The History of Scouting in South Georgia

(Including the Histories of Alapaha Area Council, Aumuckalee Council, Chehaw Council, Nochaway Council, South Georgia Council, Southwest Georgia Council and Withlacoochee Council)

by

J. Michael Greene and Gordon Smith

The Cover

John Ewing Kiker, Jr. (right) of The Americus Scouts received his Eagle rank in 1920 and he was the first Eagle Scout from all Southwest Georgia. David John Broadhurst (left) also of Americus received his Eagle rank on March 15, 1921, and he was the second Eagle Scout from all Southwest Georgia. The photo was most likely taken in 1921. The original of this photo is owned by Carter Broadhurst (Eagle Scout #64, Troop 21, Americus); and it is used here with his permission. The enlargements below are of the awards on their uniforms.

- Photo One is of the Eagle Medals. The small pins next to the Eagle medals are believed to be 100% Duty Pins. Each year the scout received it, they added a small bar between the top pin bar and the Maltese Cross.
- Photo Two is of the medals on the Campaign hats of each. Left is the Assistant Senior Patrol hat medal.
- Photo Three (Left) is of the right sleeve of Broadhurst showing his merit badges. First aid is the only merit badge that has been required for the Eagle Rank since the beginning.
- Photo Four (Right) is of the Troop Number 1 from the collar.
- Photo Five (Right) is of the Star rank patch
- Photo Six (Right) is of the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader patch.

Photo 1

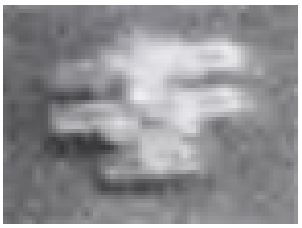

Photo 2

Photo 2

Photo 3

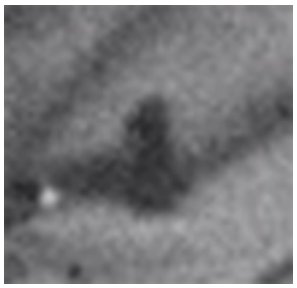

Photo 4

Photo 5

Photo 6

Preface

Greetings Fellow Scouters,

For many years, we have been putting together a history of scouting in South Georgia. What follows is an current edition of that work. It is still changing every few months as new information comes to our attention.

Information should be emailed to Mike Greene at mikeLT@gglawpc.com .

The book will always be posted on this website for free downloading. Neither Gordon nor I will make any money from this book. It is giving back to scouting some of what scouting gave to us.

This edition was last updated on Monday, March 16, 2026.

In Scouting,

/s/ J. Michael Greene
J. Michael Greene

/s/ Gordon Smith
Gordon Smith

PS – With the merger of Chehaw Council and Alapaha Area Council in late 2012, this book was updated to include the ongoing history of the new South Georgia Council in April of 2013.

PSS – This book originally covered just the territory of Chehaw Council and was called *The History of Chehaw Council.* In 2012 with the merger of Alapaha Area Council and Chehaw Council the name was changed to *The History of the Boy Scouts of America in South Georgia.* In 2018, The Boy Scouts of America changed its name and the name of the book was changed again to *The History of Scouting in South Georgia.*

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About The People Who Compiled This History

J. MICHAEL (MIKE) GREENE is a life-long Scout. He is a 1974 Eagle Scout from Troop 20 in Americus and a Vigil member of the Order of the Arrow. He has received the Founder's Award and the Centurian Award from the Order of the Arrow, and the Silver Beaver Award. Currently he serves as National Eagle Scout Association Chairman for the South Georgia Council. Mike practices law in Americus with his son Emory and serves as Municipal Court Judge for the City of Americus.

Mike attends Central Baptist Church where he is an ordained Deacon. He has been married since 1981 to Kathy Phillips Greene, a native of Atlanta. They have two sons, Nathan and Emory, both of whom are Eagle Scouts from Troop 21 in Americus.

GORDON SMITH *(1944 - 2013)* became a member of Immokalee Lodge, Order of the Arrow by completing his ordeal at Camp Osborn in 1958. He became a brotherhood member in 1959 and later received the Vigil Honor in Tomo Chi-Chi Lodge. After high school, he attended the University of Georgia and Cumberland Law School in Birmingham. Gordon then completed Ranger and Airborne Schools at Fort Benning and served our country both stateside and overseas. He retired from the Army with the rank of Colonel.

Gordon was a member of a strong Scouting family, his great uncle John L. Travis and his father Dr. William T. Smith both being recipients of the Silver Beaver Award. Gordon's three younger brothers are Bruce A. Smith, former president of Southwest Georgia (Chehaw) Council and recipient of the Silver Beaver Award; L. Travis Smith, recipient of the Silver Beaver Award and the Wood Badge; and Chris C. Smith. All are Eagle Scouts; all served on the staff at Camp Osborn; and all were inducted into Immokalee Lodge. Bruce and Travis both have sons who are Eagle Scout and who were inducted into Immokalee Lodge. In addition, their sister, Nancy S. Stephenson, has two sons who are Eagle Scouts and who were inducted into Immokalee Lodge. Gordon served as President of Coastal Empire Council in Savannah. He also served as Chairman of the Chatham County Board of Elections.

In addition to his public service, he published several books, including the four-volume *History of the Georgia Militia, 1783–1861*, and, with his wife the first of four volumes of early Georgia ghost stories, entitled *Ghost Dances and Shadow Pantomimes*.

CHAPTER 1
THE EARLY BOY SCOUT ORGANIZATION IN SOUTH GEORGIA

This Chapter provides a chronological progression of the Scouting movement in Southwest Georgia. In addition to the formation of the various councils, other council-wide events are included such as summer camp, council professionals, and council presidents. Events that are related to individual troops or cities are included in Chapter Three.

Scouting in Southwest Georgia before The 1920 Georgia Plan

Prior to The 1920 Georgia Plan, Southwest Georgia was run directly from the National Council office in New York City, as there was no council in Southwest Georgia. Troops were chartered directly from the National Council. The phrase "Direct Service" is synonymous with an area being run from the National Office and they are used interchangeably in this book. The Georgia Plan went into effect for the Albany area in July 1921 and for the Americus area later in 1921. Therefore, this section refers to the time before July 1921.

Scouting in Crisp County and Cordele before The 1920 Georgia Plan

Scouting was active in Crisp County by the fall of 1913, as a troop had been organized by Professor A. F. Ware, Headmaster of the Ware Prep School in Cordele. The next documented Boy Scout activity was in 1917 when Reverend J. M. Walker, the scoutmaster in 1917, moved to Albany and turned the troop over to George Hatcher.[1] Nothing else was found in the *Cordele Dispatch* until the first annual summer camp, which was held the week of June 23, 1919.[2] (Lists of known Cordele scouts from 1913 and 1917 can be found at the end of this chapter.)

The first annual summer camp in June of 1919 was held at the Methodist Dooly Camp Ground.[3] Approximately twenty-five Scouts attended. George Hatcher was Camp Director and Ephraim Matthews was Assistant Camp Director.[4] Several boys shared the cooking for the camp rather than having a camp cook.[5] Walter Pye was voted Best All-Around Camper.[6]

Scouting in Decatur County and Bainbridge before The 1920 Georgia Plan

A scout troop existed in 1917 as they attended a Memorial Day ceremony.[7]

In July of 1919, the first Boy Scout troop in Bainbridge was registered with the National Council.[8] At the same time, a plea went out for funds to hire a full-time Director of Young Peoples'

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1 "Boy Scouts Go on Week's Encampment," *Cordele Dispatch*, June 20, 1919.
2 "Boy Scout Week Dooly Camp Ground," *Cordele Dispatch*, June 22, 1919.
3 "Boy Scout Week Dooly Camp Ground," *Cordele Dispatch*, June 22, 1919.
4 "Boy Scouts are Enjoying Hike," *Cordele Dispatch*, June 24, 1919.
5 "Boy Scouts are Enjoying Trip," *Cordele Dispatch*, June 25, 1919.
6 "Boy Scouts have Splendid Trip," *Cordele Dispatch*, June 29, 1919.
7 *Post-Search Light*, April 19, 1917.
8 "Scouts Atten-chunt!," *The Post-Search Light*, July 29, 1920.

Activities.[9] No evidence was found that this position was ever filled. J. Robert Haire, who would later become the scoutmaster of Troop 1, was listed as the treasurer of the group trying to raise the funds. Dr. D. H Wood was the first scoutmaster; J. Robert Haire was the Assistant scoutmaster; and Palmer Tinley, a senior Scout, was Second Assistant scoutmaster.[10] J. Robert Haire became scoutmaster shortly after the troop was organized, although the exact date is not known.[11]

During the last week of August 1919, the Bainbridge Scouts took the first of many annual week-long summer camping trips to Lanark on the Gulf Coast.[12] The Troop took this trip again in June of 1920.[13]

Troop 1 attended the May 1920 statewide Scout Rally held in Macon, Georgia. [14] Many of the other troops in both Nochaway Council and Aumuckalee Council also attended the Rally. Also in 1920, the Bainbridge Scouts split into Troop 1 and Troop 2 due to the large number of boys in the program. Mr. Haire remained scoutmaster of Troop 1, and Roy Jones was the Assistant scoutmaster. Mr. Godfrey was scoutmaster of Troop 2. At Christmas of 1920 the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts joined together to sing Christmas songs for the community.[15]

In June of 1921, the Bainbridge Scouts joined Nochaway Council, which was formed under The Georgia Plan.

Scouting in Dooly County and Vienna before The 1920 Georgia Plan

On March 23, 1916 the local newspaper announced the formation of scouting in Vienna and Dooly County with Professor Noles serving as scoutmaster.[16] Fletcher Forehand and Claude Slade as Patjrol Leaders. Tents have been ordered and other parapernalia and equipment will soon be added. The troop served as honorary escorts for Memorial Day in 1916.[17] In June, Professor Noles "came up from Eastman" for an outing with the Boy Scouts to the Flint River.[18]

In October of 1917, Professor Sams took over as scoutmaster.[19]

In June of 1918, Colonel Henry S. Graves, Chief of the Forest Service, has written to the Boy Scouts setting forth the need for black walnut trees which President Wilson has asked the Scouts to undertake. Four or five propellers are required for each airplane, the Chief Forester points out, and since black walnut is scarce and not only the best grades can be used for this purpose, it is important that the Government should know immediately the location of all available supplies.

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9 "The Boy Scouts Now Organized," *The Post-Search Light*, July 4, 1919.

10 "The Boy Scouts at Lanark," *The Post-Search Light*, September 4, 1919.

11 The first article to mention him as scoutmaster is "The Boy Scouts at Lanark on the Gulf," *The Post-Search Light*, June 24, 1920.

12 "The Boy Scouts at Lanark," *The Post-Search Light*, September 4, 1919

13 "The Boy Scouts at Lanark on the Gulf," *The Post-Search Light*," June 24, 1920.

14 "Boy Scouts," *The Post-Search Light*," March 18, 1920.

15 "The Boy and Girl Scouts of the Town Will Entertain . . .," *The Post-Search Light*," December 23, 1920.

16 The Vienna News, March 23, 1916.

17 "Memorial Day," The Vienna News, April 27, 1916.

18 The Vienna News, June 8, 1916

19 "School News," The Vienna News, October, 4, 1917.

Walnut is also the chief wood used for gunstocks, and these two requirements, Colonel Graves says, make it one of the most essential timbers for War purposes.[20]

Scouting in Dougherty County and Albany before The 1920 Georgia Plan

Daniel Huntley Redfearn, an Albany lawyer, organized the Boy Scouts in Dougherty County and was appointed scoutmaster in December of 1911.[21] Early that month *The Albany Herald* announced "Boy Scout Movement Has Been Organized in Albany." This article explained what the "Boy Scout" movement was, gave its origins, and outlined the ages of boys covered, along with the purposes of the Boy Scouts, and the three classes of Scouts: Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class. Since the movement in Albany was just beginning, this article gave the tasks that each boy had to accomplish in order to join the Scouts: (1) Tie four standard knots; (2) Know the history of the Stars and Stripes; (3) Promise to learn the Scout's laws, signs and salute, within three weeks after joining; (4) Be at least ten years old and not over eighteen; and, (5) Be able to carry a 30-pound weight fifty yards, or perform some other physical task the equal of this.

Redfearn added that he would give the tests for Tenderfoot Scouts the following Friday night, January 12, 1912, at the Auditorium. At the next meeting, held in the Auditorium on January 19, 1912, the Scouts completed their organization and the duties of membership were explained to them.

Immediately upon the formation of the Scouting program in Albany, its organizers formed a self-governing body for the program on the evening of January 19, 1912. Known as the Troop Council, it was composed of Boy Scouts themselves elected by their fellows. The Troop Council "had entire charge of the government of the Boy Scouts." The next step was The General Council, which had "appellate jurisdiction."

> "Whenever a Boy Scout is tried before the Troop Council and thinks he has been treated unfairly, he will have the right to appeal to the General Council. Any matter that the Troop Council cannot settle will be referred to the General Council. The General Council, as a body, or any individual thereof, can give the Boy Scouts advice upon any subject desired."

The following adults composed the original General Council: S. B. Brown, A. W. Muse, E. R. West, J. A. Davis, Henry Thomas McIntosh, and T. E. Oliver. These men were charged with the General Council responsibility of spending at least one day with the Scouts in the woods next summer when they go on encampment.

At a meeting at the auditorium on January 27, members of the troop met to consider reorganization as two troops. This decision was left to the Scouts themselves, and they agreed to form one troop called Troop A and a second called Troop B.[22] Troop A consisted of boys ages 12 and older, and Troop B contained boys between the ages of 10 and 13.

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[20] "War-Time Need," The Vienna News, June 13, 1918.

[21] "First Scout Troop Chartered in 1911," *News of Scouting*, Southwest Georgia Council, Vol. 1, Issue 7 (October 1986).

[22] The reorganization of the Scout troop in Albany into two troops followed a pattern set by the Albany Guard, the local military company. On November 19, 1897, a second company of Albany Guards organized as Company B. These two companies finally merged in February 1903.

This reorganization required the entire reorganization of the present patrols. There ensued a contest for the formation of the new patrols, the basic elements of the two troops. One of the responsibilities of the patrols upon reorganization was the weekly duty of keeping up the Boy Scout news column, "Corner," in *The Albany Herald*. This duty was to rotate among the patrols.

There ensued a contest among the Scouts for the position of secretary, whose duty was to manage the Scout column. Each troop was to handle its own editing. The contest was to identify the largest number of birds, and the *Herald* published the contest rules.

John J. West took charge as scoutmaster of Troop A.[23] At its regular meeting on Friday, February 2; West carried his troop to the one-mile post down the Blue Spring Road. Dan McIntosh took Troop B out to the sand hill in East Albany.

The next step in the new program was the selection of members of the Troop Council. The earliest Scouts so chosen were: Troop A: Patrol No. 1: Charles Tyler, Patrol No. 2: Lee Ballard, Patrol No. 3: Unknown, Patrol No. 4: Lonnie Johnson, and Patrol No. 5: Charles Shackelford. Troop B: Patrol No. 1: John J. Darby, Patrol No. 2: Ernest Hutchins, Patrol No. 3: Unknown, Patrol No. 4: Unknown, and Patrol No. 5: Elmer Meadows. Within a few months, three other troops organized in Albany, with a total of 80 members. In June of 1912, the Scouts of Albany held their first encampment at Miller Springs on the Ochlocknee River in Thomas County, Georgia. About 40 scouts attended for two weeks.[24] Mr. Redfearn had taken the group to Miller Springs in July of 1911 before scouting was officially organized.

In August of 1912, 34 scouts from the Albany Boy Scouts and scoutmaster Redfern hiked to Sylvester, Georgia where they were treated as honored guests of the city.[25]

Mr. Redfearn took the group again to Miller Springs on the Ochlocknee River[26] in July of 1914.[27] The total cost of the 1914 trip was $5.00, which included railroad fare. Details of the events and lists of scouts who attended can be found in the October 1986, Southwest Georgia Council newsletter in the Appendix. Due to the start of World War I, Scouting activities in Dougherty County closed in 1915. No effort was made to reorganize scouting there until after the end of the war. (Lists of known Albany scouts from 1911 to 1922 can be found at the end of this chapter.)

Scouting in Lee County and Smithville before The 1920 Georgia Plan

Smithville, in Lee County, had a Troop 1, which was chartered with the Boy Scouts of America in January of 1919.[28] Reverend H. H. Heisler was the scoutmaster of the Smithville

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23 John J. West was first lieutenant of Company E (Albany Guards), 4th Battalion Infantry, National Guard of Georgia. In the summer of 1911, when Corporal Garnett W. Saye of that company faced a retiring board, Lieutenant West was acting commander of the Albany Guards.

24 Campout is also memtioned in *Daily Times Enterprise,* Jun. 26, 1912 and June 27, 1912.

25 "Albany Boy Scouts Raid and Capture Sylvester," *The Worth County Local,* August 23, 1912.

26 *Daily Times Enterprise,* July. 15, 1914.

27 "First Scout Troop Chartered in 1911," *News of Scouting,* Southwest Georgia Council, Vol. 1, Issue 7, October 1986.

28 "Smithville Scouts Plan Two Day Hike," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 21, 1919.

Scouts. Until the middle of 1921, there was not a council in Americus and Smithville's Troop 1 would have been chartered directly with the National Council, as was Americus's Troop 1. However, once a council was formed, Lee County was included with the Americus and Sumter County District until the 2008 District realignment. The troop was active at in February 1920 as Gordon Exum and Gilbert Beauchamp stood their Tenderfoot exam.

Scouting in Miller County and Colquitt before The 1920 Georgia Plan

A scout troop was chartered in Colquitt in September, 1917.[29]

Scouting in Mitchell County and Pelham before The 1920 Georgia Plan

In 1914 the "Woodrow Wilson" troop of the Pelham Boy Scouts took its second annual summer camp out to Miller Springs on the Ochlocknee River.[30] The scoutmaster was Ike Hand.

Scouting in Randolph County and Shellman before The 1920 Georgia Plan

The Reverend James Presley Craft of the Shellman Baptist Church organized the first Boy Scout troop in Randolph County in 1918.[31] He served as its leader until he took a position at Shorter College in 1919.

Scouting in Schley County and Ellaville before The 1920 Georgia Plan

No record of any chartering of an Ellaville Scout group was found as far back as 1917, which was two years before the earliest known scout activity in Ellaville. The most likely charter date for the Ellaville Scouts was February of 1919. The 1919 charter date is based on the February 1920 meeting of The Ellaville Scouts,[32] which was held to elect a new scoutmaster; and the charter dates of other troops in the area.

The first recorded scout event in Schley County was on Monday, April 10, 1919. A fish fry and campout was held at Dozier's Mill, which is Southwest of Ellaville on the Little Muckalee Creek near where State Route 153 now crosses the creek.[33] Scouts attending were Ray Holloway, Doss Bridges, Newman Denton, Raymond Johnson, Arteban Cunningham, S. E. Denton, Jr. , Tom Battle, Millard Arrington, Daniel Rainey, J. R. Jordan, Clarence McCrary, and John Dudley Williams. They were led by Assistant scoutmaster L. M. Williams.

On February 4, 1920, The Ellaville Scouts held a meeting at S. E. Denton's house.[34] Professor S. E. Denton was elected scoutmaster and S. A. Manning was elected Bandmaster. Professor S. E. Denton moved to Baxley in late August, 1920.[35] The Ellaville Scouts observed Scout Week in February 1920.[36] Those boys who were named as participating in the celebration

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29 *Post-Search Light*, September 27, 1917

30 *Daily Times Enterprise*, July. 21, 1914.

31 Alexander Lee Miller, *History of Shellman Baptist Church*

32 "Boy Scouts," *Schley County News*, February 5, 1920.

33 "He Would A Fishing Go," *Schley County News*, April 10, 1919.

34 "Boy Scouts," *Schley County News*, February 5, 1920.

35 "Local News," *Schley County News*, August 20, 1920.

36 "Ellaville Scouts Observing Week," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 12, 1920.

were: Millard Arrington, Ray Holloway, Daniel Rainey, Ralph McGowan, Arteban Cunningham, Tom Battle, Henry Morrison, Jackie Morrison, H. J. Dyess, Jim Cook, Doss Bridges, Newman Denton, and S. E. Denton, Jr. In March 1920, the Ellaville troop was to hike to Americus and join The Americus Troop for ice cream.[37] (A list of known Ellaville and Schley County scouts from 1919 to 1922 can be found at the end of this chapter.) In February, the scouts hiked to Baldwin Woods lead by assistant scoutmaster L. M. Williams.[38] In April six Ellaville scouts hiked all the way to Americus, they were: Willard Arrington, Ray Holloway, J. B. Morrison, Eugene Dixon, and Robert Williamson.[39]

Scouting in Sumter County and Americus before The 1920 Georgia Plan

The early history of scouting in Americus is documented in only a few newspaper articles and one letter written by scoutmaster Reverend Thomas. From these it appears that the Boy Scouts were first organized 1911 by Y.M.C.A. secretary Murray Dunn. The newspaper reported that on September 14, 1911 the Americus Boy Scouts were taking their second hike, this time to Myrtle Springs.[40]

The next report of scouting in Americus is in January of 1913, when the Boy Scouts of Americus are again noted to be encamped at Myrtle Springs.[41] They also appear to have been involved with the Chautauqua in Americus in May of 1913 under scoutmaster C. B. Spies.[42]

On September 10, 1914, in an announcement of the reopening of the Y.M.C.A. it was stated that Mr. Glenn Colby, Physical Director of the Y.M.C.A., will take over the Boy Scouts.[43] In December, of that year scouts from the Y.M.C.A. troop published articles about a recent hike.[44]

According to the letter from Rev. J. A. Thomas, Pastor of First Methodist Church of Americus, he started the Americus troop that would be the direct predecessor of Troop 21 in June of 1914.[45] Meeting were held in the Sunday School rooms at First United Methodist Church. In November, the Boy Scouts at the First United Methodist Church troop were the escort of the casket of Benjamin Stapleton, a member of the troop, from the funeral at his home to Oakgrove cemetery.[46] This would have been the Troop 21 predecessor as Stapleton is named in the Rev. Thomas letter. The known members of the 1914 troop 21 predecessor from Rev. Thomas's letter were: Henry Allen, James Davenport, Henry Clay, Frank Easterlin, Rufus Godwin, Joe Hightower, Ott Johnson, Jr. (Bugler); Henry Lumpkin, Norman McLeod, Loren Smith, Benjamin Stapleton, Walter Stapleton, Joe Thomas, Jr.; Will Green Turpin, George Walker, and George Wright. The troop lasted for several years

37 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 21, 1920.
38 *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 26, 1920.
39 *Americus Times-Recorder*, April 1, 1920
40 "Boy Scouts Are Again Ready For A Hike," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 14, 1911.
41 "Schley's Capital Is Full Of Life," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 26, 1913.
42 "Wide Interest," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 15, 1913.
43 "Young Mens Christian Organization," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 10, 1914.
44 "Scout Essays," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 13, 1914.
45 "Troop 21 is 28 Years Old," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 2, 1942.
46 Macon Telegraph, November 17, 1914.

It appears from the limited information available that the first Americus Boy Scout troop in Americus was started by the Y.M.C.A in 1911 and that this troop continued on and off until at least 1915. It also appears that Rev. Thomas started a troop at First Methodist Church in June of 1914 that this troop was the direct predecessor of the current Troop 21. The December 1914 article about the Y.M.C.A. troop's hike names Frank Harrold and Carrol Clark as scouts in the troop, but neither are named by Rev. Thomas as being members of the First Methodist Church troop. The First Methodist Church troop lasted for several years. Therefore, in 1914 and probably 1915 Americus would have had two troops.

The next application for a charter of an Americus Troop with the Boy Scouts of America was submitted to the National Council on December 23, 1918.[47] There was to be a meeting of the "prospective scouts" on December 19, 1918, but at that time most of Americus was quarantined and a ban on public meetings was in place due to a flu epidemic. Therefore, the scout leaders asked the boys to bring their dues for 1919 of $1.50 to the Chamber of Commerce building by Monday, December 23, if they wanted to be "charter members of the Americus Troop." The charter was to be sent in that Monday night. A list of the charter members was not found, as there are no copies of the *Americus Times-Recorder* from December 20 through December 31 on the microfilm at either the Americus Library or the University of Georgia Library. Joseph Perkins, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, was named as the "father" of the scout movement in Americus and George O. Marshall, County Agent, was named as the chartering scoutmaster.

