

KRUM YOUNG CITIZENS CLUB

By Kathryn Dodd

The article below on the Krum Young Citizens Club was taken from a document titled **Towns & Communities of Denton County, Texas**. This was a document compiled by Emily Fowler and Alma Lain Chambers and was started by Mrs. Fowler in the 1930's and additions made by members of the Home Demonstration Clubs of Denton County, the Parent-Teacher organization of the county and the editors. The Krum section was compiled by Mrs. Billie Barry with help from Bonnie Cole and Oma Lee Hood Hardy.

The story below was submitted by Milton Cofer for the Krum Young Citizen's Club:

The Krum Young Citizens Club "K.Y.C.C." had their first meeting July 4, 1954, with about fifteen boys present. This meeting grew from a group of boys sitting up town one night, when someone came up with the idea that we needed some sort of recreation center to help keep the teenagers off the streets at night. We decided to combine our efforts and see if we could not come up with an answer to this problem. At the first meeting we elected officers and talked over what could be done about getting this recreation center built. Officers for the first year were: President – Ralph L.(Buddy) Cole, Vice President – Bill Cofer, Secretary-Loman Park and Treasurer-Bennie Ennis.

Money for the material for the K.Y.C.C. building was donated by merchants and people of the town and community. We also raised some money by sponsoring a barbecue and by the sale of the community birthday calendars. Money for the roof alone was donated by the Women's Progressive Club. Some of the money for the floor was donated by the Hawkeye Home Demonstration Club.

Our building is not complete yet, as we still need about half of the flooring, and a few other items. The land for the building was donated to the K.Y.C.C. by Joe Kimbrough of Denton and Hazen Armstrong of the Bolivar Community. Our building is on the three acre tract, located on the east edge of Krum. The building is a concrete structure.

In the period of from July 1955 to July 1956 the following were the elected officers. President – Bill Cofer, Vice-President – Bennie Ennis, Secretary Don Odneal and Treasurer – Bobby Boaz.

For the year July 1956 to July 1957 we have the present officers: President – Bill Cofer, Vice-President – Bennie Ennis, Secretary – Larry Ennis and Treasurer – Ronald Chism. At the present there are 22 active members and 14 inactive members.

Down On The Farm Denton Record Chronicle

By Allen Bogan

August 17, 1954

In this day of big city gang fights, reckless driving, vandalism and growing restlessness among our young people, it is certainly encouraging to know that there are still many big, strapping, healthy youths who show good signs of becoming future leaders of their communities as well as successful businessmen.

We have in mind that group of teen-age Krum boys who have organized what they call Krum Young Citizens Club. Organized originally because a few of the boys wanted to clean up unsightly weeds and trash about town, the club has now moved on to bigger projects. After erecting a big "Welcome to Krum" sign south of town and making plans to erect two more, the club members now are studying plans for a recreation hall for Krum young people.

To us, one of the most encouraging aspects of this youth organization is that these young men who are members of the club are every bit as rough and tough as their contemporaries who are making newspaper headlines daily with their reckless and sometimes criminal escapades. What we mean is that these Krum boys are not sissies. They are muscular, well-conditioned young men who play football, swim in stock tanks, work on farms, chop cotton, cut wood, fish, hunt, handle cattle, milk cows and perform the countless other tasks that help keep our rural youth healthier than their city cousins who hang around the pool halls all day.

President Buddy Cole and his “gang” of nearly 30 Young Citizens Club members don’t have to jump into their automobiles and tear up the highway to meet another group of youths for a gang fight just to prove they are a powerful organization. If it really came to a showdown, I would take all the members of the Krum Young Citizens Club and back them in a fight against a similar number of boys from any so called “city tough gang” you could name. Only these Krum boys don’t have to do that to prove that they are real men. You can look at them and realize that here, in a small but well-knit Denton County community, is a real, living example of what our modern-day youth can and will do if given the opportunity and the support.

Youth Citizens Good Start On Foundation

Denton Record Chronicle

March 13, 1955

Members of the Krum Young Citizens Club are making hay while the sun shines taking advantage of the summer-like weather to get a good start on construction of their long awaited recreation hall.

Some of the materials are on the grounds, and the foundations are being dug for the building, which will be located on land donated to the club on the eastern edge of town about two blocks beyond the Santa Fe Railroad tracks.

Meanwhile it is reported that city officials of several other small towns over Texas are watching the Krum project with interest. The Krum Young Citizens are being upheld as a good example of what the youth of the nation can do for themselves, if given the proper encouragement and support.

President Buddy Cole and his co-workers conceived the idea of organizing the Young Citizens Club, and started from scratch. But they have received financial help from grateful Krum citizens, and they have the moral support of school, church and civic leaders over the Denton County area.

