

GIRL SCOUTS

IN WHEELING

Did you know that a former Girl Scout camp still exists within the boundaries of Wheeling? The buildings are there--the Denoyer home, the log Girl Scout building, a partially demolished barn and the outbuildings. They are not accessible, but the 100 acre Denoyer farm never was. Now the farm is mostly covered by the Chelsea Cove housing development and the new Kingsport Commons.

However, down Denoyer Trail, past Kingsport, four and a half acres of the old farm still are held by Mrs. Denoyer's brother, Oliver Bilhorn, and visitors are discouraged by a warning sign to keep out. Past vandalism is the reason for a caretaker living on the grounds.

Back in 1935 the log house with its fabulous stone fireplace was built with 100 year old logs and wood from the 1933-34 Chicago World's Fair. Spring and fall, it was the center for Girl Scout camping lead by Mrs. Denoyer, assisted by Lucile Schneider.

Xenia Denoyer got her start in Scouting in 1918 in Chicago and became acquainted with Juliette Low, the founder of Girl Scouts, in 1924. She staked out the first units at Juniper Knoll, Chicago's Girl Scout camp at Elkhorn, Wis. It was here that she met Lucile Schneider who was attending a training session, and convinced her to change her Girl Reserves unit into Girl Scout Troop No. 1 of Wheeling. Mrs. Denoyer was an active leader and inspiration to Girl Scouts in Wheeling for 29 years.

It is now 75 years since Juliette Low founded the Girl Scout movement in Savannah, Ga., borrowing the idea from her friend, Lord Baden Powell, who founded the Boy Scouts in this country. On March 12 local troops celebrated and on April 25 there will be a parade down Michigan Ave. in Chicago to mark the event. We noted that Jane Haeger of Wheeling received the 1987 Denoyer Award for Excellence, given to individuals who best represent the adult Girl Scout volunteer in their communities.

75 years of Girl Scouting

Who founded it: Socialite Juliette Lowe, in Savannah, Ga. She reportedly told a friend "I think I have something for the girls of America."

Why: Borrowing an idea from her friend Lord Baden Powell, an Englishman who founded the Boy Scouts in this country, Lowe thought women could grow emotionally and mentally by learning to lead others and plan their lives. She wanted to educate young girls in the basics of homemaking and allow them the enjoyment of camping and other outdoor activities.

The highs, the lows: Girl Scouting experienced its most successful years in the 1950s and early 1960s, but enrollment fell off dramatically later in the 1960s and 1970s.

Today's Scouting. An expanded program, leaders say, including training in computers and health education, programs on drug abuse, choosing a career, human sexuality and the adjustments of being home alone while parents are at work.

What local leaders say: "The basic program, the basic foundation, is the same," says Clarine C. Hall, executive director of the Illinois Prairie Girl Scout Council in Elk Grove Village, which covers 43 towns in Lake and northwest Cook counties. "But what we've done is adapted it to the young girl of today and we'll continue adapting it as the years go by."



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1940

LOCALS

Twenty girls met at the Presbyterian church on Monday afternoon to consider the formation of a Girl Scout Troop under the leadership of Mrs. L. P. Denoyer. Wheeling has not had a program of girl scouting since 1929 because of lack of leadership. Mrs. Denoyer has been a leader of troops in Chicago and Wilmette for twenty years besides actively participating in other departments of the Girl Scout program. We are happy that this opportunity to share in the adventure of scouting has opened to the girls of Wheeling community.

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 1941

This Week

LUCILE SCHNEIDER, Editor

Girl scouts enjoy three day camp at Denoyer cabin

Thirteen members of Wheeling Troop Girl Scouts enjoyed a three day camp last week, which was held at the Denoyer Cabin. The girls arrived at the camp just before lunch on Monday and left following breakfast on Thursday after three busy and happy days.

Although the camp site was close to home, the camp program and camp atmosphere compared very favorably with the larger established camps, and through the courtesy of the captain, Mrs. L. P. Denoyer, was offered to the girls free their only expense being their food. As many of the girls were interested in campcraft and outdoor cook badges they planned to prepare their food over outdoor fires and serve their meals out of doors.