The charter for the Americus Troop arrived on February 10, 1919.[48] There were twenty-two boys listed as charter members. scoutmaster George O. Marshall announced that as soon as the ban on meetings due to the flu was lifted he would call a meeting of the scouts and their parents. The first meeting was held in the afternoon of Wednesday, February 20, 1919.[49] Twenty-five boys attended the meeting, which included boys who had registered since the charter had been submitted in December. The scout oath was administered by Lovelace Eve, the former scoutmaster of Troop 1 of Atlanta, which was the oldest troop in the south. Mr. Eve was then living in Americus and was the editor of the *Americus Times-Recorder*. The Americus Troop was referred to as Troop One,[50] Troop 1, The Americus Scouts, and The Americus Troop.

At the beginning of Scout Week in Americus, Mrs. W. L. Ivey, who had organized the Victory Loan Committees during World War I, organized the fund raising committees.[51] The chairpersons were: Mrs. C. O. Niles, Miss. Louise Marshall, Mrs. F. P. Harrold, Miss. Mary Parker, Mrs. C. P. Davis, Mrs. E. B. Everett, Mrs. D. R. Andrews, Mrs. E. L. Bell, Mrs. C. U. Howard, Mrs. R. L. McMath, Mrs. Z. A. Littlejohn, and Miss. Ema Mae Borum.

The Americus Scouts held their main celebration on Saturday, June 13, 1919. Unfortunately, June 13 was also the day picked by the Red Cross for its fund drive.[52] A total of

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47 "Scout Charter Arrives; Boys Organize Soon," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 10, 1919.; "Scout Meeting Halted; Boys Asked to Enroll," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 19, 1918.

48 "Scout Charter Arrives; Boys Organize Soon," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 10, 1919.

49 "Scouts Given Oath at First Meeting Here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 20, 1919.

50 "Scouts Given Oath at First Meeting Here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 20, 1919.

51 "Ladies of City To Undertake Scouts' Drive," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 11, 1919.

52 "Slow Beginning in Scout Drive; Few Workers," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 13, 1919.

$181 dollars was raised despite the date.[53] A green ribbon was given to all those who donated $1 or more.

Silas Johnson became the scoutmaster of the Americus Scouts in July 1919.[54] Johnson took over from James A. Lott who it appears had taken over temporarily after the departure of George O. Marshall.[55]

The first overnight event recorded for the Americus Scouts is a hike to Magnolia Springs on Thursday July 24, 1919, where they camped overnight.[56]

The first annual long-term summer camp was held August 25, 1919 to August 29, 1919 at Wells' Mill on the property of John Sheffield in southern Sumter County.[57] Wells' Mill was an operating water mill on a large pond on U. S. Highway 19 at the Sumter County and Lee County line.[58] Thirty-three scouts took four autos from Americus to the camp.[59] Those known to have attended the camp are: David Broadhurst, Carr S. Glover, George Oliver, John West Sheffield who was the champion road builder, and Walter Stapleton, Sr. and Claude Bond who tied for the award for seeing the most alligators. The program for the camp was: 5:30 A. M. – reveille, 5:45 to 6:00 – swimming or exercise, 6:00 to 7:30 – breakfast, 7:30 to 8:30 policing, 8:30 to 9:30 – scout work, 9:30 to 11:00 – swimming, rowing, etc., 11:00 to 12:30 P. M. – dinner, 12:30 to 2:30 – rest, 2:30 to 4:00 – open recreation, 4:00 to 5:00 – bathing, 5:00 to 6:00 - supper, 6:00 to 7:00 – drilling, 7:00 to 9:00 open recreation, 9:00 to 10:00 – fellowship hour, and 10:30 taps.[60]

At the Wells' Mill camp, the scouts decided to attend church as a group on the fourth Sunday of the month. They placed the names of the local churches in a hat and drew them to establish an order. Lee Street Methodist was the first church drawn but since scoutmaster Johnson was the pastor at that church, he requested that another church be drawn as the first church. On the last night of camp, the scouts decided that in 1920 the summer camp would be a month in the mountains of North Carolina or Georgia, if the scouts were not on a hunting trip to Mexico. The 1920 summer camp was actually held at Magnolia Springs near Plains, Georgia.

As of September 28, 1919, there was still only one troop in Americus and no troops in Plains, Leslie, or DeSoto.[61] The Americus Scouts made a public appeal for more members in Americus so that a second troop could be started and offered to go to Plains, Leslie or DeSoto and help start a troop in those towns. Also, in September of 1919, the Americus Scouts ordered drums and bugles to start a bugle corps.[62]

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53 "$181 in Boy Scouts' Drive So Far Reported," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 15, 1919.
54 "Scout Meeting To Be Held At 4:30 Friday," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 17, 1919.
55 "Boy Scouts To Hike to Springs for Night," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 22, 1919.
56 "Boy Scouts To Hike to Springs for Night," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 22, 1919.
57 "Scouts Off For Camp Of Week At Wells' Mill," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 25, 1919.
58 "Americus Man Hit By Seminole Limited," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 13, 1919; The longitude and latitude of Wells' Mill are 31°55'8.06"N 84°15'27.86"W .
59 "Scouts Back From First Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 31, 1919.
60 "Great Week at Camp Is Plan of Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 19, 1919.
61 "What Boy Scouts of Americus Are Doing," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 9, 1919.
62 "What Boy Scouts of Americus Are Doing," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 9, 1919.

Apparently, Plains had an uncharted scout troop in 1919.[63] A June 13, 1919, article states that the scout leaders had moved out of town and that the three churches were to get together to select a replacement. The group might have been affiliated with one of the many other youth groups with activities similar the Boy Scouts which were active around the nation at this time and not a true Boy Scout Troop.

In December of 1919, the Americus Scouts started a project to build a log cabin scout hut at the city playground.[64] The first step was to obtain permission from the city to put the scout hut on city property. By the next meeting, a number of citizens had donated logs for the project and the troop had a log-cutting day.[65] The scout hut that was eventually built in the City Park was south of Hill Street and east of the current Barlow Street which did not go south of Hill Street at the time, but west of the railroad track. Also at that meeting, the scouts planned a possum hunt and put out a call for dogs that they could use.

On January 2, 1920, Troop 1 renewed its charter for the first time.[66] Those scouts listed in the recharter were: Eagle Patrol – Will McNeill (Patrol Leader), George Ellis (Asst Patrol Leader), Allen McNeill, Russell Thomas, Henry Everest, John West Sheffield, Carl Humber, Joel Hightower; Flying Eagle Patrol – J. E. Kiker, (Patrol Leader), Samuel Lott (Asst. Patrol Leader), Benj. McMath, David Broadhurst, Sanders Morgan, Olin Dixon, Edwin Gammage, Sam Comer; Black Bear Patrol – Claude Bond (Patrol Leader), Seth Belcher, (Asst. Patrol Leader), Fred Comer, Henry Graham, G. W. Harris, William Caswell, Ernest Davis, Ray Ansley; Lion Patrol – James Collins, (Patrol Leader), Douglas Stewart (Asst. Patrol Leader), Gilbert Purvis, Carl Gammage, Ben Bond, Robert Culpepper, Skillman Young, and Albert Thayer.

February 8, 1920 was the 10th Anniversary of Scouting and the start of Scout Week. A nationwide celebration was held. On Friday, the Americus Scouts wore a square knot pin to remind them of the motto "Do a good turn daily."[67] The pins were also given out to the citizens of Americus to remind them to do a good turn also.[68]

As of March 21, 1920, there were fifty-eight scouts in The Americus Scouts.[69] It is not clear if the group had been broken into two troops yet. It was announced that the log cabin scout hut would be built in April.

A statewide scout encampment was held in Macon from May 6 to 8, 1920. Approximately 50 boys from The Americus Scouts to the Central of Georgia train and attended the event.[70] Approximately 1000 scouts from around Georgia attended.[71] The Americus Scouts took second in wall climbing, third in water boiling, and fourth in equipment and knot tying.[72] A scout from Macon tried to grab scoutmaster Johnson's mattress for his troop. He was caught by Charles Crisp

63 "Plains People Pledge to Aid Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 13, 1919.
64 "With The Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 14, 1919.
65 "With The Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 21, 1919.
66 "32 Boy Scouts Here Re-enlist," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 2, 1920.
67 "Scouts Have A Birthday," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 8, 1920.
68 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 8, 1920.
69 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 21, 1920.
70 "Half Hundred Scouts Off For Georgia Rally," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 6, 1920.
71 "Half Hundred Scouts Off For Georgia Rally," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 6, 1920.
72 "Scouts Home With Laurels," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 9, 1920

Glover, Walter Stapleton Sr., and Robert Culpepper who had the Macon scout and he was "seriously regretting his act and petty badly licked up."[73]

In May of 1920, the Americus Scouts divided into 2 troops. Herbert W. Moon, who had served as Assistant scoutmaster of Troop 1, was named scoutmaster of Troop 2.[74]

In June of 1920, Troop 1 took a trip of two weeks duration to attend an unofficial Boy Scout encampment at Lake Junaluska.[75] The trip was led by Reverend Silas Johnson. George Walker went on the trip to assist Reverend Johnson. The trip was made by truck rather than train so that side trips could be made for sightseeing. The fourteen scouts who went were: John Sheffield, Carl Humber, George Ellis, Sam Lott, Benjamin McMath, Walter Stapleton, G. W. Harris, Charles Glover, Edwin Gammage, Robert Buchanan, Walter Reeves, James Furlow, and Minor Walker. The entire group returned safe after a great trip on July 3.[76]

In 1920, as the Council was still being organized, John Ewing Kiker, Jr. of The Americus Scouts received his Eagle rank.[77] The date listed in the official Chehaw Council records is the date of his Board of Review and not the date of the Court of Honor. His Court of Honor probably took place in the summer of 1921 with that of David John Broadhurst.[78] Currently John Ewing Kiker, Jr. is the earliest known Eagle Scout from Southwest Georgia.

On Sunday, July 4, 1920, all scouts were asked to assemble in Americus at the Salvation Army Hall to march to the Souther Army Air Field (now Southerfield or the Americus-Sumter Airport) where they would serve as ticket takers, program salesmen, and parking directors for the Fourth of July show planned for Monday, July 5, 1920.[79] The event included airplane rides and parachute jumps. Although not stated, it was probably moved to Monday so as not to conflict with Sunday church services. The general population of Americus was encouraged to drive on the newly paved road from Americus to Souther Army Air Field (now Georgia Highway 49) which would be open for the event. Sanders Morgan, Claude Bond, and David John Broadhurst won airplane rides for being the top scouts at the event.[80]

A citywide survey of boys of scouting age was conducted by the local Boy Scouts in late July, 1920.[81] The purpose was to have the information available for the visit in early August of Mr. Stanley Harris, Field Executive for the Southern Region office then located in Memphis, Tennessee. Mr. Harris met with local leaders in Americus on August 10, 1920, and the *Americus Times-Recorder* featured his picture.[82]

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73 "Scouts Home With Laurels," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 9, 1920.
74 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 6, 1920.
75 "Scouts To Take Mountain Trip," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 20, 1920.
76 "Scouts Back Safely from Carolina Trip," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 4, 1920.
77 The official records of Chehaw Council, which includes prior Councils, only gives a year for John Kiker's Eagle Rank.
78 *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 10, 1920.
79 "Scouts to Hike to Air Post This Afternoon," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 4 1920.
80 "3 Scouts Given Ride in Clouds," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 6, 1920.
81 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 25, 1920.
82 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 8, 1920.

On August 11, 1920, Mr. Stanley Harris, Field Executive for the Southern Region, spoke to the Rotary Club of Americus.[83] In his speech, he outlined "The Georgia Plan." He also stated that Americus would be the headquarters for the Council based in the Third Congressional District and that there would be a paid professional scout leader in Americus.

The Second Annual Summer Camp for The Americus Scouts was held at Magnolia Springs just north of Plains, Georgia.[84] Camp ran from Monday, August 9, 1920, through Saturday, August 14, 1920. The 1920 camp was run in accordance the Boy Scout rules including the use of a camp cook and large group tents. Silas Johnson, Herbert W. Moon, and E. B. Everett, Jr. Were in charge of the camp. The cost was $2.25 for the week which.[85] Thirty-five scouts attended the camp. Activities included a baseball game against the youth team from nearby Plains, Georgia. Stanley A. Harris, National Field Executive, who was in Americus organizing the Council, visited the scouts during their encampment

On October 3, 1920, Kiker, John Ewing, Jr., Claude Bond, Carl Humber, and David Broadhurst were appointed as a public health committee.[86] They surveyed the city for health hazards such as stagnant water in which mosquitoes could grow. (A list of known Americus scouts from 1918 to 1921 can be found at the end of this chapter.)

Scouting in Sylvester and Worth County before The 1920 Georgia Plan

Scouting in Worth County began in the Poulan began in June of 1914 when Major P. Pelham organized a troop in Poulan.[87]

In December of 1915 a troop was formed by a group of local citizens in Sylvester, but "the work was not continuous." It held its first meeting on January 7th, 1916 with Welton. A. Tyler, scoutmaster and J. B. McGirt, Asst scoutmaster. In June of 1916, The Sylvester troop of Boy Scouts went to Blue Springs where they spent four days camping.[88] Welton A. Tyler, scoutmaster of the Sylvester Boy Scouts, left last Tuesday for the army.[89]

Scouting in Thomas County and Thomasville before The 1920 Georgia Plan

In June 1912, a Mr. Will Watt of Thomas County went to Staunton, Virginia to join a camping party of Boy Scouts who were to visit Washington.[90] An announcement that scouting was to be organized in Thomas County ran the in the newspaper on August 6, 1912.[91] By August 26th the local newspaper was reporting that the Thomasville Boy Scouts were active.[92] scoutmaster W. A. Watt and J. S. Hunter, the first scoutmaster in Thomasville, received their official certificates from the National Council probably on September 29, 1912 and official uniforms had been ordered

83 "Americus To Be Scout Center In New Movement," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 11, 1920.
84 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 8, 1920.
85 "Scouts to Play Ball At Springs," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 12, 1920.
86 *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 3, 1920.
87 "Poulan News," *The Worth County Local*, June 19, 1914.
88 "Boy Scout Outing," *The Worth County Local*, June 16, 1916.
89 *The Worth County Local*, June 30, 1916.
90 *Daily Times Enterprise*, June 29, 1912
91 *Daily Times Enterprise*, August 6, 1912
92 *Daily Times Enterprise*, August 26, 1912

for the boys.[93] In October 1912, the first five scouts to earn their Tenderfoot were: Charles Patten, Worden Mack, Frank Hawkins, Tom Mitchell, and Joe Blackshear.[94] In late October, the scouts performed their first public service project when they cleaned up the rubbish left by the Buffalo Bill circus.[95] The Boy Scout uniforms arrived around the first of November as an advertisement ran on November 2, 1912 announcing they were for sale at the Louse Steyerman store.[96] In November, the scouts practiced signaling at the Thomasville golf links (a/k/a course). Afterwards, they went to Roddenbery Park for a cookout and in the greatest of scouting traditions they invited twelve camp fire girls to join them. The newspaper reported that "the evening was a most pleasant one."[97]

In 1913, the scouts cleaned the city streets in the residential section of Thomasville.[98] In May the Broad Street Theater gave the proceeds of its shows the Boy Scouts to help fund its summer camping.[99] Tickers were a dime for three shows. The 1913 summer camp was to be held Camber Ferry on the Ochlocknee River; however, swift water caused it to be changed to Tom Williams's pond north of Thomasville.[100] Those attending were: scoutmaster Watt, Col. N Hopkins, Mr. L. S. Moore and George Neal. Scouts attending were: C. W. Ansley, W. Alexander, Joe Blackshear, J. W. Bell, L. Duncan, F. Hawkins, W. Mack, T. J. Mitchell, A. Mitchell, E. Martin, J. McKinnon, C. H. Patten, J. W. Perkins, A. Robinson, S. Sampson, H. Searcy, J. D. Stringer, E. Thompson, C. Turner, A. Wright, T. C. Winter, J. W. Wilson, and Z. Zangwill. The boys hiked back to town after camp.

In April of 1914, the local Boy Scouts began a campaign to distribute literature about mosquito prevention to Thomasville.[101] The Boy Scouts of the area also fielded baseball teams during the spring.[102] 1914 summer camp was at Crescent about 8 miles from Darien on the property of Col. O. C. Hopkins.[103] Capt. Watt, Col. Hopkins, and Mr. Louis Moore accompanied the scouts.. The Broadstreet Theater had earlier raised money for the trip. Sixteen scout attended, being: Ashley, Bell, Blackshear, Duncan, Duren, Fienberg, Jerger, Mack, Mitchell, Spense, Searcy, Steyerman, Robinson, Thompson, Wilson, and Yates.[104] The last day the invited some young ladies over for a fish supper.[105] Boston, in Thomas County, also had a troop in 1914 with R. D. McAlpine as scoutmaster. The Boston troop placed hitching posts around town in July of 1914.[106] On August 26, it was announced that the Thomas and Grady County League undefeated New Shiloh baseball team would play the Thomasville Boy Scout team on August 28. The September 7 newspaper announced that the Boy Scouts had defeated the New Shiloh team for the second time

93 *Daily Times Enterprise*, August 30, 1912
94 *Daily Times Enterprise*, October 14, 1912
95 *Daily Times Enterprise*, October 30, 1912
96 *Daily Times Enterprise*, November 2, 1912
97 *Daily Times Enterprise*, November 29, 1912
98 *Daily Times Enterprise*, May 10, 1913.
99 *Daily Times Enterprise*, May 13, 1913.
100 *Daily Times Enterprise*, June 10, 1913.
101 *Daily Times Enterprise*, April 24, 1914.
102 *Daily Times Enterprise*, May 5, 1914.
103 *Daily Times Enterprise*, June 22, 1914
104 *Daily Times Enterprise*, June 26, 1914
105 *Daily Times Enterprise*, July 2, 1914
106 *Daily Times Enterprise*, July 17, 1914

and this time by the score of 16 to 0 behind the one-hit pitching of the Scout team's Scott.[107]

The scouts were still active in 1915 and went to their annual summer camp on the Ochlocknee River at Walden's Bridge for a week. scoutmaster Louis Moore organized the party and they left in automobiles. The camp was called "Camp Not-A-Lassie."[108] A June 19 report stated that all the boys returned with the addition of some red bugs and that they stayed 10 days. In September the Scouts began building a log cabin.[109] In November the Scouts helps secure the fairgrounds at night so that exhibits could be left in place.[110]

The scouts were still active in 1916 again providing night security at the county fair in March. No report was found of an annual summer camp.

In 1917, the troop in Boston, Georgia, was active and participated in several events.[111] Louis Moore was scoutmaster of the Thomasville troop early in 1917, but Thomas J. Holton took \over by July and continued into 1917.[112] Former scoutmaster W. A. Watt was Scout Commissioner probably for all of Thomas County.[113] The scouts acted an ushers at the courthouse during voter registration. The scouts took their annual summer camp out on the Ochlocknee in August,[114] serving as waiters and host for veterans at their reunion, and selling Liberty Bonds.[115] On Friday, September 28, 1917, the Thomasville scouts held what appears to be its first scout banquet.[116] It was hosted by scout supporter Dr. Thomas J. Holton. Mr. J. H. Merrill was the speaker. Scouts attending were Ralph Pike, Joe Turner, Joe Palmer, Bennett Cobb, Ed Foster, Wayne Wethington, Mason Shoemake, Nowell Hamilton, Rilly Brooks, Rhydon Mays, Clarence Palin, Emmitt Daniels, S. Wilson, and Samuel Alexander. Served were potatoes which the scouts has planted, cultivated, and harvested on fallow land as part of nationwide program to produce food during the war. By November, the troops of Thomas County were numbered as Troop 1 of Thomasville, which appears by the boys involved to be the same Thomasville troop as previously referenced, was the beneficiary of the funding show.[117]

In 1918 both Thomasville and Boston had active troops. Thomas J. Holton remained the scoutmaster of the Thomasville troop and Fred Feltham was the scoutmaster of the Boston troop.[118] The scouts assisted with the Liberty bond drive.[119] At the Flag Day service at the Methodist Church scout Edward Foster played the bugle call.[120] In June the country asked the Boy Scouts to look for Black Walnut trees which were needed for gun stocks.[121] scoutmaster Holton asked his troop

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107 *Daily Times Enterprise*, September 7, 1914
108 *Daily Times Enterprise*, June 9, 1915.
109 *Daily Times Enterprise*, September 20, 1915.
110 *Daily Times Enterprise*, November 2, 1915.
111 *Daily Times Enterprise*, April 17, 1917.
112 *Daily Times Enterprise*, July 17, 1917.
113 *Daily Times Enterprise*, May 5, 1917.
114 *Daily Times Enterprise*, August 21, 1917.
115 *Daily Times Enterprise*, October 15, 1917.
116 *Daily Times Enterprise*, September 29, 1917.
117 *Daily Times Enterprise*, December 8, 1917.
118 *Daily Times Enterprise*, March 14, 1918.
119 *Daily Times Enterprise*, August 15, 1918.
120 *Daily Times Enterprise*, June 1, 1918.
121 *Daily Times Enterprise*, August 15, 1918.
121 *Daily Times Enterprise*, June 6, 1918.

(known as Troop 1)[122] to be on the lookout for such trees. Hulon Schmkidt saved the life a Ms. Maude McCalman who was drowning in the Ochlocknee River.[123] By September Ben H. Cocroft had assumed the duties of scoutmaster.[124] In the fall, the Boy Scouts headed the collection of walnuts which were used in the production of gas masks in the war (World War I).

In 1919, the scoutmaster was John Schreiber and Thomas Holton was County Chairman.[125] The scouts marched in the Armistice Day parade in Thomasville.

In June of 1920 a meeting was called at the YMCA to organize a Boy Scout troop in Thomasville.[126] This seems to indicate that the old troop had gone inactive. No other mention of the Thomasville scouts was found in 1920 so it is not known if the reorganization was successful.

Scouting in Tift County and Tifton before The 1920 Georgia Plan

The first mention of the Boy Scouts in Tifton is in May of 1913 when Dr. Peterson requested the use of an old school building for the Boy Scouts from the city council.[127] In June, the Scouts paraded through Tifton for Flag Day. They were led by their drummer Malcolm Peterson.[128] Over the July 4th holiday, nineteen Tifton Boy Scouts camped at Murrow Springs.[129]

The scouting program was still active in 1914 as they fielded a baseball team in the Sunday School (Church) league.[130] In 1915, the scouts again participated in Flag Day celebrations.[131] The last mention of the Boy Scouts is in June of 1919 when they were escorts for persons attending a convention in Tifton.[132]

Scouting in Webster County and Preston before The 1920 Georgia Plan

Weston had an active Boy Scout troop by May of 1920.[133] On May 21, the Weston Boy Scouts presented the play "The Scout and scoutmaster" at the Weston High School.[134] (A list of known Weston scouts from 1920 can be found at the end of this chapter.)

1920 Georgia Statewide Scout Rally

On May 6, 7, and 8, 1920[135], scouts statewide gathered at Central City Park in Macon for the "Georgia Scout Rally."[136] According to the Macon Telegraph this was only the second such

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122 *Daily Times Enterprise,* June 6, 1918..
123 *Daily Times Enterprise,* July 30, 1918.
124 *Daily Times Enterprise,* September 7, 1918.
125 *Daily Times Enterprise,* June 7, 1919.
126 *Daily Times Enterprise,* June 4, 1920.
127 *The Titfon Gazette,* May 9, 1913.
128 *The Titfon Gazette,* June 20, 1913.
129 *The Titfon Gazette,* July 4, 1913.
130 *The Titfon Gazette,* May 1, 1914 and May 8, 1914.
131 *The Titfon Gazette,* June 11, 1915.
132 *The Titfon Gazette,* June 13, 1919.
133 "Weston," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 6, 1920
134 "Weston Scouts To Present Play," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 20, 1920
135 This event occurred before implementation of The Georgia Plan in October, 1920.
136 Articles in the *Americus Times-Recorder* on February 19, 1920 and May 9, 1920.

statewide rally held by the Boy Scouts. The organizing committee consisted of Scout Executive W. L. Sprouse, Waycross Council, Chairman; Scout Executive E. Marcusson, Central Georgia Council in Macon; scoutmaster W. B. Clemons, Columbus Council; and Scout Executive H. O. Hunter, Central Georgia Council in Macon. Mell R. Wilkerson, President of the Atlanta Council, served as Camp (Rally) Commander. Highlights of the Rally were Signaling, First Aid, Knot Tying, Wall Scaling, Scout Pace, Water Boiling and Fire by Friction, Equipment Race, and Tent Pitching.

Over 1,000 scouts attended. Troop 7 of Macon won the Rally and received the winner's cup. Emmett Pope of Troop 2 Valdosta was one of twelve scouts who qualified as a Red Cross Lefe Saver.