Krum Club To Raise Funds For Building at Barbecue

Denton Record Chronicle

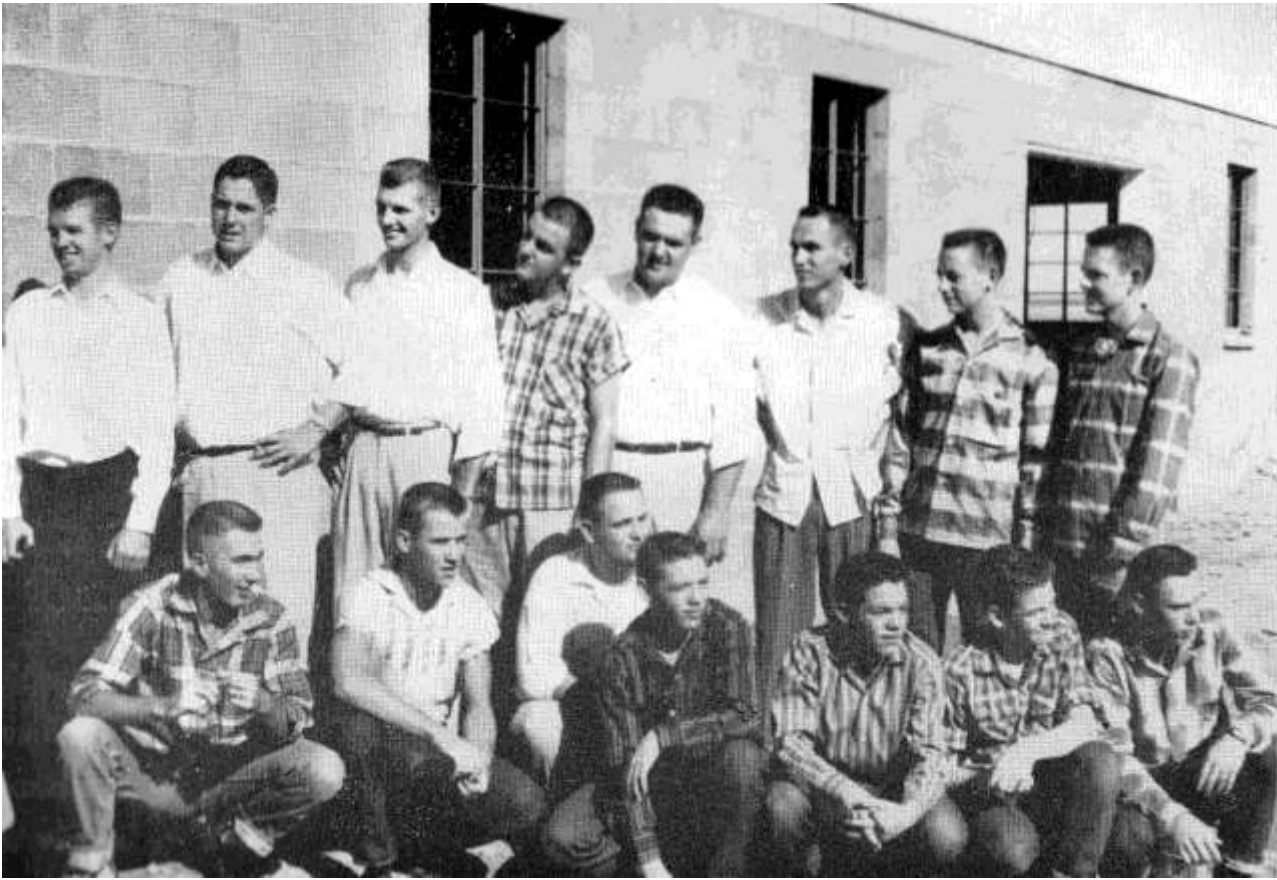
September 25, 1957

Krum- The Krum Young Citizens Club will hold a fund raiser barbecue at the new KYCC Building Saturday night in hopes of obtaining necessary money to complete finishing work on the building.

Costing \$14,000, the KYCC Building was built primarily for a youth center for Krum’s young people and was financed entirely by the local organization. Joe Kimbrough of Denton donated two acres of land for the site, which is located in the eastern portion of the city.

According to Cole, who was president of the KYCC when the building was planned and started, the project is strictly a community affair. Its purpose it to give Krum’s young citizens a place to gather in a wholesome atmosphere where various means of recreation will be kept.





Members of the KYCC Group

L to R- Back row: Bennie Enis, Bobby Boaz, Larry Enis, Milton Cofer, Billy Cofer, Donald Chism, Jerry Jackson, Buddy Cofer Front: Butch Murdock, Charles White, Ronald Chism, Denney Dodd, Dan Dodd, Wayne Hopkins, Buddy Standifer