The weather man cooperated nicely and only two meals were eaten indoors, during the three days. A court of awards was held on Wednesday evening, to which parents and friends were invited. The flag lowering ceremony opened the program.

Scouts Jane Fortman and Alice Jean Bilhorn were invested as tenderfoots, Ruth Hanselman received her rank as second class scout, and her sister, Lois, was awarded the rank of first class scout, the first member of the troop to win that honor. With the exception of Jane, these girls are out or town members of the troop.

Other local troop members who received badges were Selma Kraus, Betty Jane Graff, Hazel Hipp, Shirley Wieder, Alice Ortegel, Barbara Haben, Betty Frank, Polly Person

Fifteen members of Wheeling Troop Girl Scouts were campers for the first time at Denoyer Lodge last week-end. Although girl scouting is still very new to the girls who are not yet invested as Tenderfoots, they readily caught the scout spirit from their capable leader, Mrs. L. P. Denoyer. The camp opened on Friday evening and closed early on Sunday in time for the girls to attend their respective churches.

Wheeling girl scouts enjoy four day camp excursion

Twelve members of Wheeling troop girl scouts enjoyed three days of comradeship at Camp "Rising Sun" on the Denoyer farm, beginning Friday afternoon and continuing until Monday. All but three of the scouts were obliged to return to their school classes Monday.

On Saturday the girls participated in a tree planting, made plans for pioneer scouting and began learning the Morse code of signaling, besides the regular camp housekeeping duties in which all girls share equally.

On Sunday the troop observed National girl scout Sunday by attending church services in a body. The rain and falling temperature neither chilled nor dampened the spirit of the campers. A bright fire in the large fireplace and suitable clothes kept them "comfy" physically and a full program inspired by their leader kept their hearts light.

Sunday afternoon was devoted to singing, games and stunts. In the evening the camp enjoyed two reels of moving pictures shown by Mr. Denoyer, which gave the history of the camp to date. Included in the pictures were some scenes taken during the summer camp of the troop and the girls were entertained by their own antics.

Besides the usual camp duties, Monday's program included contests in signaling, and a story hour which closed the camp.

Girls who shared in the privileges of this camp were Scouts Selma Kraus, Ingrid and Joan Nielsen, Alice Ortegel, Shirley MacCrimble, Peggy Kruse, Polly Person, Barbara Haben, Rosanna Schmidt, Lois and Ruth Hanselman, and Alice Bilhorn. One of the troop mothers, Mrs. John Nielsen, assisted the regular leaders in setting up the camp.

18 Girls Inducted In Girl Scouts At Denoyer Cabin

Eighteen girls were officially received into the world-wide sisterhood of girl scouts when they received their tenderfoot pins at an Investiture and Tree Planting ceremony held at the Denoyer Cabin site Sunday afternoon. The program opened at 2 o'clock with the raising of the flag by the troop color guard and the pledge of allegiance by the Wheeling girls. The prayer of invocation was led by Rev. D. C. Morrison.

The tree planting ceremony followed. The Horse Chestnut and Linden trees were planted by the Skokie Patrol of high school girls. The Norway and Schwedeler Maples were planted by the Maple Patrol of 6th grade girls. The Weeping Willow and White Ash by the Eagle Patrol of 7th grade girls. The Mountain Ash and Chinese Elm by the Everlasting Patrol of 8th grade girls. The Pin Oak and Maiden Hair trees were planted by the adult sponsors of the troop.

The trees were presented as a memorial to the Wheeling Girl Scouts by Ernest Kruse, one of the scout fathers, and had been set the day before, ready for the last filling of earth. The Investiture ceremony was held before the open fire place in the Denoyer Cabin, which is rich in Girl Scout memories. The girls who received their tenderfoot pins from their captain, Mrs. L. P. Denoyer, were Betsey Dickhoff, Lorraine Schmidt, Margaret Schmidt, Ingrid Nielsen, Betty June Graff, Elaine Hipp, Hazel Hipp, Selma Kraus, Shirley Wieder, Peggy Kruse, Mary Dietrich, Betty Frank, Barbara Haben, Polly Person, Alice Ortegel, Jeanette Beck, Joan Nielsen and Helen Laye. Lois Hanselman, of Oak Park, an associate member of the troop was invested with a second class badge.