Although planning began at the 1920 rally for a 1921 rally, no evidence has been found that another statewide scout rally was held.

Scouting in Southwest Georgia – The Georgia Plan for Council Organization

In October of 1920, the Boy Scouts of America adopted a plan to reorganize the Boy Scout work in Georgia, "so that the work may be placed on a more systematic basis, reaching every boy in Georgia."[137] To implement what the National Council called the "Georgia Plan," former U.S. Secretary of the Treasury William Gibbs McAdoo selected Eli R. Callaway, a prominent citizen of LaGrange who had materially aided the Boy Scout movement, as chair of the organization committee.[138] Mr. McAdoo had previously headed the National Council's countrywide fundraising campaign in 1919.[139]

The concept was to organize systematically each congressional district in the state into a Boy Scout Council. Each district would have a paid Scout executive whose duties were to organize troops in every county in that district and to supervise the work in general. This plan had not yet been tried anywhere in the United States. Stanley A. Harris, Southern Regional National Field Executive of the Boy Scouts of America, determined to begin this plan in Georgia, and spent two weeks in the state arranging for the launching of the new plan. Callaway began his task by appointing a committee of prominent citizens in each congressional district, stating that it was the duty of all citizens to help place the Boy Scout doctrine within reach of every boy in Georgia. The Scouts were to supply a Scout Executive for each District Council. The Second Congressional District Committee was made up of F. R. Pidcock of Moultrie, and R. H. Ferrell of Albany. The Third Congressional District Committee was made up of W.W. Dykes of Americus, L. G. Council of Americus, Professor I. W. Bivins of Cordele, and Professor S. J. Powell of Leesburg.

Aumuckalee Council
The Organization of the Third Congressional District

Talk of a council for Americus began as early as June of 1920.[140] In 1920, the Third Congressional District of Georgia,[141] containing the counties of Ben Hill, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Lee, Macon, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Taylor, Terrell, Turner, and Webster, would be formed into Aumuckalee Council in accordance with "The Georgia Plan."

At the end of November 1920, Mr. T. M. Furlow represented the Third Congressional District Committee at a meeting in Atlanta.[142] The meeting was to discuss the organization of scouting in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Smaller groups then discussed "The Georgia Plan" and the plan for the Third Congressional District. The meeting was led by George Fisher, National Director of Field Work, and Stanley Harris, National Field Executive. As a result of this meeting, Mr. Furlow was appointed Chairman of the Third Congressional District Committee. He would be assisted by Reverend Silas Johnson, scoutmaster and Pastor of Lee Street

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137 "Reorganizing Boy Scouts in Georgia," *Savannah Morning News*, October 18, 1920.

138 William Gibbs McAdoo (II) (1863–1941) was a native of Melora, near Marietta, Georgia. He became a civil engineer and lawyer, practicing in Chattanooga and New York. He conceived the project of the Hudson Tunnel, and was president of the system that constructed it, 1902–1911. He served as Secretary of the Treasury during Woodrow Wilson's presidency, and married Wilson's daughter as his second wife.

139 "Extol Boy Scouts as Campaign Opens," *The New York Times*, June 9, 1919.

140 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 6, 1920.

141 Acts and Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia, 1911 Vol. 1 – Page 146. There was no redistricting done based on the 1920 Federal Census due to political fighting in Washington. The 1910 Congressional districts were retained until 1930.

142 "To Plan Scout Work in State," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 28, 1920.

Methodist Church in Americus. Additionally, each county in the Third Congressional District would appoint a county chairman.[143]

The first official meeting of the Third Congressional District Committee was held on January 26, 1921, in Americus.[144] Those attending from Americus were Ed Andrews, J. Ralston Cargill, W. W. Dykes, T. M. Furlow, Carr S. Glover, Silas Johnson, George O. Marshall, Nathan Murray, Asa Pittman, John Sheffield, Wilber Smith, and Paul Westbrook Those attending from other cities were Jule Felton of Montezuma, T. T. James of Lumpkin, and Edwin A. Rogers of Ashburn. Claude K. Carmack, Boy Scout Deputy Field Executive, spoke to the group which elected T. M. Furlow its Chairman. It was voted that a council based in Americus would be formed and that the council would meet annually. At the annual council meeting, each county and each troop would have a representative. T. M. Furlow was elected the first Council President. Edwin A. Rogers was elected Vice-President. Jule Felton was elected Secretary. Nathan Murray was elected Treasurer. J. Ralston Cargill was elected the representative to the National Council. The Executive Board, which was to meet quarterly, was comprised of Council officers and County Chairmen. The Executive Boards first duty was to hire a professional scout executive. The Executive Committee, which was to meet monthly, was comprised of Carr S. Glover as Chairman, T. M. Furlow, Nathan Murray, and Wilber Smith. The County Chairmen were: W. A. Adams for Ben Hill County, J. W. Bonner for Clay County, Watts Powell for Dooly County, A. F. King for Lee County, Jule Felton for Macon County, Walter McMichael for Randolph County, T. T. James for Stewart County, Carr S. Glover for Sumter County, Warren Parks for Terrell County, and Edwin A. Rogers for Turner County. The counties of Crisp, Quitman, Schley, Taylor, and Webster had yet to find a Chairman.

In February 1921, Claude K. Carmack, Boy Scout Deputy Field Executive, spoke to the Americus Kiwanis Club to encourage its members to support the scouting movement in the Third Congressional District. The Kiwanis Club voted to match the Americus Rotary Club's donation of $500 and that both clubs would jointly appoint a committee to extend scouting "throughout the entire Third Congressional District . . . ."[145]

The exact date of the chartering of Aumuckalee Council is unknown. However, circumstantial evidence suggests that it was the second half of 1921. Nochaway Council received it charter in July of 1921 and it was the first of the Georgia Congressional Districts to receive it council charter.[146] Additionally, no official use of the name Aumuckalee Council is found prior to the Second Annual Meeting of the Third Congressional District Council, which was held on December 21, 1921.[147] No council number has been found for Aumuckalee Council in any of the reference books.

The Second Annual Meeting of the Third Congressional District Council was held on December 21, 1921. At some time during the year, the National Council had approved the Third Congressional District Council becoming Aumuckalee Council, as that is the name used in the newspaper article.[148] This is the earliest known documented use of the name "Aumuckalee" as the

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143 "To Plan Scout Work in State," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 28, 1920.
144 "Georgia Plan Meeting Few Days Ago, January 28, 1921," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 1921.
145 "Kiwanians Join In Backing New Boy Scout Club," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 14, 1921.
146 "Boy Scouts Return From 10-Day Camp, June 24, 1924," *The Albany Herald*, June 1924.
147 *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 22, 1921.
148 *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 22, 1921.

name of the council. The council name is confirmed by the reference book *Councils of the BSA* which states that Aumuckalee Council was formed in the Third Congressional District of Georgia.[149]

Representatives attended the second annual Aumuckalee Council meeting from each county, as did Mr. Claude K. Carmack who was then known as the Deputy District Scout Executive for Region 6 (Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina). Silas Johnson was hired as the first professional Scout Executive. He was to serve part time until the position became such that it required a full-time person, when someone else would be hired. Dr. R. P. Glenn of Americus was elected to replace Mr. T. M. Furlow as President[150]. Mr. Edwin A. Rogers of Ashburn was elected Vice-President. Mr. John R. Wall of Ellaville was elected Secretary. Mr. Nathan Murray of Americus was elected Treasurer. The Executive Committee consisted of R. P. Glenn, Nathan Murray and Carr S. Glover of Americus; D. G. Bland of Lumpkin; and Watts Powell of Vienna. Mr. Carmack announced that as a result of his work in the area in the last few weeks new troops in Unadilla, Montezuma, and Lumpkin had been started; and troops in Arabi and Bryomville were in the organizational process. Also, The Americus Scouts would be split into three troops, with one each being sponsored by the Rotary Club, the Kiwanis Club, and the Lions Club.

There is no record of a Third Annual Meeting of Aumuckalee Council in December of 1922 or January 1923. Scouting activities were again reported in the *Americus Times-Recorder* in 1923. The first was an advertisement on February 3, 1923 celebrating the 13th birthday of scouting. By May 16, 1923, the *Americus Times-Recorder* was running announcements of Albany Eagle Scouts from Nochaway Council.[151] Also, on June 6, 1923, the *Americus Times-Recorder* ran an announcement of the Nochaway summer camp.[152] However, there was no report of any Americus troops attending the camp. On December 10, 1923, *The Albany Herald*, in its weekly report from Nochaway Council, stated that "Ashburn was now in Nochaway Council . . ."[153] Ashburn (Turner County) had been a part of Aumuckalee Council so by this date Aumuckalee Council had closed. The database of BSA Councils lists Aumuckalee Council as existing from 1921 to 1922.[154] The evidence from the *Americus Times-Recorder* is consistent with Aumuckalee Council closing sometime in 1922. The most likely fate of Aumuckalee Council is that the Council closed in 1922. From the evidence found, it cannot be determined if Nochaway Council absorbed Aumuckalee Council or if the counties of Aumuckalee Council each joined Nochaway Council as scouting reactivated in the county. The first known Aumuckalee county to become active in Nochaway Council was Tift County, which was active by 1923.[155] By 1926, former Aumuckalee counties that were active in Nochaway Council were Clay, Crisp, Lee, Stewart, Sumter, Terrell, Tift, Turner, and Webster.[156]

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149 Edward R. Morse, Councils of the Boy Scouts of America, (1981).

150 Mr. Furlow had taken ill and later died in December 1923.

151 "Americus Lions Club To Entertain Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 16, 1923.

152 "Nochaway Council Scout Camp June 8," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 6, 1923.

153 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, December 10, 1923.

154 The database is an exhaustive list of all councils with various information about each council. It was developed from research done at the BSA National Office by a gentlemen whose name I cannot remember in order to give him the credit he so deserves. The Georgia portion is attached as an Appendix to this document.

155 "Rally Changed from Moultrie to Tifton," *The Albany Herald*, October 15, 1923 (The article heading is correct as printed but has the towns reversed).

156 "Boy Scout Camp Site Is Changed," *The Albany Herald*, August 28, 1926.

The name "Aumuckalee" is an alternate name for the Muckalee Creek which runs almost entirely within the old Third Congressional District of Georgia. On the original 1826 Land District map for the 26th Land District, which is now in Sumter County near Americus, the creek is actually referred to as Aumuckalee Creek rather than Muckalee Creek. Also, Aumuckalee is sometimes used to refer to the largest of the Chehaw Indian villages on the Muckalee Creek. The village was located in what is now Lee County across the Muckalee Creek from Starksville, the now abandoned county seat.

Nochaway Council[125]
The Organization of Second Congressional District

Stanley A. Harris, Southern Regional National Field Representative of the Boy Scouts of America, addressed the Rotary Convention in Macon, Georgia, on The Georgia Plan for Scouting.[157] Among those attending the convention was Paul J. Brown of Albany. Upon Brown's return home, he brought this matter to the attention of his own Rotary Club, which became interested in initiating Harris' plan in Albany. The Kiwanis Club of Albany agreed to assist the Rotarians in financing the project for one year.

The Second Congressional District Council was organized in December 1920.[158] It was known as Nochaway District prior to its official charter as a Council in July 1921[159]. The Second Congressional District contained the counties of Baker, Calhoun, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell, Thomas, Tift, and Worth.[160] Seminole County was included in Nochaway Council even though it was not in the Second Congressional District.[161] At a December, 1920 meeting, the District chose Daniel H. Redfearn, President; W. O. Fleming of Bainbridge, Vice President; B. Y. Chambers of Moultrie, Secretary; and Paul J. Brown of Albany, Treasurer. The first executive committee consisted of the president, D. H. Redfearn; P. J. Brown; R. E. McCormack of Albany; C. U. Leach of Sylvester; and Dr. C. K. Sharp of Arlington. County chairman were: R. T. McCormack, Doughty; R. Y. Chambers, Colquitt; Louse S. Moore, Thomas; H. L. Moore, Tift; D. C. K. Sharpe, Calhoun; W. O. Fleming, Decatur; M. H. Westberry, Worth; Henry Moore, Early; W. H. VanLandingham, Seminole; Benton Odom, Baker; J. W. Parker, Mitchell; P.D. Rich, Miller; J. B. Rodenberry, Colquitt.[162] They employed Wesley M. Bagby as the District scoutmaster (later to be known as the Scout Executive after the Council was chartered), although he may have been hired and at work since November 21, 1920.[163] His salary was $100 per month and the District furnished him with a Ford car.[164] The Nochaway Council headquarters was located at 305 Society Avenue in Albany, which was also the home of Council Executive Bagby.[165] The property is the current location of Byne Memorial Baptist Church's downtown location. The office remained at this address through 1924.

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157 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, July 25, 1921; *The History of Dougherty County*.
158 "Nochaway Council Boy Scouts of Americus during Year 1921," *The Albany Herald*, January 4, 1922.
159 "Boy Scouts Off For Ten-Day Camp," *The Albany Herald*, June 14, 1921.
160 *Acts and Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia*, 1911 Vol. 1 – Page 146.
161 Edward R. Morse, *Councils of the Boy Scouts of America,* (1981).
162 Daily Times Enterprise, July 29, 1921.
163 "Interesting Review of Work Nochaway Council Boy Scouts of America During Year 1921," *The Albany Herald*, January 4, 1922.
164 "Financial Statement of District Council," *The Albany Herald*, July 25, 1921.
165 *Albany City Directory*, 1922, page 187.

In February of 1921, District scoutmaster Bagby organized the first Scout Rally to showcase scouting in Albany.[166] At the time, the District had eight troops, all of which were in Albany. The rally was held on the 12th on the Courthouse lawn. Over 100 scouts participated and Troop 8 was the winning troop. The events were knot-tying, parade, rescue race, dressing race, signaling, chair carrying race, first aid, tug-of-war, water boiling, antelope race, and the 50-yard dash.

Dougherty and Calhoun Counties held a joint summer camp on Nochaway Creek in 1921. Mitchell and Grady Counties held their own summer camp at Lake Bradford near Tallahassee from 1921 through 1923.[167] Troop 5 of Albany captured the Best Troop Award for the quarter ending in June, 1921.[168] The award was a neckerchief slide for each scout. Troop 1 of Bainbridge was second and Troop 2 of Thomasville was third.

Nochaway Council was chartered in July of 1921.[169] The charter was received in Albany the week of July 18, 1921. The original officers were D. O. Redfern, Albany, President; W. L. Fleming, Bainbridge, Vice-President; B. Y. Chambers, Moultrie, Secretary; P. J. Brown, Albany, Treasurer; and W. H. Burt, Commissioner. The Nochaway Council was assigned Council No. 100.[170] Nochaway Council was the first council to be organized under The Georgia Plan but was not the first council in Georgia.[171] The original counties included in the Council were Baker, Calhoun, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Mitchell, Seminole, Thomas, Tift, and Worth.

The correct spelling of the Council was "Nochaway." which is known from many sources including original stationary. However, it has been the subject of many misspellings. *A History of Council and Jamboree Insignia – Arapaho I* shows "Notchoway" Council as having been formed in 1921.[172] The spelling has the "t" in the name and ends 'oway' rather than "away." The book Councils of the Boy Scouts of America by Edward R. Morse, 1981 spells the council "Notchaway" which is also incorrect.[173] The June 14, 1921 Albany Herald refers to Camp Nochaway as Camp "Nochwan."[174]

When the charter for Nochaway Council arrived, the books for Nochaway District were closed and a financial report was presented to the Rotary Club of Albany and the Kiwanis Club of Albany.[175] These clubs were the primary sponsors of the scouting movement and had provided the money to run the District for the first three months. The report was also provided to the troops, cities, and counties in the District, as well as being published in *The Albany Herald*. For the eight months of operation, the gross income for the District was $2,644.25 and a balance of $25.26 was turned over to the new Council. Dougherty County accounted for the majority of the first-year funding for scouting. Of the other original counties, only Colquitt, Grady, Decatur, Mitchell, and

166 "Scout Rally Proved Big Success Saturday," *The Albany Herald*, February 14, 1921.
167 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, July 9, 1923.
168 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, July 9, 1923.
169 "Nochaway Council Boy Scout in Second District Organized," *The Albany Herald*, July 25, 1921
170 Albert Hoogeveen, *A History of Scouting Through Insignia - Arapaho I (Update)*, 1981.
171 "Boy Scout Department." *The Albany Herald*, December 12, 1921.
172 Albert Hoogeveen, *A History of Scouting Through Insignia - Arapaho I (Update)*, 1981.
173 Edward R. Morse, *Councils of the Boy Scouts of America*, (1981).
174 "Boys Off For 10-Day Camp," *The Albany Herald*, June 14, 1921.
175 "Financial Statement of District Council," *The Albany Herald*, July 25, 1921.

Calhoun Counties bore their share of the financial burden during the first year. During the second year, all the counties carried their financial share of the program, although Dougherty County still provided about one-half of the entire budget for several years.

In 1921, a Citizens' Committee was formed to provide for the merger of the Bainbridge Scouts into Nochaway Council. In May 1921, the citizens of Bainbridge had organized events over several days to promote the Boy Scouts of America.[176] The scouts from Cairo demonstrated scouting skills and various speakers came from Albany to participate. Bainbridge already had a troop of scouts, which was chartered directly with the National Council. The troop was headed by scoutmaster Robert J. Haire. The merger was accomplished by 1921.

In October of 1921, Stanley Harris, National Field Executive, spent a week touring the counties of Nochaway Council.[177] The purpose of the trip was to solicit each county to set a goal of its share of the Council budget and to meet with prominent men and organizations of the communities. The Council decided to establish October 1 as the start of its financial year. As of October 17, Nochaway Council had 19 active troops and 14 more troops were being actively formed. By December, the number of registered troops had reached 34 and there were about 800 registered scouts.[178]

Deputy Commissioners were first named for the counties of Nochaway Council in November of 1921 in order to assist Commission W. H. Burt with his work.[179] From October to December of 1921, Nochaway Council held its first quarterly council-wide troop competition based on attendance, advancement, and activities.[180] Troop 2 of Albany won first place, Troop 2 of Thomasville came in second, and Troop 1 of Thomasville placed third.

On January 25, 1922, Stanley A. Harris, National Field Executive, met with Nochaway Council troop leaders to discuss their duties. He also met with the Executive Board and County Chairmen.[181] In 1922 the County Chairmen for Nochaway Council were: Benton Odum for Baker County, C. K. Sharp for Colquitt County, W. O. Fleming for Decatur, R. E. McCormack for Dougherty, J. H. Moye for Early, J. B. Roddenberry for Grady County, P. D. Rich for Miller County, Grover Thigpen for Mitchell County, W. H van Landingham for Seminole County, H. L. Moore for Tift County, and M. H. Westberry for Worth County.

On February 20, 1922, Nochaway Council published its first list of merit badge counselors.[182] Merit badges in 1922 included Automobiling and Stalking. Later in February, Council Executive Bagby assigned each Albany troop a part of Scout Park in downtown Albany to beautify and clear.[183] From the description of the park in *The Albany Herald*, the park had two springs and a hiking trail to the campground that was for use by the scouts.

176 "The Boy Scout Meeting Success," *The Post-Search Light*, May 12, 1921.
177 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, October 17, 1921.
178 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, December 9, 1921.
179 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, November 14, 1921.
180 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, January 23, 1922.
181 "2nd District Scouts To Hear Stanley Harris," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 24, 1922.
182 "Merit Badge Examiners," *The Albany Herald*, February 20, 1922.
183 "Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, February 27, 1922.

On May 5, 6, and 7 of 1922, Nochaway Council held its first council-wide campout which was called a "Rally."[184] Nochaway Council had forty-two active Scout Troops at the time and eighteen attended.[185] In October, Nochaway Council held a Scout Rally in Moultrie which was won by Troop 8 of Albany.[186]

About the first of January of 1923 a committee of Moultrie citizens met with Wesley M. Bagby, scout executive for Nochaway Council, and decided to form three troops of Scouts in that town. A short time later Bagby opened a training course for Moultrie's new scoutmasters. In July, Nochaway Council received the Anniversary Round-Up Streamer for its increase in membership.[187] This award was the personal project of President Harding and was discontinued upon his death. A Scout Rally was planned for Tifton in October. However, it was changed at the last moment to Moultrie due to lack of facilities at Tifton.[188] Troop 5 of Albany won the Rally based on points; Troop 2 of Tifton was second in points; and Troop 3 of Albany was third.[189] In December of 1923, W. M. Bagby of Albany, Scout Executive and organizer of Nochaway Council, organized two Scout troops in Ashburn in Turner County under Nochaway Council.

From January 25 to January 27, 1924, Nochaway Council held a scoutmaster Training Course at a "rustic cabin" on Spring Creek near Reynoldsville, Georgia. The cabin was the clubhouse of the Business and Professional Women's Club. It was headed by Mr. H. O. Hunter, the Regional Scout Executive, and Dr. Payton Jacob of Mercer University.[190] Other speakers included D. H. Redfearn, who spoke on Astronomy, Wesley. M. Bagby, and Peter J. Nix. Eagle Scout George Johnson of Albany and Eagle Scouts Carl Sullivan and Wheeler Johnson of Macon provided support for the course. scoutmasters attending the course were: Roy McLellan of Jakin, B. Y. Chambers and W. B. Witers of Moultrie, Mathew McCord of Whigham, Mr. Pifford, Mr. Coleman, and Mr. Sherman of Albany, D. H. Wood of Arlington, and J. Robert Haire and J. C. Wagoner of Bainbridge.[191]

In the latter part of March 1924, Scout Executive Bagby went to Donalsonville in Seminole County, Georgia, where he gathered the remnants of the old Boy Scout troop and revitalized it. Glover Garwood accepted the position of scoutmaster for the 30 boys, and Leroy Jones became assistant scoutmaster. The Methodist church agreed to act as sponsor. It is not clear if the old troop was part of Nochaway Council or was chartered with the National Council.

By August of 1924, Grady County had two troops in Cairo and one in Whigham and was associated with Nochaway Council. The county Scouts "fully organized" their own District under the direction of W. M. Bagby, Nochaway Council Scout Executive. The new District elected a full slate of officers, including County Chairman J. E. Forsyth, County Scout Commissioner Dr. W. B. Roddenberry, and Deputy Scout Commissioner Dr. William Maxwell Searcy. It some of

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184 "Boy Scout Rally Planned in Albany," *The Post-Search Light*, April 20, 1922; "Local Boy Scouts Capture Trophy," *The Post-Search Light*, May 11, 1922.

185 "Boy Scout Rally Planned in Albany," *The Post-Search Light*, April 20, 1922

186 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, October 23, 1923.

187 "President Harding Sends Award to Nochaway Council," *The Albany Herald*, July 22, 1923.

188 "Rally Changed from Moultrie to Tifton," *The Albany Herald*, October 15, 1923 (The article heading is correct as printed but has the towns reversed).

189 "Good Showing made by Albany Troops," *The Albany Herald*, October 23, 1923.

190 "The scoutmasters Training Course on Spring Creek," *The Post-Search Light, January 31, 1924.*

191 "The scoutmasters Training Course on Spring Creek," *The Post-Search Light, January 31, 1924.*

the articles the District is referred to as a Council and this may be the source of the later confusion that a separate Council existed in the Georgia Counties lying along the Florida Border. No record of any such Council was found in *A History of Scouting Through Insignia - Arapaho I (Update)*, the Excel database referenced above, or *Councils of the Boy Scouts of America*.[192]

The 1924 annual business meeting of Nochaway Council was held at the New Albany Hotel on October 21.[193] The only report of the meeting did not name the officers elected.[194]

The 1925 budget is unknown; however, Dougherty County's share was $3,000.[195] The Rotary Club of Albany raised almost $1,100 in one day in January. February of 1925 was the 15th Anniversary of Scouting in the United States and Nochaway Council held a full week of events.[196]

In March of 1925, Nochaway Council selected the Reverend John C. Gamble, a Methodist minister at Norman Park, Georgia, as Scout executive to replace Wesley M. Bagby, who had moved to Savannah to become Scout Executive of the Savannah Council.[197] The Reverend Gamble was officially installed in this office on the 9th of March, at a luncheon at the Elks Club. J. S. Billingslea, President of Nochaway Council, was in charge of the installation. Gordon E. Reynolds, Dr. Edmund A. Landau, and Dr. J. B. Turner made short talks to the assembly.

