



FORMAL DEDICATION
Lincoln U. S. O. Club

—AT—

137 South 13th Street

September 26th, 1943

at 4:00 o'clock P. M.



OPEN HOUSE DAILY

September 26 Through October 2, 1943

7:00 to 9:30 P. M.



The Young Men's Christian Associations . . . The National
Catholic Community Service . . . The Young Women's
Christian Associations . . . The Jewish Welfare
Board . . National Travelers' Aid Association . .
The Salvation Army

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS OF OPEN HOUSE WEEK

SQUARE DANCING AND OLD FASHIONED WALTZES - - - -	Sunday, September 26—2:30 p. m. Mrs. Sylvia Viterno Potter, Leader
MUSICALE—SOLDIER TALENT - - - -	Sunday, September 26—7:00 p. m. Pvt. Lou Asche, Master of Ceremonies
COMMUNITY SINGS - - - - -	Sunday, September 26—5:00 p. m. Thursday, September 30—7:00 p. m. Mrs. Altinus Tullis, Conductor
VARIETY SHOW - - - - -	Tuesday, September 28—7:30 p. m. Mr. Charles Putney, Master of Ceremonies
BADMINTON CLASS - - - - -	Tuesday, September 28—1:30 p. m. "G. I." Wives
BINGO PARTY - - - - -	Wednesday, September 29—7.30 p. m. Mr. Fred Cassidy, Caller
SEWING CLASS - - - - -	Wednesday, September 29—1:30 p. m. "G. I." Wives
VETERAN'S SHOW - - - - -	Thursday, September 30—7:30 p. m. Under direction of Mr. Jack Lofink
INFORMAL GAME PARTY - - - - -	Thursday, September 30—2:00 p. m. "G. I." Wives
SPORT EXHIBITION - - - - -	Friday, October 1—7:30 p. m. Sgt. and Mrs. Ross

DAILY PROGRAM FEATURES

ARTS AND CRAFTS - Lincoln Artists' Guild under supervision of Mrs. Dwight Kirsch	
BEGINNERS AND ADVANCED DANCE CLASSES - - - -	Betty Gilbertson, Hazel Johnson, Instructresses
GROUP SINGING - - - - -	Pianists—Helen Newcomer, Dorothy Anderson, Margaret Pacht, Mrs. Paulson, Mrs. Cobb
VOICE RECORDINGS - - - -	American Legion, under supervision of Mr. Boyd Raynor
ORCHESTRA DANCES - - - -	Music by 12th and 14th Army Air Force Bands
SMALL GAMES - - - - -	Yleen Riesland, Halcyon Allsman, Chairmen

DAILY RECEPTION GROUPS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 - - - - -	USO VOLUNTEER GROUPS, ARMY OFFICERS AND WIVES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 - - - - -	LINCOLN CHURCH GROUPS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 - - - - -	MEN'S ORGANIZATIONS
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 - - - - -	WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 - - - - -	PATRIOTIC GROUPS
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1 - - - - -	SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2 - - - - -	FAMILIES OF SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

"G. I." Wives will serve as hostesses in the mezzanine lounge each evening

VITAL STATISTICS

The Lincoln USO Club began operation August 15, 1942 in temporary quarters in the Chamber of Commerce.

The location was transferred to the present site, October 19, 1942.

USO temporary renovations were completed March, 1943; final renovations were completed July, 1943.

The following National USO agencies are represented in the Lincoln USO Club: Jewish Welfare Board, National Catholic Community Service, Young Men's Christian Association, Young Women's Christian Association.



THE TOTAL ATTENDANCE AT THE LINCOLN USO CLUB FROM
OCTOBER 19, 1942, TO SEPTEMBER 25, 1943, WAS

875,930

The following statistics reveal something of the volume and the scope of this Club's activities:

THE LINCOLN USO CLUB IN AUGUST, 1943

1. Had a total attendance of 128,516.
2. Was host to 26,783 in organized group activities.
3. Provided personal services to 7,200; accommodation services to over 30,000.
4. Provided counselling and specific individual services, including housing referrals, to 473 service men and their wives.
5. Distributed, without cost, 50,000 letter heads and envelopes; 5,000 post cards.
6. Provides free cookies and refreshments to over 20,000.

