

EXPLORING: WHERE YOU LIVE

Cadet History and Organization



PURPOSE

To promote awareness of Corps and local councils among Cadets, and to raise their interest in this particular ministry in God's kingdom work.

LEARNING

History

1. October 16, 1952.
2. The synod of the Christian Reformed Church looked for a way to coordinate the efforts of local and individual boys' clubs.
3. \$200 (1952).
4. 1966, in the Rocky Mountains near Denver, Colorado.
5. 2006, in Kenya.
6. Compare the boy's work to a copy of *A History of Cadeting*.

Organization

7–10. This will be different for each council. You will have to check your council's records.

11. *Council* — three or more active Cadet clubs from the same geographical area who agree to provide a minimum of one council activity for all the boys within the council, as well as to meet together as counselors for education, planning, and sharing a minimum of three times each Cadet season (*CCC Constitution and Bylaws*, Art. 4, Sec. 45.A.)

Club — the group of boys and men from one or more churches who meet together on a regular basis for Cadet activities (*R•P•B Guidebook*, page 5).

Cadre — group of up to six boys within a club, usually from the same grade or age, who work together for crafts and Bible lessons during the club meeting time.

Cadet — a boy who has joined a Cadet club.

Congress — the governing body of the Calvinist Cadet Corps. They are the official board of directors — a group of council representatives called Congressmen who meet annually to make decisions about the Cadet ministry.

12. The other ministries of DYM are GEMS Girls' Clubs and Youth Unlimited. GEMS stands for Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior, and they are the girls' counterpart to Cadets for boys.
13. Each club will have their own correct answer to these questions. For cadre officers, see the *R•P•B Guidebook*, page 6.

DOING

1. The chart looks like an upside-down version of typical organization charts, because the Cadet ministry is a grass-roots organization that practices servant leadership. That is, the counselors who use the program on a weekly basis are the ones who get to decide what the program will be. They do that by electing congressmen from among themselves. Those congressmen, who are also Cadet counselors, come from all over North America to assemble in West Michigan for an annual Congress meeting, voting on proposals relating to program, communication, publications, uniform, education, membership, and more.

Since the congressmen only meet once a year, they elect an executive committee to ensure that the work decided by Congress gets done.

The executive committee hires an executive director and approves additional staff as necessary.

As you can see, the executive director and staff, though they are the only ones paid for their work, are not the bosses, but the servants of all.