The new Executive did not last long, as he was transferred to the pastorate of Trinity Methodist Church in Savannah. In April of 1925, James H. Gillion, formerly of Waycross, moved from Montgomery, Alabama, to replace the Reverend. Gamble. Also in late 1925, W. B. Haley of Albany was elected Council President. Others elected to serve in 1925 were W. J. Vereen of Moultrie as Vice-President, P. J. Brown of Albany as Treasurer, J. B. Turner of Albany as Commissioner, and A. W. Muse as the Council's Camping Chairman.[198] At some time in 1925, the Council office moved to 145½ Pine Avenue, Albany.[199]

Officers for 1926 were W. B. Haley of Albany, President; S. F. Mitchell of Tifton, Vice-President; R. C. Bell of Cairo, Vice-President; W. V. Custer of Bainbridge, Vice-President; P. J. Brown of Albany, Treasurer; and J. R. Turner of Albany, Scout Commissioner.[200] In the spring of 1926, Nochaway Council held two Patrol Leader Training Camps. One was held on March 19 to 21 at Spring Creek for the leaders from the troops on the western side of the Council.[201] In 1926, Nochaway Council consisted of 21 Counties, which were Baker, Calhoun, Clay, Crisp, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Randolph, Quitman, Seminole, Stewart, Sumter, Terrell, Tift, Turner, Webster, and Worth.[202] In the fall of 1926, Nochaway Council reorganized into districts. The Western District comprised of the towns of Arlington, Blakely, Damascus, and

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192 Albert Hoogeveen, *A History of Scouting Through Insignia - Arapaho I (Update)*, (1981); Edward R. Morse, *Councils of the Boy Scouts of America*, (1981).

193 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, October 13, 1924.

194 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, October 27, 1924.

195 "Rotary Club Starts Boy Scout Fund," *The Albany Herald*, January 9, 1925.

196 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, February 3, 1925; "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, February 10, 1925.

197 Savannah City Directory, 1927.

198 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, November 3, 1925.

199 *Albany City Directory*, 1925.

200 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, February 2, 1926.

201 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, March 16, 1926.

202 "Boy Scout Camp Site Is Changed," *The Albany Herald*, August 28, 1926.

Colquitt was the first to organize.[203] J. D. Hadcock of Damarcus was the first Western District Chairman. Troops of the Western District held a second summer camp at Panacea Springs, Florida in the summer of 1926.[204] In October, Nochaway Council held a scout boxing competition in Albany.[205] Various scouts from the Council boxed at the Albany Y.M.C.A. on Friday, October 9, 1926. On October 18, the Council held a Council-wide swim meet which was won by Troop 5 of Albany.[206]

Camp Nochaway was reported to have been used for year round camping in 1926 by the various troops of Nochaway Council.[207] Lake Walters, also known as Long Pond, in Baker County had been used for summer camp and plans had been made to make it the permanent summer camp.[208] A deep well and buildings were completed prior to the 1926 summer camp opening.

Gillion resigned his position as scout executive in January of 1927 and became the Scout Executive at the Walter Hines Page Council in North Carolina.[209] The Board of Nochaway Council, with W. B. Haley presiding, accepted Gillion's resignation. The Board chose Mercer Sherman, an Eagle Scout from Albany, to be the next and final Council Executive of Nochaway Council. During Sherman's tenure as Council Executive, Nochaway Council used P.O. Box 211 in Albany as its mailing address,[210] and it used a room on the second floor of the Albany City Hall as the Council office.[211]

The year 1927 was not an auspicious one for the Boy Scouts of Nochaway Council. In fact, by the latter part of that year there were only two active troops left in the Albany, Troop 5, with 15 members, and Troop 8, with eight members. About October of that year the Council reorganized by holding an election for new officers. This resulted in the election of the following: Frank B. Wood, President, Dr. Edmund A. Landau; Vice-President; Gordon E. Reynolds, Vice-President; Paul J. Brown, Treasurer; J. H. Connolly, Scout Commissioner; S. R. deJarnette, Chairman of the Finance Committee; D. L. Gibson, Chairman of the Troop Organization Committee; Dr. Edmund A. Landau, Chairman of the Reading Committee; A. W. Muse, Chairman of the Camping Committee; and, T. M. Ticknor, Chairman of the Court of Honor. Following the reorganization, the Council held a hike to Indian Springs, a book drive and participated in the Albany fair.[212]

Following this shake-up, Nochaway Council "experienced steady and healthy growth." At a meeting of the laymen of Region Six on January 2, 1928, at Christ Church in Macon, Zack Barnes of Troop 3 and Michael Doyle of Troop 5 received their Eagle Awards. Delmont Woods received his Gold Palm, the first ever in Nochaway Council. The awards were presented by James E. West, one of the founders of Scouting.[213]

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203 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, October 6, 1926.
204 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, October 6, 1926.
205 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, October 13, 1926.
206 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, October 20, 1921.
207 "Albany Boy Scout Troops to Camp" *The Albany Herald*, October 12, 1926.
208 "Camp Site Is Approved By State Board," *The Albany Herald*, May 18, 1926.
209 "*Walter Page Council . . .,*" News and Observer, April 25, 1929
210 "Boy Scout Camp Site Is Changed," *The Albany Herald*, June 9, 1927.
211 *Albany City Directory*, 1928-1929, page 118.
212 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, November 1, 1927; "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, November 8, 1927; and "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, November 29, 1927.
213 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, January 31, 1928.

In early February of 1928, the Council reelected the foregoing officers, except for C. P. Whiting, who replaced J. H. Connolly as Scout Commissioner.[214] This election found the Council with five active troops and a combined membership of 107 boys. The regular weekly reports in *The Albany Herald* stopped at the end of December, 1928. At that time there were three troops active i Albany.

Scouting in Nochaway Council continued its decline in 1929 and no summer camp was held that year. However, Albany scouts attended summer camp in 1929 at Central Georgia Council's Camp Benjamin Hawkins in Macon.[215]

Nochaway Council closed in April 1930, most likely due to financial problems.[216] At the time of the closing, Seminole County, Georgia, was moved to Suwannee River Council, which is based in Tallahassee, Florida.[217]

According to the Morse book, Clay County was added to Nochaway Council in June 1929.[218] There is no evidence as to why Clay County, which had been a part of Aumuckalee Council, had not become a part of Nochaway Council in 1922.

From January, 1921 through December, 1928, *The Albany Herald* ran a weekly report on Scouting in Albany. The report had its own unique page heading and usually took most of the page. The first editor of the Scout Page in 1921 was Frank Stanford.[219] By December of 1923, Mercer Sherman had become the editor;[220] and in 1924, Stephen Hofmayer was the Assistant Editor.[221] From 1927 until the report was discontinued, the Rotary Club of Albany sponsored the page.[222]

Direct Service Status

The book, *Councils of the Boy Scouts of America,* states that Nochaway Council merged into Central Georgia Council in 1930.[223] The book also states that Chehaw Council came from Direct Service status.[224] It appears that troops in Nochaway Council "operated" under the Central Georgia Council from the closing of Nochaway Council in June 1929, until the individual troops or their replacement troops received a charter directly from the National Council.[225] Upon chartering by the National Council, the troop operated on Direct Service status and was run from the National Office in New York City, New York.[226] Research does not support a traditional merger of Nochaway Council or Nochaway Council being absorbed into the Central Georgia

214 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald,* January 20, 1928.
215 "Scout Camp Will Be Open Monday," The Macon Telegraph, June 23, 1929.
216 Edward R. Morse, *Councils of the Boy Scouts of America,* (1981).
217 Edward R. Morse, *Councils of the Boy Scouts of America,* (1981).
218 Edward R. Morse, *Councils of the Boy Scouts of America,* (1981).
219 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald,* January 10, 1921.
220 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald,* December 24, 1923.
221 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald,* December 16, 1924.
222 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald,* December 6, 1927.
223 Edward R. Morse, *Councils of the Boy Scouts of America,* (1981).
224 Edward R. Morse, *Councils of the Boy Scouts of America,* (1981).
225 "Expected Scout Charter Soon," *Americus Times-Recorder,* April 8, 1931.
226 "Expected Scout Charter Soon," *Americus Times-Recorder,* April 8, 1931.

Council. If either had occurred, a Direct Service status would not have been necessary and substantially more would have been found on the subject.

Okefenokee Council
The Organization of Eleventh Congressional District

Both Valdosta and Waycross were included in the 11th Congressional District of 1920; therefore, both were included in the 11th District Scout Council formed under The Georgia Plan. S. J. Faircloth of Quitman, L. L. Daugherty of Valdosta, A. W. Winn of Valdosta, and J. B. Floyd of Douglas were appointed to form the 11th District Scout Council. It appears that this council was called the "Okefenokee" Council (not Okefenokee Area Council) and was formed in 1921 and closed in 1922.

Scouting appears to have continued after the official closing of Okefenokee Council.[227] From what little is known, the area of Waycross and Valdosta continued to operate under the name "Okefenokee Council" by was most likely operated directly from the National Council. In 1926, Okefenokee Area Council (#758) was chartered for the Waycross area.

[227] Boy Scout Fund Drive Started, Macon Telegraph, 1925.

Scouting Events in Southwest Georgia
From the Implementation of the Georgia Plan in 1921
Until the Opening of Chehaw Council in 1939

Before moving on to other subjects, there are many interesting items of early scouting from Southwest Georgia, which should be mentioned. These items occurred from the formation of Aumuckalee Council and Nochaway Council in 1921 under the Georgia Plan until the time Chehaw Council was formed in 1939. During that time, the territory was run either directly from the National Office or by Aumuckalee or Nochaway Councils. Colquitt, Decatur, Grady, and Thomas Counties of south Georgia joined Suwannee River Area Council at sometime between its founding in 1924 and 1939. The exact date of each counties joining Suwannee River Area Council has not been directly established.

Scouting in Colquitt County and Moultrie from 1921 to 1939

District Executive Bagby and National Field Representative Claude K. Carmack met with a number of prominent men of Moultrie on January 8, 1921. As a result of that meeting and a meeting the next night, B. Y. Chambers was appointed Colquitt County Chairman for Scouting.[228] In 1923, Colquitt joined Nochaway Council and they decided to reorganize the old troop and use its membership to build new troops. These troops were to be numbered simply Troop 1, Troop 2, and Troop 3. The following had been appointed for the three troops there: L. L. Connelly and Willie Withers, from the Presbyterian Church; Mac Tharpe, Robert Stokes, and Robert Strozier, from the Methodist Church; and George Mobley, C. W. Cook, and John Hall Jr., from the Baptist Church.

The first camp ever pitched by a Moultrie Boy Scout troop ended in tragedy. On the night of February 8, 1924, the Moultrie Scouts went on a camping trip. During the night Jack Boring, aged 12, and 3 other Scouts went out as a watering party. While walking along the side of a road on the Moultrie-Thomasville Highway, they saw a car approaching. The leader of the group suggested they step to the left side of the road until the car passed. This car sped by, and yet a second car suddenly appeared. This apparently startled young Boring, who fell or jumped down the embankment into a pool of ice-cold water about five feet deep. If he made any outcry, the other boys did not hear it over the noise of the car. They proceeded on their way. After walking a little distance, they realize Boring had not rejoined them. They first thought he was hiding. Later, they made a hurried search, but in the darkness failed to find him. Frightened, they fled to the camp. The scoutmaster went to the scene, but had only light from flickering matches. More than an hour passed before someone arrived with a large flashlight, and then they found Boring's body. The funeral for young Jack Boring took place at the Methodist Church in Moultrie with his fellow Scouts as pallbearers. The young Scout was buried in Valdosta.

Scout training paid off for another Moultrie lad that same year. In early December Lynwood Riddlespurger, 15, accidentally shot his brother William, 17, as they were hunting together. They were the sons of W. H. Riddlespurger of Moultrie. The shooting was inadvertent, as William stepped in front of Lynwood's shotgun just as the latter was preparing to shoot a squirrel. The entire load of shot struck William in one leg. Lynwood's first-aid training in Boy

[228] "Boy Scout Department." The Albany Herald, January 10, 1920.

Scout work enabled him to prevent his brother from bleeding to death by using a handkerchief to make a tourniquet to check the flow of blood before summoning help. Surgeons found it necessary to amputate the leg when the boy was brought to the hospital. They declared, however, that but for Lynwood's quick action, his brother would have soon bled to death.

In early December 1924, the membership of the Giles Mill Pond Country Club voted to give the Colquitt County Boy Scouts a site for a permanent Scout building. This site was on the club property about five miles north of Moultrie. The Scouts quickly accepted this generous offer and launched plans to build a clubhouse on it.

For the 15th Anniversary of Scouting in 1925, the scouts of Moultrie held a banquet which was presided over by County Chairman J. L. Baxter. Late in 1925 W. J. Vereen was elected District (County) Chairman to replace Mr. Baxter.[229]

Scouting in Crisp County and Cordele from 1921 to 1939

The first official meeting of the Third Congressional District Committee, from which Aumuckalee Council was formed, was held on January 26, 1921, in Americus.[230] Crisp County was in the territory of Aumuckalee Council at its formation in 1921. However, Cordele was not represented at the January 1921 meeting.

In 1921, there were two Boy Scout troops in Cordele. George Hatcher was scoutmaster of Troop 1 and Perry C. Clegg was scoutmaster of Troop 2.[231] In July, the Kiwanis Club of Cordele undertook a three-year project to raise one-thousand dollars a year to support the Scout program in Cordele.[232] The Boy Scout program was strong enough to include a Cordele Scout baseball team, which played other scout teams and a volleyball team which played in the Cordele men's league.[233]

The second annual meeting of the Aumuckalee Council was held in Americus on December 21, 1921. By this meeting, Crisp County was participating in the Council.[234] As a result of either Crisp County joining the Aumuckalee Council or planning at the second annual meeting, the two troops in Cordele were expanded into three troops.[235] The three troops were then sponsored by the Rotary Club, the Kiwanis Club, and the Lions Club.

In July of 1922, the Scouts made the tragic mistake of playing the local girls' baseball team, to whom they lost.[236]

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229 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, November 3, 1925.

230 "Georgia Plan Meeting Few Days Ago, January 28, 1921," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 1921; "Obituary of Perry C. Clegg," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 4, 1946.

231 "Boy Scouts Give Vistor a Show," *Cordele Dispatch*, July 1, 1921.

232 "Kiwanis Spread Fried Chicken for Boy Scouts," *Cordele Dispatch*, July 1, 1921.

233 "Boy Scouts to Play Rochelle Here," *Cordele Dispatch*, August 18, 1921; "Last Game," *Cordele Dispatch*, December 23, 1921.

234 *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 22, 1921; "Glenn President District Scouts," *Cordele Dispatch*, December 23, 1921.

235 "Girls' Team Took Game From Scouts," *Cordele Dispatch*, July 7, 1922.

236 "Boy Scouts to Play Rochelle Here," *Cordele Dispatch*, August 18, 1921.

In August of 1923, the Boy Scouts of Cordele's Troop 1 held their fifth annual summer camp at "Houston Factor."[237] The cost was four dollars for the week per Scout. Twenty boys attended along with scoutmaster George Hatcher, and several Scouts made Second Class during the week.[238]

In the summer of 1924, the Boy Scouts of Cordele joined with other Scouts in Nochaway Council in a survey effort relating to malaria.[239] Aumuckalee Council had closed in 1922, and Nochaway Council had been expanded to include the old Aumuckalee Council territory.

In 1926, the weekly scouting report of Nochaway Council reported on scouting in Cordele.[240] Therefore, Crisp County must have joined Nochaway Council by that time. According to the article Cordele had one troop with over 30 members. J. K. Luck was the scoutmaster and F. H. Green was the Assistant scoutmaster.

During the last week of June 1931, the Crisp County Scouts attended summer camp at Camp Benjamin Hawkins of the Central Georgia Council.[241] The only report made of the event was that the Crisp County contingent was known as the Beaver Patrol and that they were on an even par with the other boys.[242]

In 1935, the annual summer camp was held at Camp Orchard Pond near Tallahassee, Florida.[243] This was the last summer camp before the donation to the Cordele Scouts of Camp Thronateeska on the Flint River. There was no summer camp in 1936, as the Cordele Scouts spent all summer constructing the buildings at Camp Thronateeska. The 1937 summer camp at Camp Thronateeska was the first to be held there by the scouts. Camp Thronateeska is discussed in detail in the separate chapter entitled "Camp Thronateeska."[244]

The first Eagle Scout from Crisp County was Gene Espy of Troop 40 in Cordele. He earned his Eagle rank on April 12, 1943.[245]

Scouting in Decatur County and Bainbridge from 1921 to 1939

Beginning in April of 1921, Council Executive Wesley M. Bagby held a series of three public meetings in Bainbridge to encourage the Bainbridge scouts to join the Council.[246] After the last meeting on May 12, a committee was formed to handle the plans for joining the Nochaway Council This must have been completed quickly because beginning in September the Bainbridge

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237 "Score from Cordele Boy Scout Encampment," *Cordele Dispatch*, August 5, 1923; The article states it is the sixth annual campout; however, the first campout was in 1919.

238 "Boy Scout Camp was Big Success," *Cordele Dispatch*, August 12, 1923.

239 *The Albany Herald*, 1924.

240 "Boy Scout Report," *The Albany Herald*, June 1, 1926.

241 "Demostration of Scouts Big Success," *Cordele Dispatch*, June 3, 1931.

242 "Cordele Boy Scouts Making Good Record," *Cordele Dispatch*, June 28, 1931.

243 "Local Boy Scouts Enjoy Full Week Camp of Activites," *Cordele Dispatch*, July 2, 1935.

244 "Boy Scouts Leave Tomorrow," *Cordele Dispatch*, June 15, 1937; "Scout Camp Proves Hugh Success Here," *Cordele Dispatch*, July, 1937.

245 From the official Eagle Scout records of Chehaw Council.

246 "Boy Scout Meeting Here May 7th, 8th," *The Post-Search Light*, April 28, 1921; "Big Scout Meeting 2 Days this Week," . *The Post-Search Light*, May 5, 1921; "The Boy Scout Meeting Success," *The Post-Search Light*, May 12, 1921

Scouts were receiving notices about the first Nochaway Camporee from the Council Executive Wesley M Bagby.[247]

At the same time that Bainbridge was joining Nochaway Council, Bainbridge was down to only Troop 1; and Troop 1 had no troop committee, no court of honor, and no organization supporting them.[248] However, Troop 1 appeared to be fully functional. For the third year in a row, Troop 1 held its own summer camp at Lanark on the Gulf.[249] Troop 1 was also engaged in several public service projects, such as sending aid to children in the near east and manning a first-aid tent at the tri-county fair.[250] By the end of 1921, another Troop 2 was being formed to handle the scouts that Troop 1 could not handle.[251]

Troop 1 won the trophy as best troop at the first council-wide Scout Rally (or Camp-O-Ree) held in May, 1922 by Nochaway Council.[252] Also in May of 1922, another attempt was made to form a second troop.[253] However, this time it was sponsored by the Masons. With the joining of Nochaway Council, in 1922, Troop 1 attended Camp Nochaway the summer of 1922. The leaders for the troop at Camp Nochaway were J. Robert Haire, scoutmaster, Julius Grollman, Assistant scoutmaster, and J. C. Wagoner, Assistant scoutmaster. Later in the summer, scoutmaster Haire let the boys build a scout hut on a vacant lot behind his house.[254]

In 1923, there were two troops in Bainbridge. Troop 1 was headed by J. Robert Haire, and Troop 2 was headed by Henry Kieve.[255]

Troop 2 must not have lasted long, as another attempt was made to organize a second troop in April of 1924.[256] In May of 1924, Bainbridge embarked on a serious fund-raising campaign.[257] Heading the campaign were Professor G. B. Toole and Max Kwillock. Camp Nochaway in 1924 was at Crystal Lake; and Troop 1, Bainbridge's only troop, attended the week of June 10. Lane Crocker was one of four scouts who won the highest award, which was a trip to the Okefenokee Swamp.[258]

In January 1925, flooding struck east Bainbridge. Both Bainbridge troops were called upon to assist by canvassing the town for clothes and other supplies, which could be used in the flooded areas.[259]

scoutmaster Haire retired at some time in 1925, and R. C. Ulmer was appointed as his replacement.[260] Mr. Ulmer moved to Atlanta and was replaced by H. F. Beardon in March of

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247 "Boy Scout District Rally to be Held," *The Post-Search Light*, September 1, 1921.
248 "Boy Scout News," *The Post-Search Light*, June 23, 1921.
249 "The Boy Scouts," *The Post-Search Light*, June 30, 1921.
250 "Boy Scout Department," *The Post-Search Light*, November 24, 1921.
251 "Boy Scout Department," *The Post-Search Light*, November 24, 1921.
252 "Local Boy Scouts Capture Trophy," *The Post-Search Light*, May 11, 1922
253 "Scout Meeting Friday Evening," *The Post-Search Light*, May 18, 1922
254 "Boy Scouts to have Cabin Soon, *The Post-Search Light*, June 29, 1922
255 "Boy Scout News," The Albany Herald, October 8, 1923.
256 "Scout News," *The Post-Search Light*, April 24, 1924.
257 "Boy Scout Drive in Full Swing," *The Post-Search Light*, May 1, 1924.
258 "Scout News," *The Post-Search Light*, June 19, 1924.
259 "Bainbridge Boy Scouts on the Job," *The Post-Search Light*, Januray 29, 1925
260 "Scout News," *The Post-Search Light*, February 25, 1926.

1926.[261] In 1926, the two troops were sponsored by the Masonic Lodge and the Baptist Church.[262] T. D. Moore of Bainbridge was made scoutmaster of Troop 2 in March of 1926.[263] Only two Albany troops had Eagle Scouts as leaders in 1926. Troop 2 had Edward Faber serving as Assistant scoutmaster and Troop 5 had Hugh Schelford.[264]

News of the Scouting movement in Bainbridge slowed to only three reports in early 1927, with the last being on April 23, 1927. No other reports of scout activity in Bainbridge were found through the closing of Nochaway Council in 1929.

Scouting in Dooly County and Vienna from 1921 to 1939

In October 23, 1929, the newspaper announced that two scout troops would be formed. One with W. A. Graves as scoutmaster and Prof. Clegg as ASM was to form at Unidilla. A second unit in Vienna with H. O. Carlton as scoutmaster and Bill Stevens as ASM was to form. The units were to hike to Dooly Camp ground on Friday night.[265]

In January of 1930, the Dooly County troops announced plans to undertake mesquito irradication as its project in 1930. The Vienna Troop still had H. O. Carlton as scoutmaster and Bill Stevens as ASM.[266]

Scouting in Dougherty County and Albany from 1921 to 1939

In January 1921, the Nochaway District consisted of 8 troops and 178 scouts, all from Dougherty County.[267] These troops were Troop 1 with scoutmaster Frank Stanford, Troop 2 with scoutmaster Dave Gortatowsky, Troop 3 with scoutmaster J. J. West, Troop 4 with scoutmaster Henry Sparks, Troop 5 with scoutmaster Shackelford, Troop 6 with scoutmaster Lehman Sumter, Troop 7 with a currently unknown scoutmaster, and Troop 8 with scoutmaster Thad Huckabee. The scouts were put in charge of the information booth at the annual county fair in October.[268] Council Executive Bagby assigned each troop a day to man the booth. The scouts also placed a large number of displays related to scouting in the booth. Jack Beirman of Troop 8 won first place in the model-making category, Ed Faber and Myran Prisant of Troop 2 won first place in the telegraphy category, Ed Faber also won the map drawing and photography categories, and Oliver Benson of Troop 3 won the mechanical category. On Wednesday, the Council held a scout rally and put on demonstrations of tent pitching and wall scaling in front of the grand stand.[269]

In January 1922, Scout Sterlin Gay and his brother Loren saved the life of Mrs. T. C. McLendon, whose clothes had caught fire.[270]

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261 "New scoutmaster," *The Post-Search Light*, March 4, 1926

262 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, March 9, 1926.

263 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, March 30, 1926.

264 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, May 16, 1926.

265 The Macon Telegraph, October 3, 1929.

266 The Macon Telegraph, January 19, 1930.

267 "Boy Scout Department." The Albany Herald, January 10, 1921; "Boy Scout Department." The Albany Herald, January 24, 1921.

268 "Boy Scout Department." The Albany Herald, October 10, 1921.

269 "Biggest Crowd of Week Comes to Fair Today," *The Albany Herald*, October 21, 1921.

270 "Boy Scout Saves Life of Woman, Clothes Afire," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 16, 1920.

Scout week in February of 1922 was celebrated with a program at the Municipal Auditorium, Court of Honor for Albany's first Eagle Scout, barbecue and other events throughout the week. George Johnson of Troop 3 in Albany became the first Eagle Scout in Nochaway Council, having received his award on February 8, 1922.[271] According to the article in *The Albany Herald,* he was the first scout in the country to earn his Eagle rank within twelve months of joining the Boy Scouts.[272] In February 1922, the City of Albany gave the Boy Scouts property on Riverside Drive for use by the scouts as ". . . permanent camping for local troops."[273] Known as "Scout Park," it opened on February 11, 1922, as part of the anniversary celebration.