USO UNITS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND OVERSEAS

1. Are attended by nearly 15 million service men, women and visitors monthly.
2. Provides group activities for 5 million monthly.
3. Provides individual information service to over 1 million monthly.
4. Provides counselling to 110,000 monthly.
5. Operate 800 Clubs, and a total of 1,325 units in 631 communities in 48 states and 16 off shore posts.
6. Employ over 2,200 professional workers with about 4,000 other staff members operating 105 transient service lounges in over 100 different cities.

WHO ARE THE USO VOLUNTEERS?

They are the mothers, fathers, sisters and sweethearts of Lincoln boys in the armed forces. They are the American Legion and the Legion Auxiliary and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Army Mothers and the Navy Mothers, the Council of Lincoln Church Women and the Salvation Army and the Red Cross Canteen Corps, ministers, priests and rabbis and lay church workers. They are business men and business women, club women, housewives, teachers and students, defense workers. In other words, they are Lincoln people who have taken the service men and service women to their hearts. They have found in USO work a means of building fighting morale and hastening the victory. They have also found in it a means of expressing their innate neighborliness to young Americans in uniform, who turn out to be only the counterpart of their own boys or girls in the services.

They number over 800. They do the work, the insignificant chores and the weighty operations, of running this Club. They answer the telephone, check coats and parcels, operate program devices, sew and mend, serve food, teach dancing, teach crafts, lead one hundred and one

activities. They also sit on boards and councils and in committees and plan and propose changes and make decisions. They counsel with the individual service men and women and give them help and guidance. They perform countless neighborly services and in a thousand different ways daily express the hospitality for soldiers for which Lincoln has become famed.

It was they who took hold of this Club when it was bare and cheerless, moved the furniture into place, decorated the walls with pictures, made it gay and cheerful and imbued it with vitality. Senior hostesses came and lent decorum, gracious hospitality and kindly motherly hands. Junior hostesses added youth and gaiety and helped create a perpetual party atmosphere. Men volunteers, most of them veterans of another war themselves, contributed leadership, mechanical ingenuity and masculine-flavored friendship for the boy in the service. Other volunteers came with specialized talents and from modest beginnings whole departments grew into being. The Room and Apartment Registry, the Art and Crafts Workshop, the Library, the Square Dancing and the Dance Classes, to name only some, were conceived and developed by volunteer groups exclusively.

These workers and a legion of others—reception and telephone hostesses, junior hostess monitors, hospitality registrars, church counsellors, clerical aides—are the volunteer workers of the Lincoln USO Club. They ARE the USO.

WORDS OF A SOLDIER

"You will find a lot of figures in this booklet. They're big, imposing numbers and some of them have two commas to punctuate them. I'm not a figure man and the wisdom of the book-keeper is not in me and even the small problems they gave me in the Army IQ test threw me and had me eating the end off my pencil and attacking my nails with nervous fangs.

"But these are important figures and I understand them because each of these represents an act of kindness performed by the USO for one soldier. The USO doesn't give you a Guggenheim Fellowship or an X card or build you a hunting lodge at Sun Valley or a date with Hedy Lamarr. The USO does small things for the soldier and soldier is a million soldiers and the acts are a million acts of kindness.

"They're always doing little favors for a lot of guys who are lost and bewildered in strange towns where the foe of loneliness is met on every street. They get a guy a shower bath when he's dirty and a towel to dry himself off and a place to shave himself and the razors, the blades, the soap, the tooth paste, the tooth brush. They get him a laugh in the shows they put on and music to dream to in the concert halls and a cup of coffee and a doughnut and a desk to write a letter on and the paper and the envelope and the pen and ink. They have classes where guys can do, in their off-duty hours, what they did back home at their jobs, commerce, the arts, the crafts, the professions; and that's very good because it keeps a man's hands loose and it keeps his mind from journeying in a pilgrimage of despair back to what he had and what was close to him.

"They throw dances and parties and a guy can sit down and tell the tale of his torch to a girl or tell her the lies that are in him, the beautiful lies all young guys should have in them and the miracle of youth transforms into the truth. They have gyms in the USO buildings and if there's a prayer in a man there's religious services set-up, where he can get those prayers out of him.