Poems appropriate for the occasion were read and the solo "Trees" by Joyce Kilmer, was sung by Scout Peggy Kruse. At the conclusion of the program the entire assembly of guests and scouts were invited into the Denoyer home where refreshments were served. Guests were also shown through the lovely new home by the gracious hostess and genial host.

The prayers of many of the Wheeling girls for the opportunity to follow the girl scout trail have been exceptionally answered by the coming of Mrs. Denoyer to this community. Mrs. Denoyer possesses a contagious girl scout spirit herself and has been a successful leader of troops in Chicago and Wilmette for twenty years. Besides this she brings a rich personal experience in the teaching profession, travels and Christian service, plus a husband with like experiences, friendly to the Girl Scout cause.

This Week

LUCILLE SCHNEIDER, Editor.

Girl Scouts anniversary

Wheeling Troop Girl Scouts gave a dramatic presentation of their program at their anniversary meeting and court of awards on Tuesday evening, March 31. Twenty friends were present to share the evening.

Four of the ten fields of scouting were depicted in poetry and pageantry, opening with a style show, in which the girls modeled the proper attire for different occasions. The next scene portrayed the home field and included glimpses of activities in the house-keepers, hostess, foods, cook and child-care badge requirements.

An out-door scene followed, touching the nature and out-door fields with dramatizations from campcraft, bird-finder, explorer, foot traveler and gardener badge-work. The final scene symbolized the thirtieth anniversary of Girl Scouting and the theme of world friendship as the girls carrying flags of different nations formed a semi-circle about thirty lighted candles surrounding a world globe bank.

After singing their international song, the girls dropped their birthday pennies in the bank as their contribution to the Juliette Lowe fund.

Three members of the troop committee assisted members of the troop in serving refreshments. The climax of the evening came in the court of awards conducted by the captain, Mrs. L. P. Denoyer. Badges were awarded as follows: 13 hostess, 7 clothing, 4 foods, 3 house-keeper, 1 cook, 3 foot-traveler, 2 gardener, 1 tree finder, 1 fresh water life finder and 1 star finder.

Scouts Joan Fortman, Rosanna Schmidt, Alice Jane Bilhorn and Dorothy McCrindle were invested with the second class rank and Scout Ingrid Nielsen was invested as a first class scout.

Other scouts who received badges were: Lois Hanselman, Selma Krause, Alice Ortegell, Peggy Kruse, Polly Person, Joan Nielsen, Betty Frank, Barbara Haben and Ruth Van Kirk.

in Wheeling

Phone 40

Girl scouts earn awards at three day outing

Nineteen girls and their leaders made up the happy family that lived together as Girl Scouts at Camp Rising Sun on the Denoyer farm for three full days last week. It was the summer camp of Wheeling Troop, and was directed by the troop leader, Mrs. L. P. Denoyer.

Weather conditions were ideal for an out-of-door program, and except for sleeping, the campers worked and played together almost entirely in the fresh air and sunshine, and gathered around the camp fire under the stars, at the close of the day.

All campers shared in the routine tasks of cooking, dish washing and other camp housekeeping duties. For the scout-craft periods, the girls divided into age and interest groups. The newest scouts chose activities that advanced them toward second class. Many of the older scouts chose to qualify as pioneer campers.

A court of awards was held at the closing camp-fire on Thursday evening to which parents and friends were invited. About sixty persons shared in the program, which opened with an impressive flag-lowering ceremony. This was followed by a brief dramatic entertainment presented by the "larks and chickadees," who were the youngest campers. Two of the pioneer scouts, Peggy Kruse and Joan Nielsen, then kindled the camp fire where the court of awards was held, which was conducted by the troop captain, Mrs. Denoyer.