In 1923, Gordon E. Reynolds was president of Nochaway Council. In December of 1923 James Alfred Dees, a 14-year-old Scout of Troop 3, Albany, received the Eagle award. He was the youngest Scout at that time in Nochaway Council to have earned the award. From April to June of 1924 the Boy Scouts of Troop 5, Albany, took part in a campaign against mosquitoes. Malaria and other diseases were prevalent, and the Scouts combated the problem by pouring oil in stagnant pools or draining the water. In particular, scoutmaster Horace Coleman and Assistant scoutmaster Mercer Sherman took Troop 5 on a canvass of the Albany area and worked hard at eradicating breeding sites.

By 1924, there were six Scout troops in Albany, containing 135 Scouts, and forty-two troops in the remainder of the congressional district, containing about 800 Scouts.

By January of 1925 Albany Post No. 30, American Legion, sponsored Troop 8, which it hosted at their regular meeting that month. This troop had formed in the neighborhood of the Flint River Cotton Mill. C. W. Thomas was scoutmaster and George W. Cowart was assistant scoutmaster. Post Commander R. E. L. Neil praised the troop at this meeting.

The Albany Lions Club was not to be outdone. In January of 1925, the club endorsed the Scouting program. However, that club already sponsored a troop of Camp Fire Girls in Albany. During the meeting Lion D. H. Redfearn, who had "instituted the first Boy Scout troop in Albany," urged the Lions to back up the Rotary Club of Albany by also sponsoring a troop of Boy Scouts.

For the 15th Anniversary of Scouting in 1925, the Dougherty County Scouts held a number of events. Monday was "School Day" and each scout wore his uniform to school. On Tuesday each scout was expected to do a "good turn" at his home.[274] Wednesday was Citizenship Day and each troop performed a citizenship project. On Thursday, which was Patriots Day, the troops met at the courthouse on Broad Street for a public rally. Troop 2 gave a first aid demonstration; Troop 5 gave a demonstration of rescues; and Troops 2 and 6 finished the day with the pledge to the flag.[275] Friday was "Round-Up Day" and was dedicated to adding new scouts to the troops. Saturday was "Reunion Day," with former scouts gathering with their old troops.

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271 "Impressive Exercises Mark Award of Eagle Scout Badge to Record-Holding Albany Boy," *The Albany Herald*, February 9, 1922.

272 "Impressive Exercises Mark Award of Eagle Scout Badge to Record-Holding Albany Boy," *The Albany Herald*, February 9, 1922.

273 "Reynolds Bros. Hosts To Scouts and Rotarians," *The Albany Herald*, February 10, 1922.

274 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, February 3, 1925; "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, February 10, 1925.

275 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, February 17, 1925.

By October of 1930, Albany had only one troop which was sponsored by the First Presbeterian Church.[276] In September of 1930, 20 Boy Scouts from Albany went camping at Graves Springs in Lee County.[277] John Dowling was the scoutmaster.

In 1937, at least two Scout Troops were operating in Albany. Troop 1 Albany, Georgia was sponsored by the First Baptist Church and Troop 2 was sponsored by St. Theresa Catholic Church.[278] Troop 2 was headed by scoutmaster Sgt. M. L. Katz and Assistant scoutmaster John Dowling.[279] Troop 1 had an active bugle corps. No evidence has been found of any long-term summer camp for the Albany Scouts in 1937. However, Troop 1 held a two-night campout at Graces' Camp, which was twenty-nine miles from Albany. Also in 1937, four scouts from Albany attended them National Scout Jamboree in Washington, D.C.[280] They were Cary Cheatham, Hugh Mills, Bobby Hill, and Harry Cobey.

Scouting in Early County and Blakely from 1921 to 1939

By 1923, Blakely and Early County had joined Nochaway Council and J. H. Moye was County Chairman.[281] Lester Camp and Professor McCarty were scoutmasters of the Troop of Boy Scouts. On February 7, a large gathering of business and professional men of Blakely and Early County gathered, along with Wesley M. Bagby, Council Executive, and G. E. Reynolds, also of Nochaway Council, to gather support for the troop.

Scouting in Grady County and Cairo from 1921 to 1939

In May of 1921, the Scouts of Cairo traveled to Bainbridge where they "gave a splendid demonstration while the Boy Scouts of Bainbridge (who had never given a demonstration) sat back and took notice." At the evening exercises, the most popular feature was the song "Somebody," sung by Albert Kelley, one of the Cairo Scouts.

Mitchell and Grady Counties held their own summer camp at Lake Bradford near Tallahassee from 1921 through 1923.[282]

In August of 1924, the Cairo Scouts held a successful summer encampment. By November of 1924, Grady County had two troops in Cairo and one in Whigham. Professor C. B. Blakely was the scoutmaster and the Reverend W. E. Scott assistant scoutmaster of Troop 1. Dr. William Maxwell Searcy was the scoutmaster and J. W. Burroughs and W. A. Lundy were assistants of Troop 2. The Whigham troop had been active until a short time before, and plans were afoot to revive it.

276 "Albany," Macon Telegraph, October 14, 1930.
277 "Scout Camping," Lee County Journal, September 5, 1930.
278 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, July 25, 1937.
279 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, June 22, 1937.
280 "Leave for Washington Jamboree," *The Albany Herald*, June 27, 1937.
281 "Scouts Boosted," *Cordele Dispatch*, February 8, 1923.
282 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, July 9, 1923.

In 1926, Troop 2 of Cairo had two Eagle Scouts serving as leaders. William M. Searcy, Jr. was Assistant scoutmaster and Floyd Searcy was Junior Assistant scoutmaster.[283] W. H. Searcy was the scoutmaster.

Scouting in Lee County and Leesburg & Smithville from 1921 to 1939

Nochaway Council reported that Smithville was forming a troop in March, 1926.[284]

In 1934, a troop was reactived in Leesburg with Mr. Emory Clark.as scoutmaster and Mr. Cicero Long as Assistant scoutmaster. The previous scoutmaster was Rev. W. E. Brown. Scouts in the troop were Robert Booker, James Booker, Henry Parker, Raymond Hale, Claud McRee, Alvin Sanders, Thermon Griner, Malcolm Richardson, Robert Andrews, Bennie Cooper, Alva Booker, Carl McDonald, Warren Richardson, James Andrews, and William Webb.

Scouting in Mitchell County and Pelham & Camilla from 1921 to 1939

In November of 1921, Council Executive Bagby, Dr. E. A. Landau, and Attorney W. H. Beckham went to Camilla and met with a group of prominent citizens about organizing a scout troop and joining Nochaway Council.[285]

Mitchell and Grady Counties held their own summer camp at Lake Bradford near Tallahassee from 1921 through 1923.[286]

In May of 1939, the citizens of Mitchell County accepted their quota of $500 toward the organization of a permanent Scout Council. Dr. H. C. Burns of Pelham acted as county chairman to raise the funds. Some 211 boys in the county indicated an interest in joining the Scout program. However, the only chartered Scout troop was that in Camilla, with B. Burson as scoutmaster.

Scouting in Schley County and Ellaville from 1921 to 1939

The first long-term summer camp for The Ellaville Scouts was the week of June 20, 1921.[287] It was held at Myrtle Springs. Reverend E. L. Jordan was the scoutmaster and the following scouts attended: Ray Holloway, Tom Battle, Will D. Baugh, Alton Baugh, Ralph McGowan, Clarence McCrary, J. R. Jordan, Daniel Rainey, Henry Morrison, and Ray Holloway. In June and July of 1921, the Ellaville Boy Scout baseball team defeated the Buena Vista baseball team three times.[288] No other report of scouting activity was found in 1921.

In the summer of 1922, Troop 1 of the Ellaville Scouts went to Halley's Lake for summer camp.[289] Camp cost $3 and ran from June 24 to June 30. The leaders of Troop 1 were E. L. Jordan,

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283 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, May 16, 1926

284 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, March 30, 1926.

285 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, November 21, 1921.

286 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, July 9, 1923.

287 "Boy Scouts Enjoy Camp at Myrtle Springs," *Schley County News*, June 24, 1921.

288 "Scouts Defeat Buena Vista," *Schley County News*, June 24, 1921; "Local Scouts Win Again," *Schley County News*, July 1, 1921; and "Ellaville Scout Team Hard To Handle," *Schley County News*, July 15, 1921.

289 "Boy Scout News," *Schley County News*, May 22, 1922; "Camp Halley Great Success," *Schley County News*, July 7, 1922.

scoutmaster, and Eugene Dixon, Assistant scoutmaster. Known staff members at the camp were: Uncle Henry (cook), Red Stewart (exercise), Reverend H. J. Johnson (training), Police Chief Cheek (his duties included assigning KP duty to the scouts), Ms. Hattie Arrington, and Ms Louise Walters. In addition to the usual camping activities, during the week the Scouts went to "Gator Island" to view the gators and found a 5½-foot water moccasin. Visitor's day had 183 people join the scouts for a cookout. Some of the Scouts that attended were Millard Arrington, Clyde Tondee, Charles Duncan, Roy Holloway, Junior Holloway, Thomas Battle, J. R. Walters, Daniel Rainey, J. R. Jordan, Ralph McGowan, Eugene Dixon, Peyton Murphy, S. T. Barnes, Henry Morrison and J. B. Morrison.[290]

The report of the summer 1922 camping trip is the first time the Ellaville Scouts were referred to by a Troop number.[291]

There was no summer camp reported for 1923 or 1924.

Scouting in Seminole County and Donalsonville from 1921 to 1939

In the latter part of March 1924, the remnants of the old Boy Scout troop in Seminole County were revitalized. Glover Garwood accepted the position of scoutmaster for the 30 boys, and Leroy Jones became assistant scoutmaster. The Methodist church agreed to act as sponsor.

Scouting in Stewart County and Richland from 1921 to 1939

In early 1934, Reverend O. L. Evans, of Americus, started a troop in Richland.[292] He served as the temporary scoutmaster and E. Claude Turner of Richland was the Assistant scoutmaster.[293] For Scout week 1934, the troop's four patrols gave a public demonstration of Scout skills at the high school, held a Court of Honor, and listened to President Roosevelt's address to the Scouts on the radio as a group.[294] Again in 1935, the Richland troop held a large Scout week celebration.[295]

In October of 1934, the Richland Scouts hosted Troop 3 from Americus at its local campsite; and the Richland Scouts later came to Americus.[296] In November 1934, the Georgia-Alabama Council opened and Stewart County became a part of that Council.[297] By that time E. Claude Turner was the scoutmaster.[298] Mr. Turner continued as scoutmaster of the Richland Troop for more than 20 years, and in January of 1953, Tom Bruce became his and Richland's first Eagle Scout.[299]

The Richland troop had its own Scout camp. It was located at Ponder's Mill, which was about 5 miles northeast of Richland just across the county line into Webster County.[300] The

290 "Ellaville Scouts in Week's Camp on Lake," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 29, 1922.
291 "Camp Halley Great Success," *Schley County News*, July 7, 1922.
292 "Girl Scouts Organize Troop," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 26, 1934.
293 "Scouts Observe Special Week," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 3, 1934.
294 "Scouts Observe Special Week," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 3, 1934.
295 "Richald has Scout Program." *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 9, 1935.
296 "Troop Three Holds Regular Meetings," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 15, 1934.
297 "Richland Scouts Prize Winners," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 17, 1934.
298 "Local Scouts to be Hosts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 29, 1934.
299 "Richland Scout Attains Eagle," *Americus Times-Recorder*, Janaury 26, 1953.
300 "Invitation is Given Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 15, 1935.

millpond offered swimming, fishing, and boating.[301] The Google coordinates of Ponder's Mill are 32 07 47.50 N 84 37 39.34 W.

Scouting in Sumter County and Americus from 1921 to 1939

David John Broadhurst of The Americus Scouts received his Eagle rank on March 15, 1921, becoming the second scout to achieve the rank of Eagle.[302] The March date is the date of the Board of Review; and, based upon the announcement in the *Americus Times-Recorder*, his Court of Honor took place during the summer of 1921, along with that of John Ewing Kiker.[303]

Scoutmaster Johnson embarked upon a program to expose his scouts to successful men of good character. The first such event was held on April 24, 1921, when the Troop assembled at the home of Mr. L. G. Council. Mr. Council talked to the boys about what made him successful and then his wife served refreshments.[304]

Sergeant Alvin York came to Americus in May of 1921 to visit one of his World War I comrades and to make an inspirational talk. scoutmaster Silas Johnson mustered the Americus scouts to assist with his stay.[305]

On August 2, 1921, The Americus Scouts left for two weeks of summer camp at Camp Friendship near Gainesville, Georgia. On August 2, the *Americus Times-Recorder* received and published a telegram from scoutmaster Johnson that stated "Arrived Camp Friendship last night. Boys all well. Silas Johnson."[306] Scouts attending were William and Allen McNeill, J. E. Kiker, David Broadhurst, Lon Charles Gammage, Joe Sutton, Robert Culpepper, J. W. Harris, Walter Stapleton, Ed Gammage, George Oliver, Thad Belle, James Poole, Henry Everett, Glenn McAlister.[307] Adults were Rev. Silas Johnson and ASA E. B. Everett, Jr.

Scoutmaster Johnson held a September 9, 1921, meeting to organize scouting in Americus since Aumuckalee had been formed in 1921.[308] Twenty-eight scouts attended. In September and October, the scouts took a hike to Magnolia Springs,[309] helped the Red Cross,[310] and collected books for the Americus Library.[311]

Reverend Johnson left Americus for a position at a church in Savannah in January 1922.[312] The leaving of Reverend Johnson seemed to begin a downward turn in the level of activity of The Americus Scouts, although scouting continued in Americus. All three Americus troops were active

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301 "Troop Three Holds Regular Meetings," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 15, 1934.
302 The official records of Chehaw Council, which include prior Councils and direct family information.
303 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 10, 1921.
304 *Americus Times-Recorder*, April 24, 1921.
305 *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 20, 1921.
306 "Scouts Reach Gainesville," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 2, 1921.
307 *Americus Times Recorder*, August 11, 1921, page 6.
308 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 10, 1921.
309 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 11, 1921.
310 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 10, 1921.
311 "Boy Scouts To Library Rescue," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 14, 1921.
312 "Rev. Silas Johnson Honor Guest at Roast," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 14, 1922.

as of February of 1922.[313] Troop 1 had a full complement of 32 boys with Bradley Hogg as scoutmaster. Steve Pace, James Lott, and George Marshall were the Troop Committee. Troop 1 was sponsored by the Kiwanis Club. Troop 2 almost had a full complement of scouts after the induction of 15 new scouts in February.[314] Troop 2 was led by scoutmaster Dave Chappell. Troop 3 had 31 members with Peck Rylander as scoutmaster

In 1922, the Americus Scouts were heavily involved in boxing, both at scout meetings and at matches between the troops. Troop 1's May 27, 1922, meeting ended with five or six.[315] At the June 5 meeting, the bouts ended early so that the scouts could go to the Rylander Theater to see the boxing matches.[316] Troop 2 had its boxing ring built by June of 1922 and was also boxing at its meetings.[317] All three troops held a joint boxing contest between the troops to raise funds for a special project in June of 1922.[318]

The three Americus Troops may have held a joint summer camp in 1922 at Magnolia Springs. A May 19 announcement for Troop 3 urged everyone to attend an upcoming meeting as the June summer camp would be planned.[319] A May 20 announcement from Troop 1 stated that they were making plans for the three troop camps this summer. Troop 3 formed a committee of four scouts who met with the Troop 3 scoutmaster to plan summer camp.[320] Troop 1 scheduled a camp to start on Monday, July 24, and to last until the next Friday or Saturday.[321] The cost was to be five dollars. However, a July 22 announcement stated that a meeting of all three troops to discuss the camp would be held on July 28.[322] No other mention of the camp was ever made and the camp may not have occurred. The Americus Scouts did not attend Camp Nochaway in 1922, as they are not listed on the roster of troops from that camp.[323]

In July the local Rotary Club hosted scouts from Americus, Columbus, Albany, West Point, and Moultrie at an all-day athletic competition.[324] The last scout activity for 1922 was carrying the colors in the 1922 Americus Christmas Parade.[325]

In 1923, Troop 2 built a cabin at McMath's Mill.[326] The logs were cut and hauled in by the scouts. Troop 2 held a campout and fish fry at the cabin on August 8, 1923.[327] Members of the sponsoring Lions Club who served as chaperones were C. A. Ames and A. R. Royal. scoutmaster R. P. Ewing was also with the troop.[328] Earlier in the year, the Kiwanis Club of Americus

313 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 3, 1922; "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 4, 1922; "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 12, 1922.
314 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 11, 1922.
315 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 27, 1922.
316 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 5, 1922.
317 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 12, 1922.
318 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 12, 1922.
319 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 19, 1922.
320 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 27, 1922.
321 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 15, 1922.
322 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 22, 1922.
323 "Nochaway Boy Scout Camp is a Scene of Great Activity," *The Albany Herald*, June 15, 1922,
324 "Americus to Host Rotes Day," Columbus Ledger, July 13, 1922.
325 *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 11, 1922.
326 "Boy Scouts of Troop 2 Have 'Shack' Ready," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 30, 1923.
327 "Scout Troop No. 2 To Have Fish Fry," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 6, 1923.
328 "Troop Two Enjoys Camp at Mill Cabin," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 15, 1923.

announced plans to build Troop 1 a scout hut at either Kidd's Mill or Myrtle Springs; however, it is not known if it was ever completed.[329]

There was no Aumuckalee summer camp held in 1923 as the Council had closed. Scouting continued for some time in Americus through individual troops. There is circumstantial evidence that these troops were associated with Nochaway Council but there is no direct evidence. It appears that the Scouting movement had completely died out in Sumter County by the end of 1923.[330]

In August 1925, the Palladium Club of Americus announced a major effort to restart the Boy Scouts in Americus.[331] Thirty-four boys attended a dinner meeting that was held for all of the former scouts.[332] The Palladium Club appointed a committee to explore the formation of a new council in Americus. They were Dr. E. L. Thurman, J. F. Finch, and Reverend Joe M. Branch. The Rotary Club, the Kiwanis Club, and the Chamber of Commerce soon appointed their own committees which joined with the Palladium Club to form a unified Scout Committee.[333]

The "Boy Scout Council of Sumter County" was organized as a temporary organization to handle the Boy Scout reorganization in Sumter County.[334] B. C. Turner was named the Chairman and Hoke H. Shirley was named the Secretary. A committee was formed to begin interviewing potential Scout Executives and a committee was formed to convince each club to donate 75 cents per month, per member for 12 months to fund the Council for one year. Several meetings were held in September and October.[335] A general meeting was called by Council Chairman Turner for November 5.[336] At that meeting all committees were to report so that the active organization of the troops could begin as soon as possible. No more reports were made and no scout troops were reported formed as a result of the Boy Scout Council of Sumter County.

By 1926, Sumter County had joined Nochaway Council and had an active tribe of Lone Scouts.[337] The 1927 officers of the Beaver Tribe of the Lone Scouts were Preston B Brown, Chief; James McDowell, Sachem; John Daniel, Scribe; and Julian Suggs, Wampum Bearer.[338]

Leslie had an active troop of 12 members in May of 1929.[339] On May 11 of that year, the troop dedicated a new scout hut north of DeSoto. The scoutmaster was W. B. Cheshire. Scouts attending were: Richard Holman, Hugh Lloyd, Thad Wilkinson, Wilber Ray Cox, Billy Ferguson, Otis Bass, Rayford Herndon, George Bagley, Clarence Wallis, and Hamlin West.

After the closing of Nochaway Council in June 1929, it appears that troops in the Council, including Americus, "operated" under the Central Georgia Council until the individual troops or

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329 "Boy Scout Cabin Gift of Kiwanians," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 10, 1923.
330 "Attention, Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 24, 1925.
331 "Attention, Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 24, 1925.
332 "Palledium Club Honors Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 26, 1925.
333 "Boy Scouts Meet Called," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 4, 1925.
334 "Scout Council Is Organized," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 1, 1925.
335 "Boy Scout Council Will Meet Monday," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 26, 1925
336 "Boy Scouts Meet Called," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 4, 1925.
337 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, September 27, 1926.; "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, October 27, 1926.
338 "Boy Scout Department," *The Albany Herald*, September 27, 1927.
339 "Leslie Scouts Dedicate New Hut near DeSoto," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 12, 1929.

their replacement troops received a charter directly from the National Council. This was also known as "Direct Status."[340] In January 1931, Troop 1 of the Americus Scouts made application to the National Council for a charter.[341] On March 2, 1931, the charter from the National Council was granted for Americus Troop 1.[342] Troop 1 was sponsored by the American Legion and J. A. Dundon was the scoutmaster. Also in April of 1931, the Kiwanis Club began the formation of a Cub Scout Troop (now known as a Cub Scout Pack). Following the chartering under Direct Service, Herbert Humber was the first scout to achieve the rank of first class.[343]

In May of 1931, an application for a charter for Troop 2 was submitted to the National Council.[344] H. C. Cooley was the chartering scoutmaster. The charter members were: Harry McDowell, Bubba Jones, Taylor Bryant, Ned Kiker, Jack Bowen, Lewis Willis, Clark Poole, J. C. Arrington, Johnny Chalky, Herbert Cannon, Frank Morris, Loudy Calhoun, Manson Little, Herschel Argo, Jr., Nick Regas, and Wilber McArthur.

The Octagon Soap Company offered coupons which when collected by the scouts could be redeemed for scout equipment. In 1931, the scoutmasters encouraged citizens of Americus to buy those products and to save the coupons for the scouts. Also, the troops in Americus sold flags for Flag Day. The flags were provided by the W. C. Davis Camp of the Spanish American war veterans.[345] In addition to other activities, Troop 2 organized a bugle corps.[346]

In 1931, Americus had an active Cub Scout Troop.[347] The Kiwanis Club of Americus sponsored the Cub Scouts and they built the Cub Scouts a meeting hut. In June of 1931, the Cub Scout Troop consisted of 42 scouts and J. K. Luck was the scoutmaster.

By October of 1931, Troop 2 had a full complement of 32 scouts.[348] At Christmas both Troop 1 and Troop 2 set up a shop to repair broken toys to give out to the needy.[349]

In February of 1932, Troop 1 and Troop 2 celebrated Scouting's 22nd Anniversary.[350]In March 1932, both Troop 1 and Troop 2 were full and talk had begun about starting a third troop in Americus.[351] A limit of 32 boys was strictly enforced by the National Council. In June, scoutmaster Burton asked publicly for someone to form another troop to take the overflow of boys.[352] Troop 2 was still active and must have also been unable to take the extra boys.[353] On May 23 and May 24, 1932, Troop 1 presented a play at the high school auditorium entitled "Henry's Wedding." The play starred many of the Troop 21 boys and many of the local businessmen.

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340 "Expected Scout Charter Soon," *Americus Times-Recorder*, April 8, 1931.
341 "Scouting to be extended here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 11, 1931.
342 The date is from the actual charter which is in the possession of Americus Troop 21.
343 "10 Boy Scouts Now Ready for 1st Class Rank," *Americus Times-Recorder*, April 3, 1931.
344 "Scout News," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 17, 1931.
345 "Scouts to Sell Flags Saturday," Americus *Times-Recorder*, June 11, 1931.
346 *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 1, 1931.
347 "Cub Scouts' House Begun," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 19, 1931.
348 "Scout Troop No. 2 To Meet Tonight," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 22, 1931.
349 "Boy Scouts Will Play Santa Claus to Poor," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 11, 1931.
350 "Americus Scouts Join Hands with Scouts of the World," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 8, 1932.
351 "Troop 2 Scouts Attend Court," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 4, 1932.
352 "Scout Troop Overflowing," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 2, 1932.
353 "Scout to Sell American Flags," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 2, 1932.

Ned Kiker and Herschel Argo of Troop 2 became Eagle Scouts on October 5, 1932.[354] They were the first Eagle Scouts in Americus since John Ewing Kiker, Jr. and David John Broadhurst in 1920 and 1921. The report on their Court of Honor announced them as the ". . . first Scouts in the city to attain the rank of Eagle." This most likely referred to the time period since scouting died in Americus in the 1920s, as John and Ned Kiker were brothers.

Troop 2 held a second-anniversary celebration on June 28, 1933.[355] Herschel Argo and Ned Kiker had already earned their Eagle rank as Troop 2 members. In addition, in 1933, Troop 1 held a summer barbeque to raise funds for Camp Shehaw,[356] and Troop 3 held a one-week campout at Mitchell's Mill, which was 14 miles southwest of Americus.[357] Troop 3 also attended Camp Shehaw a few weeks later.