"All these are small things, I guess; the soldiers dancing and writing letters and drinking coffee and talking to a girl and drying his shower-wet body with a towel and shaving his hairy face. Of course, they're small, but a soldier will tell you how important they are.

"But they're happening every day to the biggest Army the world has ever seen; all the small things getting bigger and spreading out and up and down and across the world, each small thing the biggest thing that happened that day to a soldier who came to the USO because he was lonely or hungry or dirty or unshaven or tightened up with the blues."

SGT. JIMMY CANNON
from the foreword of the Fort Dix, New Jersey,
USO Annual Report.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1943

DEDICATORY SERVICE

4:00 P. M.

NATIONAL ANTHEM - - - - - ARMY AIR FORCE BAND
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKERS - - - - - JOHN E. CURTISS,
CHAIRMAN OPERATING COMMITTEE
INVOCATION - - - - - THE REV. DR. GERALD KENNEDY,
VICE CHAIRMAN OPERATING COMMITTEE
GREETINGS - - - - - MAYOR LLOYD J. MARTI
GREETINGS - - - - - GOVERNOR DWIGHT GRISWOLD
GREETINGS - - - - - BRIG. GEN. EARLY E. W. DUNCAN
GREETINGS - - - - - COLONEL JAMES MURPHY
GREETINGS - CHIEF PETTY OFFICER HOWARD FEDERER, U S. NAVY
GREETINGS - - - MOST REV. L. B. KUCERA, BISHOP OF LINCOLN
GREETINGS - - - E. U. GUENZEL, CHAIRMAN USO COUNCIL
APPRECIATION OF MURAL BY ELIZABETH DOLAN - - - - -
- - - - - PROFESSOR EMERITUS E. H. BARBOUR
GREETING TO USO VOLUNTEER WORKERS - - - - -
- - - OSCAR LITTLEFIELD, DIRECTOR LINCOLN USO CLUB
ADDRESS - - - SAMUEL PASCOE, REGIONAL SUPERVISOR, USO-
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
BENEDICTION - - - - - RABBI HARRY JOLT
CONCERT - - - - - ARMY AIR FORCE BAND

The west wall mural, "Soldiers' Picnic", was executed and donated to the USO by Miss Elizabeth Dolan of Lincoln

LINCOLN U. S. O. COUNCIL

Ernest U. Guenzel, Chairman, Kenneth B. Cary, Vice Chairman, Mrs. Genie McGlasson, Secretary, Edward Becker, Treasurer, Rev. Thomas Barton, John O. Chapman, Dean Collins, Adj. Clyde Cox, Louis B. Finkelstein, Frances Drake, Paul F. Good, Nathan Grossman, Louis Horne, Clarence Hyland, Mrs. J. Knox Jones, Ben Kniffen, John Lawlor, James Lewis, Mrs. Myron Loomis, Elmer Magee, Clyde Malone, Walton Roberts, Mrs. George H. Rogers, A. Q. Schimmel, Rev. George J. Schuster, John K. Selleck, Mrs. Vance Traphagen, Earl M. West, Fred Williams, Thomas Woods, Lt. Col. Oscar B. Yorker.



OPERATING COMMITTEE OF LINCOLN U. S. O. CLUB

John E. Curtiss, Chairman, Rev. Dr. Gerald Kennedy, Vice Chairman, William Aitken, Edward Becker, Edith A. Brown, Mrs. H. R. Buttery, Kenneth B. Cary, Alfred Duteau, Mrs. Nathan Gold, Nathan Grossman, Ernest U. Guenzel, Mrs. L. E. Hoover, Rabbi Harry Jolt, Mrs. J. Knox Jones, John Lawlor, Mrs. Myron Loomis, Woodrow Magee, Mrs. Genie McGlasson, Rev. Arthur L. Miller, A. Q. Schimmel, Rev. George J. Schuster.



DEDICATION COMMITTEE

James Lewis, Chairman, Edith A. Brown, Mrs. Dwight Kirsch, Woodrow Magee, Charles Putney.



LINCOLN U. S. O. CLUB STAFF

Oscar Littlefield, Director
John McEwen, Assistant Director
Elizabeth Rowe, Assistant Director
Roger H. Young, Assistant Director
Dorothy Elster, Program Assistant
Zella T. Curtis, Secretary
Rexana Fair, Secretary
Walter Young, Custodian