Four girls were invested as tenderfoots. They were Viola Krieter, Janet Utpadel, Valarie Landon and badges were next presented to

Carol Bellmore. The following qualifying scouts — Arts and Crafts Field: 2 Interior Decorator, 2 Designer, Architecture; Home-making Field: Hostess, Child Care, 2 Cook; Nature Field: Fresh Water Life, Animal Life, Garden flower, gardener; Out of Doors Field: Out-door cook, 4 camp craft, 9 pioneer. Scout Joan Nielsen was invested with the rank of First Class, the third girl in the troop to advance to First Class Scout. The "curved bar" which signifies the following of a second major interest in girl scouting was awarded to First Class Scout Lois Hanselman.

Scouts who participated in the camp other than those already named were First Class Scout Ingrid Nielsen, Second Class Scouts Selma Kraus, Polly Person, Barbara Haben, John Fortman, Ruth Hanselman, Alice Ortegell, Rosanna Schmidt and Alice Jane Bilhorn. Three guests at the camp were Jo Anne Raschka, Jean Hanselman and Edna Morrison.

Mrs. Denoyer was assisted in the camp program by co-leader, Miss L. Schneider and the troop committee chairman, Mrs. J. Nielsen and Mrs. D. C. Morrison. Two of the older scouts, Lois and Ingrid, served as junior leaders. Edward Meyers, a cousin of one of the campers, took pictures which will help the girls make a graphic record of the Pioneer Camp of 1942 in their book of happy memories.

Wheeling

Girl scouts organize for coming year

Wheeling Troop Girl Scouts will hold their first meeting of the 1942-43 season Monday evening, Sept. 14. The troop meets in the Presbyterian church basement at 7:15 p. m.

All girls 10 years of age and up who are interested in the comradeship of working and playing in the Girl Scout way are invited. The troop at present is composed of both grade and high school patrols and will follow activities of interest to each group. High school Scouts will be encouraged to be better prepared to take their place as true scouts in the time of national emergency.

Girl scouts hold annual fall meeting

The third annual fall camp of Wheeling Troop Girl Scouts was held last week-end at Camp Rising Sun on the Denoyer Farm. Eighteen girls enjoyed the camp together with their leaders.

The camp opened Friday evening and closed Sunday evening for grade school scouts, with the Pioneer high school scouts remaining until Monday afternoon. Ideal weather conditions permitted almost as much out-door camping as the summer camp, and the troop was glad to spend as much of the time as possible in the open.

An informal and surprise investiture took place before the cabin fireplace on Saturday evening when Scout Dona Jean Miller received her tenderfoot pin just after her mother brought her birthday present, a girl scout uniform.

Six of the pioneers also were awarded with their cyclist badges. They were scouts Ingrid and Joan Nielsen, Selma Kraus, Polly Person, Ellen Kruse and Alice Bilhorn.

Three troop mothers assisted the leaders during part of the camp. They were the committee chairman, Mrs. John Nielsen, who spent Friday night and Saturday at camp, and Mrs. John Hoffmann and Mrs. Ernest Kruse.

Wheeling girl scouts awarded at outing

Another chapter in the book of happy memories of camp was written last week for members of Wheeling Troop Girl Scouts. Twenty girls and their leaders assembled at Camp Rising Sun on the Denoyer Farm on Monday for the troop's third summer camp.

The camp was comprised of four units known as the "Haylofters", "Norsemen", "Cliff-Dwellers" and "Frontiersman". Each unit operated as a scout family with all sharing in camp duties. The program centered in out-door activities as far as weather conditions permitted. One rainy day kept the girls under cover but in no way dampened their spirits or interrupted their schedule.

A court of awards to which friends were invited was held around the out door camp fire, on Thursday evening following "Retreat."

The troop leader and camp director, Mrs. L. P. Denoyer, presented the awards. Tenderfoot scouts invested were Marie Kraus and Helen Marie Bilhorn. Scouts who received the rank of second class were Viola Krieter, Jo Anne

Hoffmann, Janet Utpadel, Carol Bellmore, Alice Newman, Valario Landon, Dolores Scanlon, Dona Jean Miller and Ethel Dever. Three of the older girls received the coveted rank of first-class scouts. They were Barbara Haben, Polly Person and Peggy Kruse.