A special train took scouts to the Chicago Century of Progress Exposition in August. The train stopped in Americus and picked up Americus Scouts T. C. Tillman, James Hawkins, Frank Creighton, Frank Connor, and Walter Rylander all of Troop 1. In October of 1933, the Americus Scouts assisted at the Sumter Fair as caretakers, watchmen, ticket takers, and assistants for small children on rides, all without pay.[358] For the fourth year in a row, the Americus Scouts repaired toys and distributed them to families in need at Christmas.[359]

In 1934, there were still two active scout troops in Americus of which one was Troop 1.[360] On February 23, the Kiwanis Club of Americus sponsored the movie "Sitting Pretty," with Ginger Rogers, at the Rylander, with the profits going to support Camp Shehaw.[361] In June of 1934, the scouts assisted the Junior Chamber of Commerce in collecting jars for canning to assist people during the depression.[362] A prize was awarded for the winning scout.[363] Four members of Troop 1 and scoutmaster Evans attended a week of summer camp at Camp McKenzie of the Georgia-Alabama Council based in Columbus.[364] This was in addition to their week at Camp Shehaw. In September of 1934, Reverend O. L. Evans, a retired Methodist Minister, formed Troop 3. Troop 3 was sponsored by the First Methodist Church of Americus.[365] At the end of 1934 Americus had three troops: Troop 1 had W. E. Gear as scoutmaster, Troop 2 had Harry Leadingham as scoutmaster, and Troop 3 had O. L Evans as scoutmaster.[366]

In December of 1934, Reverend Evans was employed by the Kiwanis Club and the Rotary Club as "Director of Boys' Work" in Americus.[367] His job appeared to be almost entirely devoted

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354 "Scouts Attain High Ranking," *Americus Times-Recorder,* October 6, 1932.
355 "Scout Troop Has Birthday," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 29, 1933.
356 "Boy Scouts Give Barbeque," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 9, 1933.
357 *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 9, 1933.
358 "Johnson Thanks Scouts for Help," *Americus Times-Recorder,* October 27, 1933.
359 "Scouts Begin Charity Work," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 2, 1933.
360 "Boy Scouts of Club Program," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 9, 1934; "Boy Scouts to Collect Jars," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 20, 1934.
361 "Scout Show Benefit Tonight," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 23, 1934
362 "Boy Scouts to Collect Jars," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 20, 1934..
363 "Offer Prizes for Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 21, 1934.
364 "Scouts Back From Outing," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 20, 1936.
365 "New Troop of Scouts Planed," *Americus Times-Recorder,* September 18, 1934.
366 "New Troop of Scouts Planed," *Americus Times-Recorder,* September 18, 1934.
367 "Scouting on Upgrade Here," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 13, 1934.

to the Boy Scouts even though this distinction was not made in his title. The Merritt Building on Jackson Street was donated for use by the Scouts, and Reverend Evans had an office in the building. Troops 1 and 2 used the building for their meetings. It seems that anytime a troop would need to be formed, reactivated, or was without a scoutmaster, Reverend Evans would become the temporary scoutmaster.

In February 1935, Reverend Evans reported to the Kiwanis Club that there were 88 active scouts in Americus.[368] In addition, there was a Leslie-DeSoto troop.[369] The Silver Anniversary of Scouting was celebrated during Scout Week in February with a meeting of the Americus Scouts at the Sumter Courthouse where they heard President Roosevelt speak by radio and Mr. T. O. Marshall speak on the local scouting movement.[370] In March of 1935, all three Americus troops took a day trip to the Richland Scout Camp at Ponder's Mill in Stewart County. As usual, the troops attended Camp Shehaw during the summer.

In November of 1935, the Sumter County Boy Scout Committee was formed for the purpose of organizing scouting in Sumter County, as a Council would.[371] Frank Sheffield was President, D. C. Burk was Vice-President, James R. Blair was Secretary, and Paul W. Wooten, was Treasurer.[372] Reverend M. P. Cain was appointed Chairman of the Court of Honor Committee, Dr. Abe J. Davis was appointed Chairman of the Camping Committee, James R. Blair was appointed Chairman of the Publicity Committee, Paul L. Wooten was appointed Chairman of the Finance Committee, and H. L. Simpson was appointed Chairman of the Rural Scouting Committee.

Later in November of 1935, Troop 1 and Troop 2 went to a Scout Circus put on by the Georgia-Alabama Council in Columbus.[373] Also in November, Reverend Evans formed a Cub Pack for the entire city of Americus.[374] The city was divided into four Dens. Evans served as Cub Master. Scouts Ryals Lee, Walter Knowlton, Brooks Gammage, and Barney Carnes served as Den Chiefs.

In 1936, Troop 1, Troop 3, and Troop 5 were active in Americus, with a total of 79 boys. Troop 5 was formed in March of 1936 and a number of senior scouts from Troop 1 and Troop 2 transferred into Troop 5 to provide it with leadership.[375] In January the Sumter County Boy Scout Executive Committee met and established several rules. Boys who were not registered scouts could not use Camp Shehaw nor could they hike with a troop without special permission of Reverend Evans.[376] Apparently, at times they were too active, as Reverend Evans held a special scout meeting in Americus entitled "The Wrong Girl." There is no information as to the cause of the special meeting or the special topic.[377] All three troops attended Camp Shehaw that summer.[378] Additionally, a Cub Scout troop, as they were known at the time, with 15 boys was active in

368 "Evans Speaks on Scout Work," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 8, 1935.
369 "Scouts Ready to Open Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 25, 1935.
370 "Many Scouts Attend Meeting," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 25, 1935.
371 "Scouting Work is Discussed," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 5, 1935.
372 "Central Scout Body Formed," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 12, 1935.
373 "Local Scouts to see Circus," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 20, 1935.
374 "Cub Rally to be Conducted," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 27, 1935.
375 "Scout Troop Registered," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 14, 1936.
376 "Scout Affairs are Discussed." *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 17, 1936.
377 "Evans to Talk to Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 8, 1936.
378 "Scouts' Camp Opens June 8," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 13, 1936.

Americus. Also, in 1936, John Pope was awarded the Certificate of Heroism from the National Committee, which was the second highest bravery award in Scouting.[379] The award was for saving the life of Helen Thomas in 1933.

At the beginning of 1937, Americus was down to Troop 1, Troop 3, and a Troop in Leslie & DeSoto. For Scout Week, the Americus Scouts listened to President Roosevelt on the radio, held a parade, attended church as a group, and put on a play entitled "Coming Clean."[380] Admission to the play was 10 cents.[381] The play was presented in Leslie at the Union High School Gym.[382]

In November 1937, Troop 1 and Troop 3 were both active in Americus; and the Rotary Club organized a new troop with Tommy Hooks, III as the scoutmaster.[383] Twenty-two scouts attended the organizational meeting on December 3, 1937.[384] The Assistant scoutmasters were W. W. Dykes and Tommy Warren. A Cub Pack was also started by the Rotary Club.[385] On Christmas Day 1937, all three troops played football.[386] The last scouting matter of 1937 was an announcement from scoutmaster Hooks that a representative from the National Boy Scout Council would be in Americus in January to discuss forming an "Americus District Council."[387] However, nothing more was ever reported on this matter.

Starting in March of 1937, Dr. W. F. Castellow, Sumter County Health Commissioner, began a series of talks on first aid before the weekly meetings of each of the two troops.[388]

At some point between 1934 and 1937, the office of the Americus Scouts was moved to the basement of the First Methodist Church. In March of 1937, the office was again moved to the scout cabin at the city playground.[389] The scouts wanted to install a woodworking shop and the church's insurance would not allow it.

Beginning in April of 1937, the two active Americus troops held a competition based upon recruiting, attendance, dues, church attendance, passing tests, merit badges, and uniforms.[390] Troop 1 was the winning troop and the prize was a trip to Radium Springs.[391] In May, Mr. B. H. Bell, city Sanitation Engineer, announced a campaign to clean up the city. The Americus Scouts participated by doing a house-to-house survey of the city so that Mr. Bell would have a record of the status of each house and yard.[392]

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379 "John Pope, Americus, One of Twelve," Americus Times-Recorder, October 31, 1936.
380 "Scout Week Plans Made," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 5, 1937.
381 "Scout Stage Play Tonight," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 12, 1937.
382 "Scout Play is Well Received," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 13, 1937.
383 "New Boy Scout Troop to Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 30, 1937.
384 "22 Join New Scout Troop," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 3, 1937.
385 "Cub Scouts will Meet at 7 P.M.," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 10, 1937.
386 "Scouts to Play Football Game Christmas Day," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 8, 1937.
387 "Scout Council to be Formed," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 29, 1937.
388 "Scouts to Hear Health Officer," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 1, 1937.
389 "Scouts Move Headquarters," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 12, 1937.
390 "Scout Contest will be Wages," *Americus Times-Recorder*, April 3, 1937.
391 "Troop 1 Wins Scout Prize," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 10, 1937.
392 "Boy Scout to Aid Clean Up." *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 15, 1937.

In June, 1937, scout Charles Schneider was the third Americus scout to receive his Eagle award.[393] He was a charter member of Troop 3.

In the fall of 1937, Troop 1 and Troop 3 held several joint meetings for the purpose of a Court of Honor and for hearing guest speakers.[394] They also made several trips to Camp Shehaw to make repairs and build additional improvements.[395]

The November 1, 1937, Charter of Troop 3 was issued from the National Council to The First Methodist Church and showed O. L. Evans as scoutmaster and Charles Hogg as Assistant scoutmaster.[396]

For Scout Week in February of 1938, Troop 1 and Troop 3 held a number of programs and activities, including a parade and the play "After Dark" for the local citizens.[397] The play was performed on February 10 at the Americus High School Auditorium. Scouts with leading parts in the play were: Frank Butler, Glenn Feagin, Charles (Charlie) Hogg, Charles Knowlton, Dock Eldridge, Jack Freeman, Jack Pittman, Walter Johnson, Evan Mathis, and Tommy Cook.[398] The troop in Leslie-DeSoto had apparently closed by March of 1938, since Troop 1 formed a DeSoto Patrol consisting of boys from DeSoto.[399] The boys from DeSoto were: Bobby Haddock, Hal Haddock, Cheek Davis, Jesse Roach, Jr., Jim West, Max West, and Wanderand Wilkerson. [400] In November and December, the troops met to work on Camp Shehaw and collected gifts for the poor.[401]

In 1939, Joseph C. Logan Assistant scoutmaster of Troop 3, organized a Scout Band in Americus.[402]

Scouting in Taylor County and Butler from 1921 to 1939

The following appeared in the paper *The Reynolds New Era* on July 9, 1930:[403]

> The Reynolds Boy Scouts camped at Minoa Springs this week. In charge was Rev. W. O. Williams, the troop consists of the following boys: Chesley Marshall, Sammie Liggin, Paul Hollis, Jack Weaver, Dorsey Whittington, Billie Neisler, Weaver Crawford, Robert Newsome, Edward Goddard, John Henry Windham,

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393 Unknown Article, *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 23, 1937.

394 "Scout Troops Meet Monday," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 21, 1937; "Pace to Speak to Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 25, 1937.

395 "Scouts go to Camp Shehaw," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 15, 1937; "Scout Will Clean Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 29, 1937.

396 From the original charter in the possession of The First Methodist Church of Americus, Georgia.

397 "Scout Week to be Observed," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 4, 1938.

398 "Crowd to See Scout Comedy," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 10, 1938.

399 "DeSoto Boys Form Patrol," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 8, 1938.

400 "DeSoto Boys Form Patrol," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 8, 1938; "Many Badges Given Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 29, 1938.

401 "Scouts Spend Day at Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 18, 1938; "Scouts Go To Camp Mon.," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 17, 1938; "Scouts Bring Gifts to the Poor," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 23, 1938.

402 "Scout Band to be Organized", *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 7, 1939; "New Scout Band Rehearses Today," *Americus Times-Recorder*., March 8, 1939.

403 *The Reynolds New Era*, July 9, 1930

Albert Carter, Robert Mathews, Hughlan Chapman.

> The boys are having a grand time, swimming, fishing and in the camp. They are camping on the (their?) own. No hired help of any kind. Everyone does his own cooking and they look after their own tents. We would like to have any friends come to see us, but don't come too soon.
>
> Last night some of them thought that the moonshine was daylight and got up at one o'clock. They worst news is that a dog stole all of Sammie Liggin's meat last night. More news later. The scribe.

Minoa Springs, an ancient gathering place of American Indians, is just Northeast of Lanier, which served as Macon County's first county seat. With seven major mineral springs, it was appropriated by white settlers in about 1818. Minoa Springs is located in Macon County, Georgia, eight miles north of Oglethorpe on Minoa Springs Road.[404]

Scouting in Terrell County and Dawson from 1921 to 1939

In July of 1924, Davis-Daniel Post No. 133 of the American Legion reorganized a troop of Scouts in Dawson. Later that summer, the Dawson troop made its first camping excursion to St. Simons Island.

Scouting in Tift County and Tifton from 1921 to 1939

Boy Scout troops had existed in Tifton "intermittently since about 1915." In contrast to the complaints by Albany Scouts, Tifton claimed that "until recent years [i.e., from 1940] the work [of Scouting] had been directed by interested adults and with little or no direct assistance from the national organization, Boy Scouts of America." The two leading adult leaders in the early years of Tift County scouting were A. B. Phillipsand Dr. L. O. Shaw. They also acted as scoutmasters, as well.

In February of 1922, Tifton Troop 1 and Troop 2 held a joint campout in Tifton.[405] N. W. Bagley, Jr., Scout Executive of Nochaway Council was in charge of the campout. By November of 1922, the Kiwanis Club was the sponsor for the three Scout troops in Tifton. In addition, the Tift County towns of Omega, Chula, and Ty each had a Scout troop at the time.

The Nochaway Council Scout Rally was planned for Tifton in October, 1923. However, it was changed at the last moment to Moultrie due to lack of facilities at Tifton.[406]

In 1925, H. H. Tift was elected County Chairman to head the three troops of Tift County.[407] The Kiwanis Club, The American Legion, and The Lions Club each sponsored a troop.

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404 Located at 32° 24' 47.016" N, 84° 2' 54.9954" W for those of you with Google Earth™.

405 "Scouts Of Tift Hold Lively All Day Rally," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 4, 1922.

406 "Rally Changed from Moultrie to Tifton," *The Albany Herald*, October 15, 1923 (The article heading is correct as printed but has the towns reversed).

407 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, February 17, 1925.

In 1926 Leon O. Shaw replaced Harry B. Frazier as scoutmaster of Troop 1.[408] Each of the three Tifton troops had an Eagle Scout assisting them. Troop 1 had Eagle Scout B. Y. Wallace working with scoutmaster Leon O. Shaw. Troop 2 had Eagle Scout Charles Harmon as Junior Assistant scoutmaster and W. J. Davis as scoutmaster. Tifton Troop 3 had Eagle Scout Charles Rigdill as Assistant scoutmaster and A. B. Sealfe as scoutmaster.[409]

Like elsewhere during the Great Depression, the Scout program in the Tifton area suffered financially; however, the program continued. In June of 1932 a troop of Tifton Boy Scouts left for a five-day fishing and camping trip to Dead Lake in Florida. Dr. L. O. Shaw was their scoutmaster and Oscar Pitts drove the school bus that carried them there and back. The boys were: John and Frank Corry, Frank Jones, Tom Freeman, Frank Zeigler, Frank Smith, John and Bill Sears, Trump Yeoman's, Robert Eve, Marion Carson, Jake Herring, Joe McCrary, Billy White, Nathan Dyer, Palmer Powers, Otis Hargarett, Philip Williams, Harold Whiddon, Jack Wetherington, William T. "Billy" Smith Jr., Leon Malone, and Ed Smith.

Scouting in Thomas County and Thomasville from 1921 to 1939

Louis S. Moore, an attorney in Thomasville, was named chairman of the Boy Scout Committee for Thomas County for the Second Congressional District of Georgia, which is part of the new Nochaway Council based in Albany.[410] Mr. Moore has been in charge of the Boy Scout camp prior years.

In 1921, the local newspaper published an article extolling the citizens of Thomas County, to provide Thomas County's share of the funds for Nottaway Council.[411] In late September the Rotary Club, YMCA, and the Westminster Baraca Class (Sunday School) each agreed to sponsored a troop.[412] Mr. Campbell Ansley was selected scoutmaster of the Westminster Baraca Class. The YMCA troop was headed by Mr. L'Hommeren. The Rotary Club's troop will have Mr. J. W. Pringle as scoutmaster. Mr. L. S. Morrison was chosen as County Chairman, M. B. Jemison, Deputy Chairman. A goal of one-thousand dollars was set as the county's share of Nochaway Council's budget and a countywide campaign was started.[413] In early October, it was reported that the campaign had come up short of the one-thousand dollar goal.[414] In October all three troops jointed together for a Boy Scout service at the Presbyterian Church.[415] In November the Thomas County scouts joined with scouts from Macon, Atlanta, Columbus, and Augusta on a 10 day campout to Billie's Island in the Okefenokee Swamp.[416]

In March, 1923 Winston Brown of Thomasville became the youngest Eagle Scout in

408 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, February 23, 1926.
409 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, May 16, 1926.
410 "Scout Chairman Named", *Macon Telegraph*, August, 1, 1921
411 *Daily Times Enterprise*, September 15, 1921.
412 *Daily Times Enterprise*, September 26, 1921
413 *Daily Times Enterprise*, October 3, 1921
414 *Daily Times Enterprise*, October 4, 1921
415 *Daily Times Enterprise*, October 22, 1921
416 *Daily Times Enterprise*, November 18, 1921

Nochaway Council at the age of 14.[417] He was the third Eagle Scout in Nochaway Council.

Scouting in Turner County and Ashburn from 1921 to 1939

Turner County was originally part of Aumuckalee Council. However, when Aumuckalee Council closed in 1923, Turner County joined Nochaway Council.

In December of 1923, there were two Scout troops in Ashburn. The Baptist Church sponsored one of them and the Methodist Church sponsored the other. The following were the troop leaders: Troop 1 (Baptist Church): H. C. Cutts, scoutmaster; P. R. Hudson; assistant scoutmaster; and, J. S. Johnson, chairman of the troop committee. Troop 2 (Methodist Church): J. H. Adams, scoutmaster; A. R. Smith, assistant scoutmaster; and, C. H. Bishop, chairman of the troop committee.

Scouting appears to have gone inactive in the middle 1920s because in October of 1929, a troop of Boy Scouts organized in Ashburn once again. The Troop committee consisted of Dr. G. C. McKenzie, J. W. Haley, Dr. J. H. Baxter, H. A. Miller, and F. C. Shingler.

In 1936, Rhodes Ellsworth Blue helped organize and was the first scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 31 in Ashburn.[418] The troop was organized out of the National Headquarters of the BSA since Nochaway Council has closed and there was no active council at the time.

Scouting in Webster County and Preston from 1921 to 1939

In 1925, an attempt was made to reform a troop in Weston, Georgia. After one meeting the effort was abandoned.[419] In November of 1934, the Georgia-Alabama Council opened and Webster County became a part of that Council.[420]

Scouting in Worth County and Sylvester from 1921 to 1939

In 1921, the Kiwanis Club undertook the sponsorship of a troop in Sylvester, and kept it into 1926. From 1931 through 1934, the American Legion Post No. 133 acted as sponsor. This post also sponsored Troop 30 from 1931 through 1944.

Janaury 28, 1921, the Sylvester Boy Scouts traveled to Ashburn to pay the Ashburn Boy Scouts in basketball.[421] Elzie Gunter was the scoutmaster.

In Janaury of 1922 Worth County had Boy Scout Troops in Sylvester, Poulan, and Sumner.[422] On Memorial Day 1922, the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts of Sylvester placed flowers on the graves of veterans.[423]

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417 Macon Telegraph, March, 1923. `

418 Darrin Lythgoe, Fowler-Ross-Harley Family History Website, <http://kfgeorgia.net/genealogy/> (2007).

419 From the personal knowledge of J. Hubert Greene.

420 "Richland Scouts Prize Winners," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 17, 1934.

421 "Scouts Visit Ashburn Boys," *The Worth County Local*, Janaury 28, 1921.

422 *The Worth County Local*, Janaury 20, 1922.

423 *The Worth County Local*, April 28 1922.

In 1923, the Boy Scouts of Sylvester have reorganized with Prof. Leach as scoutmaster.[424] In May of 1923, the Poulan Boy Scouts camp for a.few days at Lucy Lake.[425] The Poulan Boy Scouts camped for several days at Whiddon's Mill in June, 1927.[426] Prof. Eugene Attaway and 15 Boy Scouts from Sylvester are camping at Chrystal Lake this week.[427] Rev. Ralph , Crosby is entertaining a group of Boy Scouts from Ty Ty, Poulan, and Sumner at Crystal Lake for the week-end.[428] Mr. Eugene Attaway took the Sylvester Boy Scouts on a camp at Blue Lake this week.[429] Troop 1 of Sylvester was active and holding regular meetings at the American Legion in October, 1938.[430]

Edgar Flowers, Norman Crowe, Gene Mann, and Jack Wimpy represented the Sylvester Boy Scouts at the Boy Scout Camporal in Daytona Beach, Florida, in December of 1939.[431] The Camporal was held for scouts from Alabama, Florida, and Georgia with more than 400 boys attending.[432]

Scouting in South Central Georgia
From the Implementation of the Georgia Plan in 1921
Until the Opening of Alapaha Council in 1960

Scouting appears to have continued after the official closing of Okefenokee Council in the early 1920s.[433] From what little is known, the area of Waycross and Valdosta continued to operate under the name "Okefenokee Council" but was most likely operated directly from the National Council. In 1926, Okefenokee Area Council (#758) was chartered for the Waycross area and Withlacoochee Council (#755) was chartered in 1926 in Valdosta, Georgia.

Formation of Withlacoochee Council

In September, 1926, the citizens of Valdosta pledged $2,280 dollars to the scout movement and Mr. L. L. Daugherty was elected Chairman; Mr. J. L. Newburn, vice-chairman; A. G. Cleveland, second vice-chairman; and, E. W. Tullis, Treasurer.[434] The council would be named Withlacoochee Council and Mr. C. W. Ferguson would be named the first Council Executive.[435]

By January 1927, a permanent Court of Honor of prominent men had been named to review scouts for promotion.[436] By the end of 1927, Valdosta had at least two troops.[437] The council was

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424 *The Worth County Local*, March 23 1923.
425 "Poulan News," *The Worth County Local*, May 5, 1923.
426 *The Sylvester Local*, June 9th, 1927.
427 *The Sylvester Local*, August 21, 1931.
428 *The Sylvester Local*, July 14, 1932.
429 *The Sylvester Local*, August 17, 1933.
430 "Boy Scouts Hold Meeting," *The Sylvester Local*, October 13, 1938.
431 *The Sylvester Local*, December 7, 1939.
432 "Scouts to Open 3-Day Camporal," Miami Herald, December 1, 1939.
433 Boy Scout Fund Drive Started, Macon Telegraph, 1925.
434 *Scout Fund is Raised*, Macon Telegraph, September 26, 1926.
435 World's Small Scout is Enrolled Valdosta Troop, Macon Telegraph, November 16, 1927.
436 Honor Court for Scouts is Named, Macon Telegraph, January 29, 1927.
437 World's Small Scout is Enrolled Valdosta Troop, Macon Telegraph, November 16, 1927.

composed of Berrien, Brooks, Cook, Lanier and Lowndes Counties in Georgia and Madison and Hamilton Counties in Florida.[438]

In February 1928, the scouts of Valdosta held a large celebration for Scout week. Mr. Emmette McRae had been named Council Executive of Withlacoochee Council replacing Mr. Ferguson.[439] In May of 1928, the Valdosta Boy Scouts played baseball in the "Boy Scout League" against Hahira.[440] No other information about the league has been found. On June 11, 1928, the first annual Withlacoochee summer camp opened at Lake Octahatchee in Hamilton County, Florida. Mr. W. E. Chadwick of Boy Scout National Council assisted Mr. McRae in running the summer camp.[441] The first two weeks 35 (Valdosta) junior Boy Scouts were encamped to be followed by the (Valdosta) senior scouts. After which scouts from the other Withlacoochee counties and the adjoining town of Moultrie (Nochaway Council) are scheduled to attend.[442]

In January 1929, Council Executive McRae formed a troop in Quitman to be sponsored jointly by the Rotary and Lions Clubs.[443] The second annual Withlacoochee Council summer camp at Lake Octahatchee opened on July 2nd.[444]

In March of 1930, it was announced that Withlacoochee Council would be abolished and that Okefenokee (Area) Council with be assuming responsibility for scouting in the Valdosta area.[445] The reason stated was that local support had not been as great as had been needed and that the merger would consolidate resources. Emmette McRae, the former Council Executive for Withlacoochee Council, was named the Chairman of the Valdosta District and Valdosta District scoutmaster, a professional position with the Okefenokee Council.

