

My Green Lake Story: Fred Walden

I was 16 years old in 1949 when I and Beverly Moore left Omaha, NE on a train to Chicago and transferred to a train bound for Green Lake. We were sponsored by First Baptist Church in Omaha to attend Northern Baptist Assembly, now known as Green Lake Conference Center.

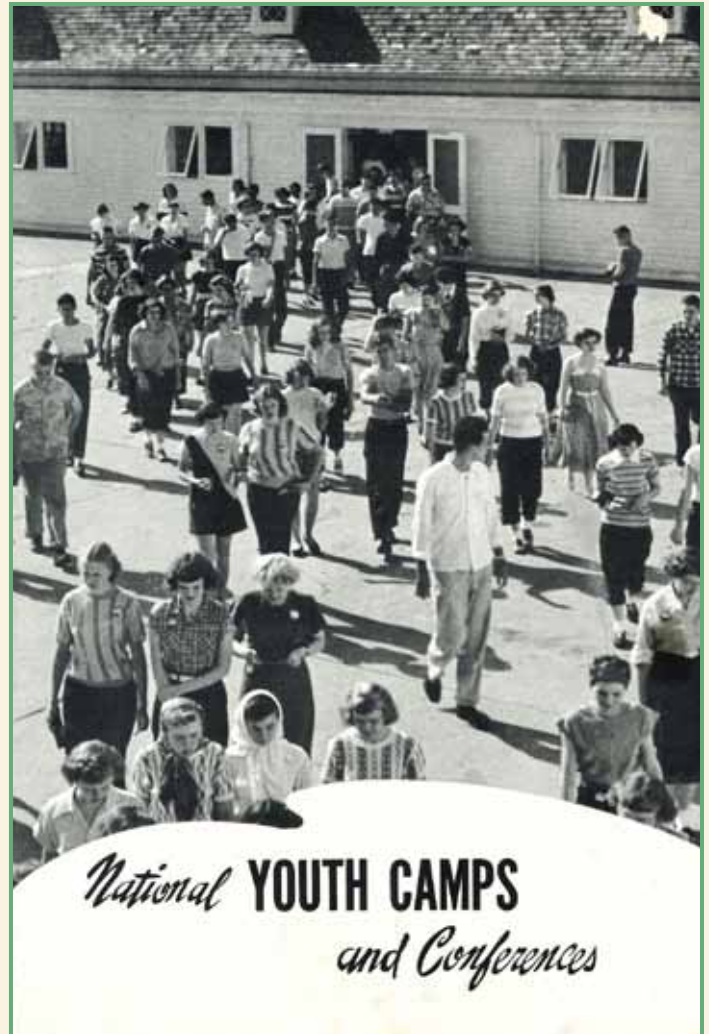
At Camp, the boys were housed in a wing of the cow barn. The girls' rooms were in the former hog barn. The main part of the former cow barn was the cafeteria. Above the cafeteria, a hay loft was the area where they held evening programs. It was awesome.

There were many activities attractive to teenagers. I and my new friends kept busy from morning to night. We made new trails through the woods. Bible studies were held throughout the day. I remember loving sitting on the golf course for Bible study.

Some mornings campers were sent out to pick blueberries for breakfast. In the evenings programs were held in the hay loft. Campers also gave testimonies in that area. In the evenings they went to the swimming pool for games. One of the games was playing water polo with watermelons.



I became pals with Marjorie King from Michigan. We did a lot of camping activities together. One day Marjorie and some friends were out on the lake boating and approached me, alone in my boat. The group decided that Marjorie should join me in my boat so I wasn't boating alone. We became pen pals and kept in touch. My wife Jan and I visited Marjorie and her husband Larry in Kalamazoo in 1984. A few years later Marjorie and Larry visited us in Omaha. We still exchange Christmas greetings to this day.



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Jan and Fred Walden enjoying the afternoon cream tea at the 75th anniversary conference