Honorary award of the curved bar, designating the completion of required work in another major field of scouting was received by Scout Ingrid Nielsen. Merit badges awarded demonstrated a variety of interests as follows, 19 Out-door Cook, 8 Foot Traveller, 4 garden flower finder, 5 world Trefoil, 2 my community, 2 reader, 2 junior Citizen, 1 housekeeper, 1 cyclist, 1 star finder and 1 architecture.

Adult members of the staff beside Mrs. Denoyer were Mrs. Lloyd Smith of Chicago, Mrs. Harold Quigley and Miss Lucile Schneider.

The troop is especially fortunate in having the free use of the camp through the courtesy of their leader, which has made two camping experiences a year possible for the majority of the scouts.

6/15/36 Girl Scouts
 Senior Girl Scouts
 Brownies

Troop 73—Lucy Evanger, Leader.
 Troop 262 and 263, Intermediates—
 Mrs. Philip Denoyer, Leader.
 Troop 407, Intermediates—Mrs.
 J. Brehm, Leader.
 Troop 298, 4th Grade Brownies—
 Mrs. Bettie Barrie, Leader.
 Troop 391, 3rd Grade Brownies—
 Mrs. J. Alsdorf, Leader.
 Troop 392, 2nd Grade Brownies—
 Mrs. J. Schmoeller, Leader.

July 21 1944

Girl scouts return from camp

Another happy camp experience closed on Monday for members of Wheeling troop, Girl Scouts. Fifteen girls assembled at Camp Hitting Sun on Singing Grove farm Wednesday noon, July 5. Besides carrying on the regular duties of camp housekeeping, the girls worked on various scout projects.

The troop leader and camp director, Mrs. L. Philip Denoyer, was assisted by senior troop members, Ingrid Nielsen, Selma Kraus, Polly Person, Ruth Hanselman, Peggy Kruse and Alice Jane Bilhorn. Miss Lois King of Chicago was also a junior assistant.

A court of awards was held Saturday evening. Badges presented included five minstrel, four flower finder, four gardener, three housekeeper, three world traveler, three wide wide world, two child care, one handywoman, one foods and one my troop. Scouts Maria Kraus and Dona Anderson were advanced to second class. Presentation of the first class badge to Selma Kraus climaxed the awards.

Other scouts present all of whom received one or more badges were Jo Anne Hoffmann, Alice Newman, Carole Bellmore, Janet Utbadei, Lucille Evanger, and Ethel Dever. Demonstrating some of their work on the minstrel badge the girls entertained with a ballad "The Raggle Taggle Gypsies." Although menus were kept simple to cut down the cost, the girls enjoyed numerous treats provided by troop mothers.

As usual the girls left camp counting the days until the next period which they hope to have in the fall.

1st Brownie Troop in Wheeling was started in Sept. 1954.

We had one troop of 40 girls. 2nd 3rd 4th graders meeting in the basement of the Presbyterian church on Dundee Rd. Later moving to the Armvets' hall on S. Milwaukee ave.

After a year the troops were divided. ~~the troop~~, also had a junior troop which were intermediate troop.

Wheeling had a junior troop led by Xenia De noyer.

~~Mrs.~~ Marie Schmoller, Marion ~~French~~ ^{Brehm} and Betty Barne were leaders for the 1st Brownie Troops. After 3 years we moved the troops to Walt Whitman School as it was more convenient as the girls were right there. Walt Whitman was the only school in Wheeling at that time.

Brownies and Juniors marched in the Memorial Day Parade.

Juniors went camping in Wisconsin at the Girl Scout camp.

Both juniors and brownies had cook outs in the Forest Preserves.

name

years in troupe

Christine Geshe

3 years

Diane Hieber (Goodman) 1 yr.

RUTH KROEPIL (BARRIE) 3 yrs

NAOMI DEMPSEY (BARRIE) 3 yrs

JANET BARRIE (KEAN) 2 yrs

Lorraine Hieber (SCHMIOT) 3 yrs.

Lillian Mykytiuk (Bieber) 1 yr