In March of 1930, it was announced that Withlacoochee Council would be abolished and that Okefenokee (Area) Council with be assuming responsibility for scouting in the Valdosta area.[446]

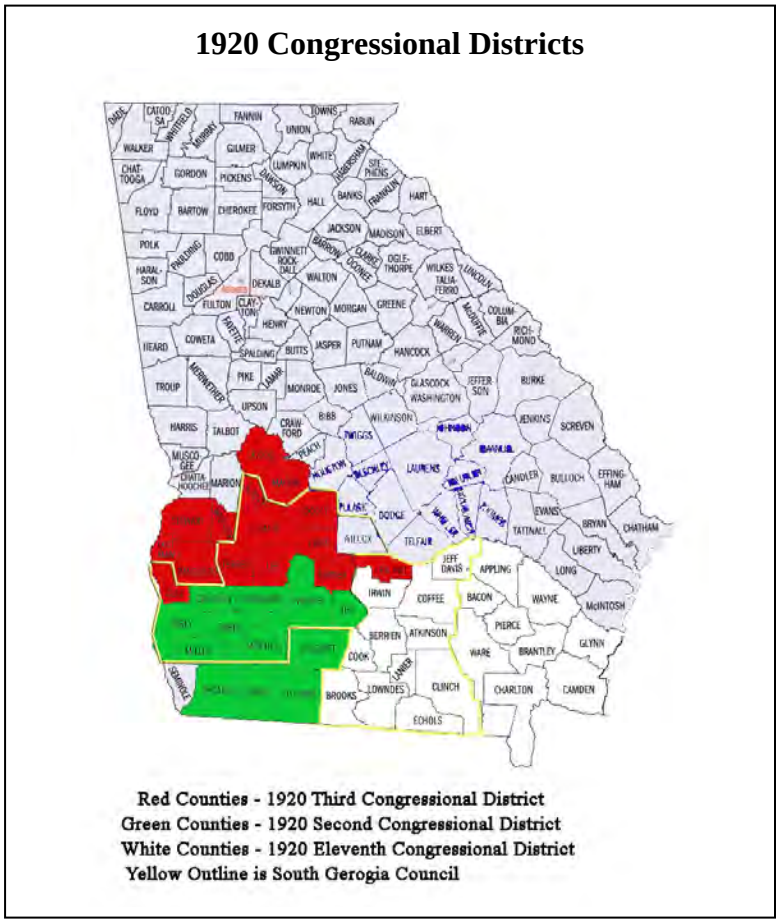
Formation of Okefenokee Area Council

In 1926, Okefenokee Area Council (#758) was chartered for the Waycross area. After the 1930 absorption of Withlacoochee Council of Valdosta, Okefenokee Area Council covered east and central South Georgia.

[438] Scout Camp Opened, Macon Telegraph, June, 21, 1928.
[439] Scouts Hold Celebration, Macon Telegraph, February 8, 1928.
[440] Valdosta Scouts to Battle Hahira, Macon Telegraph, May, 1928.
[441] Scouts to Conduct Camp. Macon Telegraph, June 11, 1928.
[442] Scout Camp Opened, Macon Telegraph, June, 21, 1928.
[443] To Sponsor Scout Troops, Macon Telegraph, January 23, 1929.
[444] Scouts to Hold Camp, Macon Telegraph, June 22, 1929.
[445] Scout Councils Will Be Merged, Macon Telegraph, May 26, 1930.
[446] Scout Councils Will Be Merged, Macon Telegraph, May 26, 1930.

Map 1

The 1920 Second, Third, and Eleventh Congressional Districts used for "The Georgia Plan"



The map shows the three Congressional Districts from 1920 which were part of "The Georgia Plan." Green counties represent the Second Congressional District. Red counties represent the Third Congressional District. Blue counties represent the Twelfth Congressional District. The yellow outline shows the current boundary of Chehaw Council.

The 2nd Congressional District contained the counties of Baker, Calhoun, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell, Thomas, Tift, and Worth.

The 3rd Congressional District of Georgia contained the counties of Ben Hill, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Lee, Macon, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Taylor, Terrell, Turner, and Webster.

The 11th Congressional District consisted of Appling, Berrien, Brooks, Camden, Charlton, Clinch, Coffee, Echols, Glynn, Irwin, Jeff Davis, Lowndes, Pierce, Ware and Wayne Counties.

The 1920 Twelfth Congressional District contained only Wilcox County that would later become part of Chehaw Council.

Table 1

The Georgia Plan

A Complete List of Committee Members

Congressional District No. 1: William V. Davis, a banker of Savannah; Carleton B. Gibson of Savannah; Hershel Hopkins Elders, a lawyer of Reidsville; and Hershel S. White (Sr.), a lawyer of Sylvania.

Congressional District No. 2: F. R. Pidcock of Moultrie, and R. H. Ferrell of Albany.

Congressional District No. 3: W.W. Dykes of Americus, L. G. Council of Americus, Professor I. W. Bivins of Cordele, and Professor S. J. Powell of Leesburg.

Congressional District No. 4: J. Homer Dimon of Columbus, J. B. Key of Columbus, and Professor C. W. Coleman of LaGrange.

Congressional District No. 5: Mell R. Wilkerson of Atlanta, Col. F. J. Paxon of Atlanta, Col. E. E. Pomeroy of Atlanta, and C. D. McKinney of Atlanta.

Congressional District No. 6: Charles B. Lewis, President of the Fourth National Bank, of Macon; Ogden Persons of Forsyth; and E. T. Holmes of Barnesville.

Congressional District No. 7: Harry Merkleham of Lindale, Professor Ernest Dillard of Calhoun, Frank Manley of Dalton, and Professor J. W. Jackson of Cartersville.

Congressional District No. 8: Harry Hodgson of Athens, Ben S. Thompson of Madison, and Hugh Gordon of Athens.

Congressional District No. 9: J. H. Hosch and Felix Smith, both of Gainesville.

Congressional District No. 10: George Carswell of Irwinton, C. B. Chapman of Sandersville, and Professor Lawton B. Evans of Augusta.

Congressional District No. 11: S. J. Faircloth of Quitman, L. L. Daugherty of Valdosta, A. W. Winn of Valdosta, and J. B. Floyd of Douglas.

Congressional District No. 12: W. P. Martin of Dublin, Judge Max McRae of McRae, and Professor T. B. Courson of Mt. Vernon.

Table 2

Known Members of Albany Troop A & Troop B from 1911 to 1915

The Known Members of Troop A of Albany
Patrol No. 1: Robert Arthur, Patrol Leader; Clayton Whitehead, Assistant Patrol Leader; Charles Tyler; Felton Owens, Edmund Jackson, Hudson Malone, and Swanton Culbreath.
Patrol No. 2: Earl Hughes, Patrol Leader; Eldred Simkins, Assistant Patrol Leader; Lee Ballard, William Harold, Lawton Matthews, Edwin Smith, Claude Gortatowsky, and Jim Tom Pullen.
Patrol No. 3: Walter G. Lagerquist, Patrol Leader
Patrol No. 4: Dewey Land, Patrol Leader
Patrol No. 5: Harry Arthur, Patrol Leader.
The Known Members of Troop B of Albany
Patrol No. 1: Tom Malone, Patrol Leader
Patrol No. 2: Holcombe Tarver, Patrol Leader
Patrol No. 3: Lester Wallis, Patrol Leader
Patrol No. 4: Majors Walden, Patrol Leader
Patrol No. 5: Baldwin Young, Patrol Leader.

Table 3

Known Members of the Albany Scouts in 1922[447]

Ash, Irwin	T2
Cohen, Carl	T2
Cohen, Mike	T2
Denson, Robert	T2
Faber, Edward	T2
Frank, Adolph	T2
Gortatowsky, Henry	T2
Greenberg, Walter	T2
Gusick, Mathew	T2
Heller, Irving	T2
Marks, Joe	T2
Prisant, Myron	T2
Benson, Oliver	T3
Bierman, Jack	T3
Binion, Robert	T3
Binns, William	T3
Carter, W. E.	T3
Coleman, Louis	T3
Dees, James Alfred	T3
Gay, Sterlin	T3
Geoghegan, R. B.	T3
George, Durwood	T3
Griffith, Lamar	T3
Gunnels, Raymond	T3
Hall, Avon	T3
Hall, George	T3
Henderson, James	T3
Humphreys, James	T3
Jarvis, Nolan	T3
Jefferson, Lamar	T3
Johnson, George	T3
Lunsford, N. J.	T3
Morris, Burton	T3
Moseley, George	T3
Oliver, Joseph B.	T3
Pate, Paul	T3
Pickron, James	T3
Reynolds, Julian G.	T3
Sauls, J. D.	T3
Saxon, Albert S. Jr.	T3
Ventulett, Thos. W.	T3
Von Weller, Harold	T3
Von Weller, Philip	T3
Williams, Lewis	T3

Cameron, Henry	T5
Crawford, Ralph	T5
Duncan, Eldridge	T5
Leary, Joseph	T5
Mckinzie, Barlow	T5
McNamara, James	T5
Mitchell, Thomas	T5
Pryse, Kenneth	T5
Shackelford, Francis	T5
Shackelford, Hugh	T5
Sherman, Mercer	T5
Turner, James	T5
Wells, Caraway	T5
Williams, Ernest	T5
Wylly, Lee	T5
Adcox, Victor	T6
Allen, Aubrey	T6
Allen, James	T6
Brooks, Charles	T6
Dann, Jesse	T6
Davies, Albert	T6
Green, Joe	T6
Gremmer, Fred	T6
Hall, Thomas	T6
Hilman, Thomas	T6
Hullard, Walter	T6
Johnson, Joseph	T6
Key, Walton	T6
Lawson, John Lester	T6
McArthur, Wade	T6
McDonald, Eugene	T6
Morrow, Homer	T6
Rowsey, William	T6
Sapp, Edward	T6
Sapp, Sibbett	T6
Seagraves, Alex	T6
Sumter, Fred	T6
Thelkeld, Harry	T6
Ticknor, William	T6
Walden, Spencer	T6

447 "List of Scouts Now In Good Standing," *The Albany Herald*, February 7, 1922.

Table 4

Known Members of the Americus Scouts from 1918 to the Formation of Aumuckalee Council in 1921

Name	Year Joined	Troop[448]	January, 1920 Recharter[449]
Allison, John C.	1920	T2	
Andrew, Malcolm	1920		
Ansley, Tye	1921	T1	
Ansley, Ray	1919		Yes
Baugh, Will D.	1922	T3	
Belcher, Seth	1919		Yes
Bond, Ben	1919		Yes
Bond, Claude	1919		Yes
Broadhurst, David[450]	1919	T3	Yes
Buchanan, Robert	1920	T3	
Burton, O'Neal	1920		
Caswell, William	1919	T3	Yes
Collins, James	1919		Yes
Comer, Fred	1919		Yes
Comer, Sam	1919		Yes
Council, Anthony	1920		
Crew, James	1920		
Croxton, Alex	1922	T1	
Culpepper, Robert	1919		Yes
Davis, Earnest	1919		Yes
Dixon, Olin	1919		Yes
Dudley, James (Jim)	1920		
Ellis, George	1919	T3	Yes
Everett, Henry	1919	T3	Yes
Furlow, James	1920		
Gammage, Lon Charles	1920		
Gammage, Carl	1919		Yes
Gammage, Edwin	1919		Yes
Glover, Charlie (Carr)	1919		
Graham, Harry	1919		Yes
Griswold, Max	1920		
Harris, G. W.	1919		Yes
Heys, William	1920		
Hightower, Joel	1919		Yes
Hill, Alan	1920		
Hooks, Bobby	1922	T3	
Humber, Carl	1919		Yes

[448] Prior to the division of The Americus Troop (or The Americus Scouts or Americus Troop 1) into three troops in 1920, if a troop number was used then it was Troop 1. These numbers reflect troop numbers that were found after the division in the spring of 1920. Scouts with blank troop numbers indicate that no troop number was found after The Americus Troop split into three troops.

[449] No list of the original 1919 charter members exists. If a "Yes" is in this column then the scout was on the 1920 recharter list.

[450] David Broadhurst is listed as a new member (not a new scout) of Troop 3 on May 27, 1922. David Broadhurst was the second Eagle Scout in Southwest Georgia and he is listed in the Eagle records of the Council as being from Troop 1. As one of only two Eagle Scouts, both of whom were in Troop 1, David Broadhurst had likely been moved to Troop 3 to provide leadership.

Kiker, John Ewing	1919	T1	Yes
King, Ralph	1920		
Lott, Sam	1919		Yes
Mark, Walter S.	1920		
Mask, Walter L.	1920		
McAlister, Glenn	1920		
McDonald, Murph	1920		
McMath, Benjamin	1919		Yes
McNeill, Alan	1919		Yes
McNeill, W. W. (Will)	1919		Yes
Morgan, Sanders	1919		Yes
Oliver, George	1919	T3	
Player, Edwin	1922	T1	
Purvis, Gilbert	1919		Yes
Reeves, Walter	1920		
Reid, Darby	1922	T1	
Seig, Robert	1922	T1	
Sheffield, John West	1919		Yes
Stapleton, Walter	1919		
Statham, Earnest	1920		
Stewart, Douglas	1919		Yes
Sutton, Joe	1920		
Theyer, Albert	1919		Yes
Thomas, Russell	1919		Yes
Turpin, Willard	1922	T3	
Walker, Minor	1920		
Young, Skilman	1919		Yes

Leaders

George O. Marshall	First scoutmaster	Americus Scouts	12/1918
James A. Lott	Temp scoutmaster	Americus Scouts	07/1919
Silas Johnson	Second scoutmaster	Americus Scouts	07/1919
Silas Johnson	scoutmaster	T1	05/1920
Herbert W. Moon	scoutmaster	T2	05/1920
J. C. Berry	Scout Physician	All Troops	05/1920
Bradley Hogg	scoutmaster	Aumuckalee T1	1922
Dave Chappell	scoutmaster	Aumuckalee T2	1922
Peck Rylander	scoutmaster	Aumuckalee T3	1922
R. P. Ewing	scoutmaster	T2	1923

Table 5

Known Members of the Cordele Scouts in 1913

Name
Bazemore, Orris
Cannon, Carl
Cobb, Guy T.
Coney, Jim
Coney, Walter
Fenn, John F.
Fenn, Pless
Hamilton, Alton
Hill, Lloyd
Howell, James
Howell, Ned
Hughes, William
Kelly, Paul
McDonald, Robley
Shipp, Percy
Slade, Jere
Ward, Jim
Webb, Leon
Webster, William
Williams, Hiriam

Leaders	Position	Year
Ware, A. F.	SM	1913

Table 6

Known Members of the Cordele Scouts from 1917 to 1922

Scout Name	First Year
Atkins, Alva	1919
Barwick, Frank	1919
Bowen, James	1919
Brooks, Robert	1919
Calhoun, Waldo	1919
Comer, Jack	1919
Cunningham, Coney	1922
Eakes, Bob	1919
Fitzgerald, Willie	1919
Goddard, Harry	1919
Henry, Connar	1919
Kelly, Richard	1919
Palmer, Bowden	1922
Parker, L. A.	1919
Parrish, Walter	1919
Perry, Fred	1919
Pye, Walter	1919
Robuck, Edwin	1922
Self, Gates	1919
Todd, J. T.	1919
Ward, Charles	1919
Ward, John	1919
Ware, Roger	1919
Williams, A. J.	1922

Leaders	Position	Year
J. M. Walker	SM	Before 1917
George Hatcher	SM	1917
George Hatcher	SM	Troop 1 - 1922
Perry C. Clegg	SM	Troop 2 - 1922

Table 7

Known Members of the Ellaville Scouts (from 1919 to 1922)

Scout	First Year
Ray Holloway	1919
Doss Bridges	1919
Newman Denton	1919
Raymond Johnson	1919
Arteban Cunningham	1919
S. E. Denton, Jr.	1919
Tom Battle	1919
Millard Arrington	1919
Daniel Rainey	1919
J. R. Jordan	1919
Clarence McCrary	1919
John Dudley Williams.	1919
Ralph McGowan	1920
Tom Battle	1920
Henry Morrison	1920
Jackie Morrison	1920
H. J. Dyess	1920
Jim Cook	1920
Doss Bridges	1920
Will D. Baugh	1921
Alton Baugh	1921

Leaders	Position	Year
L. M. Williams	scoutmaster	1919
S. E. Denton	scoutmaster	1920
S. A. Manning	Bandmaster	1920
E. L. Jordan	scoutmaster	1921 -22
Eugene Dixon	ASM	1922

Table 8

Known Members of the Weston Scouts (in 1920)

Name
Adams, Walter
Barge, Joe Hill
Black, William
Cleveland, Perkins
Dennard, George
Hammock, Goode
Jones, Walter
King, William
McGarrah, Kenneth
Merritt, Richard
Shiver, Clinton
Sims, John
Stanford, J. L.
Trotman, Bascom

CHAPTER 2
CHEHAW COUNCIL
BECOMES THE LOCAL BOY SCOUT ORGANIZATION

Introduction

From 1939 until 1984, the council was known as Chehaw Council. In 1984, the name of the council was changed to Southwest Georgia Council. Only the name changed. The name change had no effect on the council or its operations. In 2005, the council returned to the name of Chehaw Council. Again, there was no effect on the council operations. Since the name changes had no effect on the council operation, the parts of this chapter relating to council-wide events and council-wide troop events include events without regard to the name of the council at the time of the event.

Chehaw Council Formation

Council Formation – Council-Wide Organizational Meetings before June 1939

In 1939, Southwest Georgia was the only area in the Southeastern United States that was not organized into a council.[451] Beginning in January of 1939, a group of concerned men in the Albany area began efforts to obtain a charter for a new council in the area. They were assisted by Herbert Stuckey of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.[452]

In February and early March of 1939, various cities in the area organized into steering committees. The first meeting of all the cities was on March 21, 1939, in Albany. Representatives from eight towns in southwest Georgia discussed the organization of a Boy Scout council.[453] The towns were Albany, Americus, Tifton, Cordele, Dawson, Camilla, Sylvester, and Pelham. Phil Jones of Americus presided at the meeting. Bill Dodson and Herbert Stuckey attended, representing the Atlanta office of the National Council. R. E. Davis of the Albany City Council and George Mathis of the Dougherty County Commission both welcomed those in attendance. Speakers at the meeting were: Herbert Bradshaw, Okefenokee Council President; Tom Morgan, Okefenokee Council Executive; Fred Schonberg, Columbus Council President; and Glenn Adams, Columbus Council Executive. Joseph Cook, Chairman of the Americus group, stated that the program begun by Reverend O. L. Evans in 1930s was still active and that Americus would like to be incorporated into the new council. Wallace Sheffield, also of Americus, assured those in attendance that Americus would provide its share of the budget. The Americus group consisted of: Seth Belcher, Jr. representing the Junior Chamber of Commerce; Ms. Annie Cato representing the ladies of Americus; Wallace Sheffield representing the Americus Rotary Club; Phil Jones representing the Kiwanis Club of Americus; and M. L. St. John representing the *Americus Times-Recorder* .[454] The Cordele contingent consisted of: Palmer Greene, scoutmaster; W. R. Turner, Sr.; Charles Adams; Guy T. Cobb; and Edgar Fletcher.

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451 "Boy Scout Drive," *The Albany Herald*, May 4, 1939.
452 "Stuckey Says 801 Local Boys Wish to Join Scouts," *The Albany Herald*, March 1, 1939.
453 "Organizational Scout Council discussed at Albany Meet," *The Cordele Dispatch*, March 22, 1939.
454 "Will Discuss Scout Council," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 20, 1939.

At the March 21 meeting, a tentative budget of $4,500 was proposed.[455] Each city was to contribute the following: Albany $1,000, Tifton $900, Cordele $500, Dawson $300, Camilla $250, Sylvester $250, and Pelham $200. No mention was made of Americus, which was the eighth city, or its contribution. By the time of the actual opening of the Council on June 15, 1939, Dawson and Tifton were not included, and Camilla and Pelham had been combined into the Mitchell County District. The five original districts of Chehaw Council were: Crisp County (Cordele), Dougherty County (Albany), Mitchell County (Camilla/Pelham), Sumter County (Americus), Worth County (Sylvester).

Council Formation - Crisp County District through June, 1939

A Citizens' Committee for Cordele and Crisp County was announced on April 23, 1939.[456] T. E. Fletcher was named the Chairman. Other members were: W. R. Turner, Palmer Greene, Guy T. Cobb, H. A. Wheeling, N. R. Jones, Charles Adams, Wendell Horne, D. H. Standard, Bill Fielder, Sam Roobin, J. H. Reese, H. U. Musselwhite, U. V. Whipple, Jr., A. B. Morris, G. W. Irby, J. M. Cutler, E. D. Palmer, J. H. Downes, and B. J. Thaxton. The Committee announced that the week of May 1 to May 6 would be Boy Scout week in Cordele and that there were 41 active scouts in Crisp County out of 1500 eligible boys.

The Cordele and Crisp County Citizens' Committee had a one-day funding campaign on Tuesday of Boy Scout week. The American Legion, the Chamber of Commerce, the Kiwanis Club, and Lions Club were each in charge of raising part of the budget.[457] The goal for Crisp County was stated as $900 rather than the $500 in the article announcing the success of the campaign.[458] Most likely one was a typo, as the figures came from different newspapers. H. A. Wheeling served as the Crisp County Campaign Chairman.[459]

Crisp County formed its District and Executive Committees effective June 1, 1939.[460] The District Committee consisted of: T. E. Fletcher, Chairman, W. R. Turner, Vice-Chairman, H. A. Wheeling, Charles Adams, H. L. Jones, H. L. Webb, Sam Roobin, J. H. Reese, H. U. Musselwhite, A. B. Morris, G. W. Irby, and J. H. Downes. The Executive Committee was T. E. Fletcher, W. R. Turner, Charles Adams, and Guy T. Cobb.

Council Formation - Dougherty County District through June, 1939

A Boy Scout Survey Committee was organized, most likely in January, with John T. Phillips, Sr. as the chairman.[461] A March 1, 1939, article in *The Albany Herald* stated that the survey had revealed 801 boys wishing to join the Boy Scouts in the Albany area.[462] Twelve troops could be formed in Albany, along with three cub packs. Additionally, sufficient interest existed to form several troops from rural Dougherty County. Mr. Stuckey also stated that Sea Scout and explorer scout programs could be formed.

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455 "Organization of Boy Scout Area Council is Established," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 21, 1939.
456 "Organization of Scout Council is begun Here," *The Cordele Dispatch*, April 23, 1939.
457 "Boy Scout Drive Will Begin Here Tuesday," *The Cordele Dispatch*, May 2, 1939.
458 "Boy Scout Drive," *The Albany Herald*, May 4, 1939.
459 "Boy Scout Drive," *The Albany Herald*, May 4, 1939.
460 "Chehaw Boy Scout Council is Formed," *The Cordele Dispatch*, June 1, 1939.
461 "Committee Named to Plan Scout Organization Here," *The Albany Herald*, February 28, 1939.
462 "Stuckey Says 801 Local Boys Wish to Join Scouts," *The Albany Herald*, March 1, 1939.

On February 27, 1939, the Inter-Club Council of Albany considered organizing a Boy Scout council.[463] John T. Phillips, Sr., Chairman of the Boy Scout Survey Committee, presided at the meeting. More than 50 persons attended the meeting from local churches and civic organizations. Speakers included Edmund A. Landau, H. S. Cobey, L. G. Henderson, J. Ed. Fain, G. A. Cooper, J. D. Smith, B. D. Lee, D. W. Brosman, Mrs. W. Y. Faircloth, and Mrs. Paul Beck. A Steering Committee was appointed to proceed with the organization.[464] Henry W. MacLin was named as committee chairman. Also on the committee were: J. P. Champion, J. Ed Fain, W. B. Haley, C. M. Herrick, Dan L. Gibson, Edmund A. Landau, B. D. Lee, T. A. Brennan, and D. W. Brosman. The objectives of the committee were (1) enlarge itself into a Citizens' Committee, (2) perfect a plan of organization of a council in Albany, and (3) obtain the support of the community. Although not stated in any report, the results of the survey were certainly announced at the meeting.

