



PLAYTIME: When the sun came out so did all those people who caught an early dose of spring fever. Outdoor basketball games were abundant and some tennis activity erupted with the peak from the sun. The recent cold snap was a reminder that winter is still with us officially until next Monday.

Hoke Girl Scout History Recalled

Compiled by Mrs. Robert Gatlin and Mrs. Milo Postel

Sometime in the year 1941, a group of girls - including Phyllis Baker (Mrs. Luke McNeill), Lydia McKeithan (Mrs. Bill Stokes), Ann Graham (Mrs. William Poole), and Marie Cameron (Mrs. Marie Brown) - approached Mrs. V.R. White, the wife of the Hoke High School Principal, to ask for help in organizing a Girl Scout Troop. Mr. and Mrs. White agreed to their request and Girl Scouting in Hoke County was a reality.

The Movement was kept alive and in 1944-46, an Army wife helped with the troop. Ann Gore Hostetler remembers that they knitted scarves and mittens for soldiers in World War II.

The history of the years from then until 1951 is scant. However, there were Girl Scouts. Mrs. Colon Scarborough worked with them as her daughter, Lillian, was then Scout age.

In the fall of 1951, some interested mothers met and discussed reviving Scouts and from then until now, Hoke County had a place in the Girl Scout Family, even tho' operating on a "shoe-string"

There was no sponsor nor financial aid until the Woman's Club of Raeford became the sponsors and gave \$25 a year to be divided among three troops - eventually four troops because the Brownie troop had to be divided. The girls paid dues - 5¢ weekly - and the leaders managed. Surely there was a hole in many leaders pocket-books!!!

During this time, troops took part in many activities - selling Girl Scout Cookies, having Mother-Daughter banquets with the girls doing all the work and planning themselves and guided by their leaders, marched in parades with the newly purchased flags - troops, U.S., and G.S.A. - for each troop purchased with cookie money. Day Camp - only a day at a time - but accomplishing much; such as teaching girls swimming and campcraft. Sewing, cooking, and helping others was a big part of the weekly meetings. "Check-Po's", bags with school, First Aid, and sewing supplies, were made for children and sent to Korea. "Care" help was sent to a child in Greece. A "Thank You" letter - written in Greek - and a picture of the boy recipient was received.

Our American Greek friend, who ran the Elk Restaurant, translated the letter. We were humbled by the Greek boy's thanks and flowery words of praise for our generosity and love for him and his love for the United States.

Girls Scout participated in Day Camp at Pine Bluff - 2 whole weeks - through the courtesy of the Carolina Council which included Moore, Lee, and maybe Chatham Counties - we had a successful and meaningful experience. About 20 girls were able to attend. Transportation was furnished by the leaders and expenses were paid by troop funds. Camp crafts, camp cooking, menu planning, "chigger fighting", swimming, working for badges, and group participation were among the many activities that made a great impression on the lives of the Girl Scouts -

Brownies, Intermediates, and Juniors.

In trying to secure professional help, we learned that Hoke County was scheduled to be in the Carolina Council - with headquarters in Sanford. Our part, money wise, was more than Hoke could pay, so again we were relegated to the Lone Troop Plan of Girl Scouting. Leaders from Hoke, however, were invited to share in training and workshops of the Cape Fear Council in Fayetteville.

About this time, mid to late fifties, a United Fund was founded in Hoke County and Girls Scouts were included, but we were still unable to join the Carolina Council. Also at this time, a new organization of Girl Scouting was being talked on the National level.

North Carolina was to be divided into four parts - north to south - and Hoke County was included in the 19 (Now 20) counties of the Pines of Carolina Girl Scout Council. Lone Troops were being phased out and Girl Scouting would die completely if we could not join this council.

By this time, the Woman's Club had given up the sponsorship because LEADERS were so hard to get. It was impossible, or so it seemed to the Woman's Club, to continue. During this time, Girl Scouting lagged.

Not knowing that Girl Scouts would have a big revival, the former leaders and sponsors - wanting to use the cookie money for a worthwhile project - bought and donated to the Hoke County Library, a movie projector and screen. This is available under Library personnel supervision for general use. It has been used by many people and hopefully, will continue to be of service. This was in honor of the early days of Girl Scouting in Hoke County and the Memory of the Lone Troop Era. The balance in the account was given to Neighborhood #32 to be used for their many needs for equipment.

