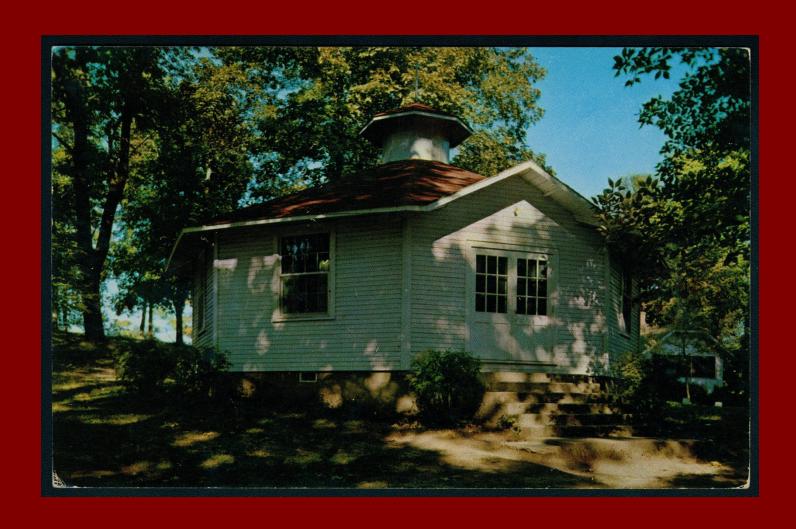
# 1959 GROUP PICTURE



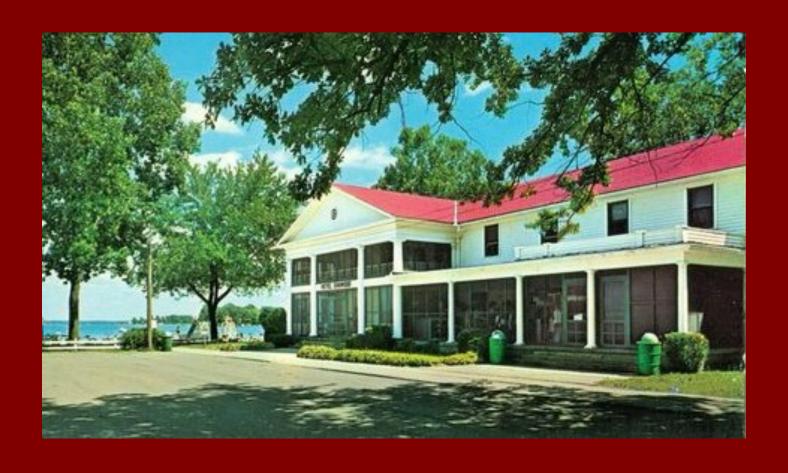
# OAKWOOD PARK KIMMEL HALL



# OAKWOOD PARK "ROUND" CHAPEL



# OAKWOOD PARK OAKWOOD HOTEL



# 1959 ATTENDEES IN 2008



# 1959 ATTENDEES IN 2018



1959-1990 Oakwood Park Syracuse, Indiana

# CFC JOURNEY

1991-2001 Various Sites In Other States

> 2002-2008 Oakwood Park Syracuse, Indiana

## 2009→2019 AMISH ACRES

Nappanee, IN

## **AMISH ACRES**







### 2020 VIRTUAL CFC

#### **Festival Night**

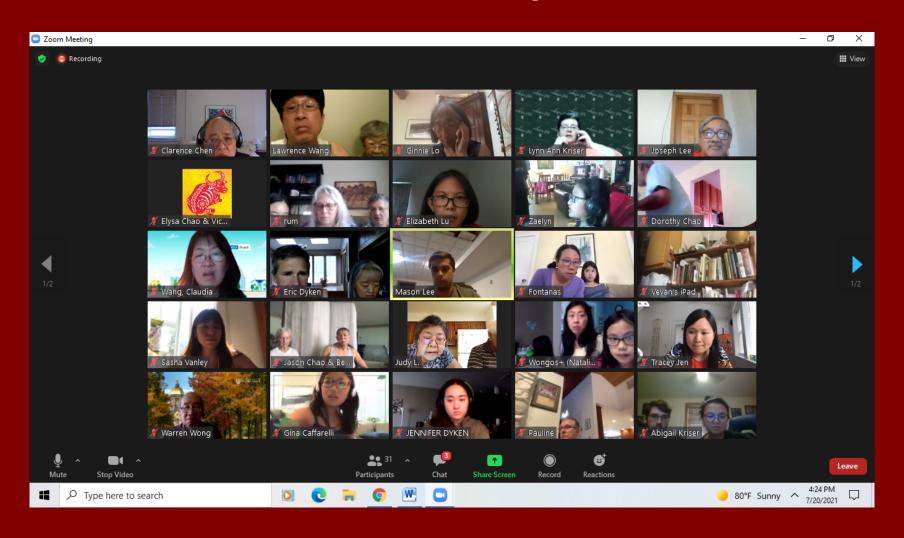


## AsAmNews Article Virtual CFC 2020

https://asamnews.com/2020/08/04/camp-now-in-its-sixth-decade-draws-chinese-families-in-the-midwest-closer-to-their-heritage/-

## 2021 VIRTUAL CFC

**Xtreme Trivia Night** 



## CFC 2022→FUTURE CEDAR LAKE MINISTRIES

Cedar Lake, IN

## CEDAR LAKE MINISTRIES



#### **CURRENT MISSION STATEMENT**

"The Midwest Chinese Family Camp unites a multi-generational community of extended Chinese & Chinese-American families for a week of fun & recreation in a modern lakeside retreat setting. We socialize, celebrate our culture & heritage, & learn from each other about being Chinese in America. Since 1958, our annual gatherings continually create and sustain deep & lifelong friendships that are truly priceless"

# HOW TO GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CFC

#### WEBSITE

chinesefamilycamp.org

#### **EMAIL**

president@chinesefamilycamp.org campdirector@chinesefamilycamp.org allen@chinesefamilycamp.org

### RESOURCES

LAURA CHEN

JANE CHU PREY

GINGER YANG

TINA TCHEN

DAVID CHEN

PUWEN LEE

CLARENCE CHEN

 LILLIAN CHEN BYERLEY

#### RESOURCES

- THE FIRST YEAR OF CHINESE CAMP
  - BY JEANNE CHEN
  - LOCATED ON OUR WEBSITE
- THE FIRST TEN YEARS 1959-68
  - PAMPHLET BY THE FAMILY CAMP COUNCIL OF THE MIDWEST C.S.A.S.
  - EDITED BY ELSIE LEE

### RESOURCES

#### • NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDWEST CSAS

- MAY 1958
- **OCTOBER 1958**
- **OCTOBER 1959**