

Fritz Orr Club Camp

One of my early memories is attending Fritz Orr Camp. Here I learned many of the skills that I acquired in my early childhood. Each summer, boys and girls from all over the United States would spend several months here. Activities included horseback riding, archery, riflery, nature study, wrestling and hiking.

Fritz was a remarkable person in many ways. He was outgoing and energetic. He challenged the campers to push themselves to their limits. An example of this that I remember as if he said it yesterday: Fritz once said, "Do as many push-ups as you can and then summon all your strength to do an additional one. That last one will do you more good than all the others put together." Another I remember, "If you get knocked down in defeat, get right up and get back into the action."

We went on camping trips where we spent the night in tents, something new for me. We climbed Stone Mountain, one of the largest pieces of exposed granite to be found anywhere, and spent the night on top. We took canoe trips down the Chattahoochee River, spending the night along the way in sleeping bags. For the first time, I was introduced to the outdoor experience and how to enjoy this type of activity.

During the school year, the Fritz Orr Club offered a chance for me to play football. In 1949, I played on the Navy Team with kids my age. In December, there was even a "bowl game" attended by all the parents and many other spectators. I have an old program, shown below, for the game in 1949. Fritz Orr would always include a poem. The one below is an example.

LITTLE THINGS

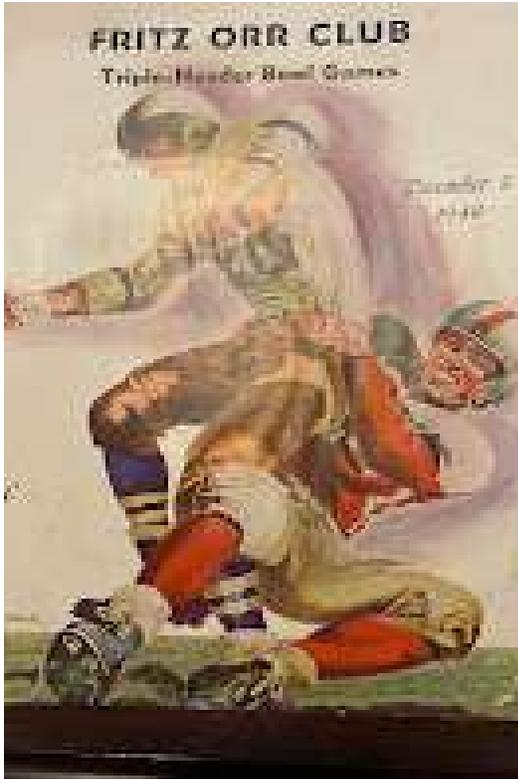
It takes a little muscle
And it takes a little grit,
A little true ambition
With a little bit of wit.
It's not the biggest things that count
And make the biggest show;
It's the little things that people do
That makes this old world go.

A little bit of smiling
And a little sunny chat,
A little bit of courage
To a comrade slipping back;
It's not the biggest things that count
And make the biggest show;
It's the little things that people do
That make this old world go.

It takes a kindly action
And it takes a world of cheer
To fill a life with Sunshine
And to drive away a tear.
Great things are not the biggest things
That make the biggest show

It's the little things that we may do
That makes this old world go.

(Author unknown)



MITES—NAVY TEAM—First Row (Left to Right): Bill Schroder, John Wesley, Hank Lesesne, Beechie Trimble, Second Row (Left to Right): Stuart Felton, Tammy Law, Bobby Fine, Third (Left to Right): Alva Lines, Arthur Merrill. Not in picture—Carlina Dinkler, Fred Lagerquist.

NAVY			
HANK LESESNE, Captain	79	B	John Wesley
Beechie Trimble	64	B	Fred Lagerquist
Tammy Law	24	B	Bill Schroder
Arthur Merrill	71	B	Stuart Felton
Bobby Fine	62	C	
Alva Lines	19	G	
Carlina Dinkler	76	G	

COACHES: Gill Mende, Phil U
Marion Brooke

Below are two pictures of wrestling matches at Fritz Orr Camp. The first shows Fritz and some campers watching a match. The second shows me in a match with my good friend Pat Drennan.