Happy Day!!! The Pines of Carolina Girl Scout Council is now operating and since about 1963, Hoke County has been included in this council. It is funded by the United Fund and, officially, is Neighborhood #32. The first Association Chairman was Mrs. Robert Gatlin and the second, Mrs. Milo Postel.

Neighborhood #32 has accomplished much. Craft workshops in the summer with Day Camp activities. There were regular Day Camps for several summers, camporees at Ft. Bragg, Council sponsored Cadette Events, a participant in two National Girl Scout Events. A two-week swimming camp for boys and girls was held at Ft. Bragg - with swimming instructions, crafts, and games. Volunteers willing took part and Army personnel were provided also. The Hoke County Schools allowed the use of their Activity Buses.

Girl Scouting kept growing. At this time there were 16 troops - and these were very busy. Senior Scouting grew during this time. In 6 years: there were 23 Program Aides, 18 Library Aides, 10 Hospital Aides, 5 Aquatic Safety Aides and 1 Public Relations Aide.

After training in these various areas, the Senior Scouts gave a minimum of 50 free hours of their time. The Senior Troop printed a Newsletter which they very appropriately named "The Greenie Bopper". It contained information about all Girl Scout activities in the Neighborhood and a copy went to every registered girl in a GS Troop.

Girl Scouting again went into a period when the membership declined somewhat. Now, with the changing role in Girl Scouting, new leaders, and a county resident as part-time Field Director, it is on the rise again.

Among other many and varied activities, service projects, and community projects, the Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts are able to experience activities for possible future careers, and all are learning personal values and insights.

It has become apparent to all that Girl Scouts no longer be "pictured" as a cookie selling group or a crafts club, or a place to take the place of a babysitter, BUT as a special worthwhile part of the community. Girls learning to take their places in the world as wives, mothers, and future leaders in all facets of life.

There are now 182 registered girls, 65 registered adults, and 11 troops. There is a Hoke County Girl Scout Advisory Board for the first time. It meets monthly and is composed of interested and influential volunteers who believe in Girl Scouting; believe it should continue to grow, to be supported, and will work toward that goal.

Among the very early workers in Girl Scouting, Hoke County can say "THANK YOU" to: Mrs. Harvey Warlick, the late Mrs. W.D. McLeod, Mrs. Robert Gatlin, Mrs. Ray Griffin, Mrs. Raine Wilcox, Mrs. Henry Bernstein, Mrs. John Haire, Mrs. W.T. Gibson, Mrs. Bumgarner, Mrs. W.L. Howell, Jr., Mrs. June Johnson, Mrs. Clyde Upchurch, Jr., Mrs. James Wood, Mrs. Paul Burnett, Mrs. Ransome Baucom, Mrs. Graham Clark, and Mrs. Eugene Matherly.

Many others helped all along the way and all can point with pride that they had a large part in Hoke County Girl Scouts.

Black History Honored At South Hoke School

South Hoke School celebrated Black History month with these activities.

-Each class decorated their doors commemorating famous black individuals.

-A short paragraph, entitled "Did You Know...?", about a famous black person was read to the school over the intercom, by a fourth grader from Mrs. Lyons and Mrs. Monroe's class.

-Filmstrips were shown about leading black Americans.

-A display called, "Black Hall of Fame" of famous black people with pictures and information about each.

-A play entitled "February's Family Reunion" was performed by Mrs. E. Coleman's class.

A library display on Black Americans.

Assisting with the program was Joanne Bease.

Other participants included: Donald Blue, Shonda Bridges, Leonard Brown, Adrian Campbell, Owen Finkley, Alexander Hasty, Ervin Kershaw, Glenda Mitchell and Christopher Ray.

Quail Hunting Season Change Being Eyed

Tar Heel quail hunters may be able to take to the field a week early next year.

A proposed change in the quail season - which would run from November 12 through March 1 - was just one of the proposed regulation changes considered by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission at a meeting on February 28.

These proposed changes in hunting, trapping and fishing regulations will be presented to sportsmen at a single series of public hearings across the State beginning in mid-March.

"We urge all sportsmen to attend these hearings, and give these

proposals careful consideration," said J. Robert Gordon of Laurinburg, chairman of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. "Public input plays a vital role in the development of our regulations."

These proposals include only major changes in hunting and trapping regulations.

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