By April 19, 1939, the Citizens' Committee for Dougherty County had been appointed by the Steering Committee.[465] The first meeting of the Dougherty County Citizens' Committee was held on April 19, 1939. Henry W. MacLin, Chairman of the Steering Committee, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Citizens Committee of the Boy Scouts for Albany and Dougherty County.[466] After a report of the success of the Steering Committee, the Citizens' Committee unanimously voted to proceed toward organizing a council. Subcommittees, which were formed, included: Finance Campaign, Prospective Contributors, and Public Education. In addition to Mr. MacLin, the Citizens' Committee consisted of T. A. Brennan, B. D. Lee, Dan L. Gibson, J. Ed Fain, Harold Weatherbee, K. B. Hodges, Frank Faulk, J. W. Bush, H. E. McNabb, W. A. Rorer, A. E. Runnels, R. E. Davis, J. O. Allen, I. C. Gortatowsky, C. Q. Wright, H. H. Logan, W. H. Farrier, E. A. Landau, R. S. Yarborough, Mercer Sherman, and L. W. Smith. An Advisory Committee, consisting of H. T. McIntosh, H. E. Davis, M. W. Tift, M. M. Wiggins, and E. H. Kalmon, was also established. The purpose of the Advisory Committee is unknown. Herbert Stuckey, National Council representative, was present for the meeting.

In early May of 1939, the Dougherty County Citizens' Committee named a Campaign Executive Committee with Reverend J. Ed Fain as Chairman and L. W. Smith as Vice-Chairman. Other committees were Major Membership with J. W. Bush as Chairman; Publicity with Dan. L. Gibson as Chairman; and a Speaker's Bureau and Radio Committee with Dr. Edmund A. Landau Chairman.[467] The group met at the Gordon Hotel in Albany, and chose May during which to conduct its fundraising. Fain and his colleagues selected the figure of $2,436 as the goal for Dougherty County. A letter of support from W. B. Haley, President of the Albany Chamber of Commerce, supported the financial campaign. The letter was published in *The Albany Herald*.[468]

Council Formation - Mitchell County District through June, 1939

Mitchell County's goal was $500. Dr. M. Burns headed up the Mitchell County Campaign

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463 "Committee Named to Plan Scout Organization Here," *The Albany Herald*, February 28, 1939.

464 "Boy Scout Group is Organized," *The Albany Herald*, April 19, 1939; The use of the words "steering committee" is from the April 19 article.

465 "Boy Scout Group is Organized," *The Albany Herald*, April 19, 1939.

466 "Haley Endorses Boy Scout Drive," *The Albany Herald*, May 6, 1939.

467 "Drive for Funds for Boy Scout Movement Planned," *The Albany Herald*, May 5, 1939..

468 "Haley Endorses Boy Scout Drive," *The Albany Herald*, May 6, 1939..

Committee to raise this money.[469] Both Camilla and Pelham are in Mitchell County. The original proposed budget called for a total of $450 dollars, but the combined district budget was $500.

Council Formation - Sumter County District through June, 1939

A committee of Americus men and women met at the Windsor Hotel on March 13, 1939, to discuss a scout council for Americus.[470] The leaders of the group were: James Buchanan of the Kiwanis Club, R. C. Pendergrass of the Rotary Club, Brown McLendon of the American Legion, and Seth Belcher of the Junior Chamber of Commerce. The proposed council would have districts centered in Albany, Americus, Cordele, and Tifton. Herbert Stuckey, from the Atlanta office of the Boy Scouts, attended and spoke to the group. A Steering Committee for Americus was appointed and consisted of: Chairman Joseph Cook, Seth Belcher, Jr., Brown McLendon, Phil Jones, Ms. Annie Cato, S. C. Haddock, and O. L. Evans.[471]

W. Y. Compton met with the Sumter District Committee on June 17, 1939, at the Windsor Hotel to make further plans for the council.[472] Herbert Stuckey also attended the meeting. Phil Jones, District Committee Chairman, appointed P. L. Wootten to serve as the Organizational Chairman and James R. Blair to serve as Leader Development Chairman. Evan Mathis was appointed District Treasurer.[473]

Council Formation - Terrell County District through June, 1939

Dawson was originally one of the cities intended to be included in Chehaw Council; and it was included in the budget at the March 21, 1939, meeting. Dawson's budget was $300. A search of *The Dawson News* for 1939 found no evidence that any group in Dawson organized in an attempt to join the new council. Nor is there any evidence that any delegation ever attended any of the council-wide planning meetings. Scouting was active in Dawson, as the Lions Club built the troop a cabin outside of town.[474] H. B. Crowell, Sanitary Engineer for Terrell County, was the scoutmaster. Dawson and Terrell County were not a district when the Chehaw Council opened in June of that year.

Council Formation - Tift County District through June, 1939

Tifton was originally one of the cities intended to be included in Chehaw Council; and it was included in the budget at the March 21, 1939, meeting. Tifton's budget was $900. However, it was unable to organize and it was not a district when the Chehaw Council opened in June of that year.

Council Formation - Worth County District through June, 1939

Sylvester was included in the budget at the March 21, 1939 meeting. Sylvester's budget was $250. It was one of five districts included in Chehaw Council when it opened. However, very

469 "Camilla Boy Scout Drive under Way," *The Albany Herald*, May 19, 1939.
470 "Civic Leaders Discuss Scout Council Tonight," *Americus Time-Recorder*, March 13, 1939.
471 "Plans Made for Council," *Americus Time-Recorder*, March 14, 1939.
472 "Scout Council Head is Heard," *Americus Time-Recorder*, June 17, 1939.
473 "Scout Leaders End Training," *Americus Time-Recorder*, August 10, 1939.
474 "Dawson Boy Scouts Will Have Cabins For Camping," *The Dawson News*, May 4, 1939.

little information has been found about its formation in Worth County.

Chehaw Council in Operation

Council Operations – Council-Wide Operations beginning in June, 1939

The first board meeting of Chehaw Council, was held on May 30, 1939, at the New Albany Hotel. J. W. Bush of Albany was elected the first president. W. R. Turner of Cordele and George B. Hawthorne of Sylvester were elected vice-presidents, L. W. Smith of Albany, Treasurer; Dr. B. E. Carlisle of Camilla, Scout Commissioner, and T. O. Marshall of Americus, National Representative.[475] The name of the new council was the subject of a long and heated debate.[476] The council was named Chehaw after the park between Albany and Americus.[477] None of the sources of information about the meeting contain the other possible council names.

One of the most important decisions made at the May 30, 1939, meeting was the selection of a Council Executive. The board interviewed three men for the position. They were David L. Liles, Council Executive from Wilmington, North Carolina; Freeman E. Self, Council Executive from Rome, Georgia; and Welty Y. Compton, Assistant Scout Executive in Augusta, Georgia. The board selected Welty Y. Compton as the first Scout Executive for Chehaw Council. Compton had "a rich background" in scouting. He was a native of Virginia, and was then 34 years of age and married.

Council operations officially began on June 15, 1939.[478] The National Council, Boy Scouts of America, assigned Chehaw Council the council number 97 rather than the council number 100 that had been assigned to Nochaway Council. Northwest Georgia Council, which formed in 1932 after Nochaway Council disbanded, had been assigned council number 100. At chartering, Chehaw Council had 15 active troops, 337 scouts, and 144 volunteers. Originally, the council served the following counties or districts: Crisp, Dougherty, Mitchell, Sumter, and Worth. Tifton and Tift County as well as Dawson and Terrell County were originally designated as districts but apparently they did not have sufficient support in 1939 to organize a district.[479] The new Council adopted a budget of $4,400. The council budget year ran from June 15 until the next June 14. Mrs. Waits of Albany was the Council's first secretary.[480]

On August 15, 1939, Gilbert Bush, Special Deputy Regional Boy Scout Executive from the Atlanta office, came to Albany to help complete the setup of the council.[481] The Articles of Incorporation are dated February 7, 1944, and give the official name as "Chehaw Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Inc."[482] The term of incorporation was for 35 years with the privilege of renewal at the expiration of said term. Mr. Walter Burt, Attorney in the C & S Building, Albany, drew up the papers and was the Council's first legal advisor.

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475 "Boy Scout Council Organized; Full-Time Executive Elected," *The Albany Herald,* May 31, 1939.
476 "Scout Council Organized for this Area," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 31, 1939.
477 "Scout Council Organized for this Area," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 31, 1939.
478 "Boy Scout Council Organized; Full-Time Executive Elected," *The Albany Herald,* May 31, 1939.
479 "Plans Made for Council," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 14, 1939.
480 From the personal knowledge of Ralph Ellis.
481 "Chehaw Council to get Charter," *The Albany Herald,* August 9, 1939.
482 From Chehaw Council history, a two-page anonymous history of the Council from 1939 to 1970, which is part of the official records of Chehaw Council

The first districts were established at the May 30, 1939, meeting and were: Albany, Americus, Cordele, Sylvester, and Camilla-Pelham.[483] It appears that the districts were also known by their counties which were: Dougherty (Albany), Sumter (Americus), Crisp (Cordele), Worth (Sylvester), and Mitchell (Camilla-Pelham). Over time, the cities were dropped in favor of the counties. Henry W. MacLin was the first District Chairman of the Dougherty County District.[484] For the Sumter County District, H. Phil Jones was the first District Chairman in 1939.[485] C. A. Alford of Sylvester became the first Worth County District Chairman and Roy F. Dunn was the first Worth County District Commissioner.[486]

With the combining of the various counties into a single council, there were many troops with the same number such as "Troop 1." Prior to the formation of the council, each county numbered its troops staring at Troop 1 and going up sequentially (troop 2, troop 3, etc.). Troop numbers were not often reassigned to other chartering organizations as many times troops would go inactive for a few years but then be reactivated by the same chartering organization and use the same number. In August of 1939, the Council solved this problem by assigning a prefix for each county (or district) to the troop number as it joined the Council.[487] Dougherty County, which may have included Lee County, was assigned both "0" and "1."[488] Therefore, the Dougherty County District retained the designation Troop 1. Other known prefixes are: "2" for Sumter County,[489] "3" for Turner County,[490] "4" for Crisp County, "5" for Mitchell County, "6" for Tift County, "7" for Terrell County, "8" for Calhoun County, and "9" for Early County.[491] Apparently, troops formed for black scouts were given another numbering system. The black troops were designated in the hundreds.[492] The Americus troop was assigned Troop number 200.[493]

The first Chehaw Council District Commissioners' meeting was held in Albany on August 18, 1939.[494] The duties of the District Commissioner were explained and a weekend training session was scheduled at Camp Shehaw for the last weekend in September.

Chehaw Council held its first council-wide scoutmaster training course at Camp Shehaw during the weekend of September 30 and October 1, 1939.[495] T. A. Brennan, Chairman of Leadership Training for Chehaw Council, was in charge of the event.[496] The three senior patrol leaders of the three Americus troops assisted with the event. They were Frank Easterlin, Jr. of

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483 "Scout Council Organized for this Area," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 31, 1939.

484 "MacLin Named Head of Boy Scout Committee," *The Albany Herald,* May 18, 1939.

485 "Scout Council Organized for this Area," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 31, 1939.

486 *My Love Affair With The Boy Scouts,* Iva J. Adams, Page 238.

487 "Troop Numbers Here Changed," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 14, 1939.

488 The assignment of "1" and the inclusion of Lee County is based on early troop numbers from Dougherty and Lee Counties and not the article upon which the remainder of the information is based

489 "Scout Leaders of Section to Meet at Camp Shehaw," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 19, 1939.

490 The Turner County District's assigned number is based on early troop numbers from Turner County and not the article upon which the remainder of the information is based.

491 "270 Sign for Scout Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 12, 1942.

492 From the personal knowledge of Ralph Ellis.

493 "Negro Boy Scout Troop Organized," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 9, 1942.

494 "Scout Leaders of Section to Meet at Camp Shehaw," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 19, 1939.

495 "Scoutmasters to Meet Here," *Americus Times-Recorder,* September 6, 1939; "scoutmaster's Go To Training," *Cordele Dispatch*, October 2, 1939.

496 "Scouters to Gather Here," *Americus Times-Recorder,* September 28, 1939.

Troop 21, Billy Flatt of Troop 22, and Evan Mathis, Jr. of Troop 23. Eagle Scout Frank Butler, Jr. served as Scribe for the training course. scoutmasters from all five districts attended.[497]

The first annual banquet for Chehaw Council was held on January 16, 1940, at the Gordon Hotel in Albany.[498] More than 200 Scouters and their wives attended the event.[499] The business meeting began at 4:00 P.M. The wives attended a theater party during the business meeting. The banquet began at 7:00 P.M. The speaker was Mr. Abit Nix, a supporter of the Boy Scouts from Athens, Georgia. Officers re-elected were: J. W. Bush, President; W. R. Turner, and George B. Hawkins, Vice-Presidents; W. L. Smith, Treasurer; B. E. Carlisle, Commissioner; and T. O. Marshall, National Representative.[500]

The first cub pack in Chehaw Council was formed in Americus in January 1940.[501] The pack held its first meeting on February 21, 1940.[502] Bill Tanner, the Cubmaster, died the week after the first meeting in an accident at his work with Georgia Power.[503]

The Boy Scouts of Chehaw Council planned to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of Boy Scouting in the United States in February of 1940. The Council had been organized for just over six months, but there were great plans for the event. Those Scouts who had earned their advancement were to be featured. However, shortly after 4 o'clock the morning of Saturday, February 10, a terrible tornado devastated Albany. Counting its loss of some 20 lives and several millions of dollars of property destroyed, the city of Albany was the only place the twister hit. Governor E. D. Rivers issued an edict proclaiming martial law in Albany and calling out the National Guard. Company H (Albany Guards, commanded by Corporal S. D. Saye), 121st Infantry, National Guard of Georgia, pitched tents on the courthouse lawn. The Cordele, Thomasville, and Valdosta companies of the 121st also went to Albany, along with Service Battery, 179th Field Artillery (formerly the 5th Regiment and the 122nd Infantry). In addition, eight members of a hospital unit based in Atlanta went to Albany, but returned the first day. The National Guard, however, was not the first organized relief force to arrive. The tornado had ceased by 4:30 A.M., Saturday morning. By 7:30 that same morning local Boy Scouts in uniform had arrived at Council headquarters, located on the edge of the devastated area of town. About 50 Scouts moved through the demolished area, keeping people out of the restricted places, forming water brigades, clearing streets, and assisting in the rescue efforts. Following this, the city highly praised the Scouts' emergency work.

In June of 1940, Chehaw Council held its first Council-wide Camporee in conjunction with the Third Annual Tomato Festival in Pelham.[504] Approximately 250 scouts attended.[505] Also on December 5, 1940, four new district were added to Chehaw Council.[506]

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497 "Scouters Hold Fine Meeting," *Americus Times-Recorder,* October 2, 1939.
498 "Scout Council Plans Meeting," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 8, 1940.
499 "First Annual Chehaw Council Meet Successful," *The Albany Herald,* January 17, 1940.
500 "First Annual Chehaw Council Meet Successful," *The Albany Herald,* January 17, 1940.
501 "Cub Scouts Registered," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 27, 1940.
502 "Cub Scouts Hold Meeting," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 21, 1940.
503 "District Scout Meeting Held," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 1, 1940.
504 "Boy Scout Camporee Is Held in Pelham," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 7, 1940.
505 "Approximately 250 Scouts to Attend Pelham Festival," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 4, 1940.
506 "Congressman Pace Lauds Scout Program," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 7, 1940.

The Council Banquet for 1941 was held on Tuesday, January 21, at the Gordon Hotel in Albany.[507] The featured speaker was the Region 6 Director, W. A. Dobson. He was the first Camp Director of Camp Bert Adams of the Atlanta Area Council. Officers elected were: L. W. Smith, Albany, President; W. R. Turner, Cordele, and Phil Jones, Americus, Vice-Presidents; J. R. Pinkston, Albany, Treasurer; I. H. Mann, Commissioner; and J. W. Bush, National Representative. President Smith set as the Council's goal for 1941 to have 1000 boys in Scouting by the end of the year.[508] The first Silver Beaver awards made by Chehaw Council were presented to Palmer Greene of Cordele and Rabbi Edmund A. Landau, Sr. of Albany.

In March of 1941, the first council-wide leader training for youth was held at Camp Shehaw. A total of 119 scouts from 28 troops and all 9 districts attended the three-day camp which was headed by Council Scout Executive Welty Compton. Troops present at the conference were: 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 15 and 16 of Albany; 21, 22, 23 and 24 of Americus; 26 of Smithville; 32 of Warwick; 40 and 42 of Cordele; 41 of Vienna; 50 of Pelham, 51 of Camilla; 61 of Tifton; 62 of Ty; 70 of Dawson; 80 of Leary; 81 of Arlington, 82 of Edison; and 90 and 91 of Blakely.

In April, Middle Georgia Council (k/n/a Central Georgia Council) and Chehaw Council held a joint Camporee at Minoa Springs in Macon County.[509] The contingent of twenty-nine Scouts from the Sumter District was led by John Pope the Assistant scoutmaster of Troop 23.

With war on the horizon, the scouts of the Sumter District assisted the Defense Program by distributing posters and window cards advertising war bonds to businesses in Americus, Plains, and Smithville.[510] Also in May of 1941, a fund-raising campaign was begun for the 1941-1942 budget of $1,500. The kickoff day was May 19, 1941. No report was found of the amount collected.

In July of 1941, Chehaw Council had 37 total troop, 22 of which had attended summer camp.[511]

Beginning in 1942 and continuing through 1945, America asked its citizens to collect used paper and scrap metal and to buy U. S. Savings Bonds. Each town organized its own drives but usually the Boy Scouts were either in charge of the events or they played a major part in the drives. The specifics of each town's paper and scrap metal drives can be found under the history of the operation of the District.

In May 1942, the first black Boy Scout Troop in Chehaw Council, Troop No. 200 of Americus, was organized. It was sponsored by Bethesda Baptist Church in Americus.[512] King Bryson was named its first scoutmaster. Frank M. Staley, Sr. was Chairman of the "Sumter County District Committee for Negro Scouting."[513]

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507 "30 Attend Scout Meeting," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 22, 1941.
508 "L. W. Smith to Head Chehaw Council," *The Albany Herald*, January 22, 1941.
509 "29 Sumter Scouts go to Camporee," *Americus Times-Recorder*, April 24, 1941.
510 "Scouts Aiding Defense Work," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 14, 1941.
511 "Scouts Enjoy Camp at Americus," *Macon Telegraph*, July 21, 1941.
512 Alan Anderson, *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 26, 2006, <www.sumtercountyhistory.com> (2007).
513 "Negro Scouters Have Regular Meeting," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 23, 1945.

The 1942 Council Banquet was held Tuesday, January 27, 1942, at the Albany High School and the American Legion Club House.[514] The Council was presented with the Acorn Award for having a 73% increase in membership for 1941, which was second in the Region.[515] Officers elected were: L. W. Smith, Albany, President; W. R. Turner, Cordele, Phil Jones, Americus, and Dan Hammack, Edison, Vice-Presidents; J. R. Pinkston, Albany, Treasurer; I. H. Mann, Commissioner; and J. W. Bush, National Representative. Chehaw Council had nine districts at this time, and each was appointed a representative on the Council Board. In addition to the original five districts of Crisp County, Dougherty County, Mitchell County, Sumter County, and Worth County, the districts of Tift County and Terrell County had been organized and added to the Council. Also, completely new Districts of Early County and Calhoun County had been active making a total of nine Districts.

In February 1942, Chehaw Council held its first training for the Boy Scout Emergency Services Corps at Camp Shehaw.[516] Membership in the corps is limited to scouts age 15 or older, who are First Class, and who have completed the training course. The attendance is unknown but six scouts from the Sumter District attended.

A Patrol Leader Training Camp was held at Camp Shehaw March 20 to 22 of 1942.[517] Fifty-six scouts from twenty-two troops in Chehaw Council attended the event.

Chehaw Council held its Spring Camporee April 17 to 20 of 1942 at Chehaw State Park near Albany.[518] Four to five hundred scouts were expected to attend. No actual number of scouts was found in the records.

In August of 1942, it was announced that the Boy Scouts would pick up your scrap metal for the war effort.[519]

Through 1943, the Chehaw Council budget year ran from June 15 until the next June 14. However, in 1943 Chehaw Council had voted to change to a calendar year budget beginning on January 1, 1944. Thus, the districts had to run a special fund raising campaign to raise funds for the 6½ months from June 14, 1943 until December 31, 1943.[520] Chehaw Council had 1000 registered Scouts for the first time during 1943.[521]

In July of 1944, Chehaw Council had 41 total troops of which 33 attended summer camp.[522] Heidt S. Swearingen became Scout Executive in 1944. Welty Y. Compton, had resigned in September, 1944 to take the position of Scout Executive of Pee Dee Area Council in South Carolina. In September, 1944, Chehaw Council had 69 units and 1725 scouts.[523]

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514 "Scout Council Registers Gain," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 28, 1942.
515 "Chehaw Scout Leaders," *The Albany Herald*, January 28, 1942.
516 "Scouts to Hold Emergency Services Training Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 2 1942.
517 "56 Scouts at Patrol Leaders' Camp Held Here." *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 32, 1942.
518 "56 Scouts at Patrol Leaders' Camp Held Here." *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 32, 1942.
519 "Let's Defeat the Axis," *Lee Council Journal*, August 21st, 1942.
520 "Scout Drive on June 8th," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 5, 1943.
521 "Scout Leadership Award Goes to Hogg," *The Albany Herald*, January 26, 1944.
522 "Camp Chase S. Osborn Boy Scout Camp Closes Session," *Macon Telegraph*, July 30, 1944.
523 "Turner Appointed to Council," Macon Telegraph, September 22, 1944.

The 1945 Chehaw Council annual banquet was held in January at the Gordon Hotel, in Albany. W. R. Turner of Cordele was elected President for this third year. Other Council officers elected were: I. C. Gortatawsky of Albany, Executive Vice-President; Frank L. Lumsford of Leary, Vice-President; L. E. Brown of Tifton, Vice-President; J. R. Pinkston, Albany, Treasurer; L. W. Smith and J. W. Bush, National Representatives.[524] The 1945 Council Commissioner was not listed.

At the Chehaw Council annual banquet in January of 1946 over 200 people were present. This was the largest attendance since the Council began holding the banquet.[525] By 1946 both Chehaw Council and some of the Districts had "Negro Divisional Committees" which operated like a District Committee did for white scouts. F. M. Staley of Americus was President of the "Chehaw Negro Division."[526] Also, in 1946 both Chehaw Council and some of the Districts had Inter-racial Committees. W. T. Turner was Chairman of the Chehaw Council Inter-racial Committee.[527] Reverend Harold White was Chairman of the Sumter-Schley District's Inter-racial Committee.[528] Troops made up of black scouts had existed in Chehaw Council since at least 1942.[529] Separate summer camps had been run for the black troops since the summer of 1942.[530]

In October of 1946, a note from the quarterly business meeting stated that Chehaw Council had 11 districts. In 1942 there had been only nine.[531]

In March of 1947, Chehaw Council held its annual Council-wide meeting for black Scouts and their leaders at Campbell A.M.E. in Americus.[532] Principal speaker was C. L. Harper, Executive Secretary of the Georgia Teachers Association. Also in March of 1947, Chehaw Council formed its first Long-Range Planning Committee.[533] James H. Gray of Albany was appointed Chairman. Other members were Phil Jones, Russell Thomas, and W. P. White of Americus; C. C. Morris of Vienna; C. C. Chappell of Cordele; F. K. Reyher and J. S. Wynn of Ashburn; J. M. Carr and Elias L. Webb of Tifton; E. M. Kimble of Poulan; W. R. Camp of Sylvester; Earl L. Speer R. E. McCormack, Bonner B. Brown, and Silas M. Hearn of Albany; P. B. Stephens and C. W. Hand of Pelham; Carl E. Crow and K. G. Taylor of Camilla; S. Guy Maddox of Blakely; C. L. Cross of Colquitt; W. J. McKenzie of Ft. Gaines; and Dan Hammack of Edison.

In June of 1947, the Council hired B. T. Warren as the first black Field Executive.[534] He was hired with special grant money from the National Council. In October the report of the Long-Range Planning Committee recommended reaching more rural scouts by hiring a black Field Executive and an additional white Field Executive.[535] O. B. Evenson, Assistant Director for Rural Scouting at the National Council, was scheduled to come to Chehaw Council in November to

524 "Chehaw Council Holds Annual Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, Janaury 24, 1945.
525 "Chehaw Council Holds Annual Meet," *The Albany Herald*, Janaury 16, 1946.
526 "Nego Boy Scouts of Chehaw Council will have Meet Here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 5, 1947.
527 "Negro Scout to hold Annual Meeting Here Tues. Night," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 16, 1946
528 "Negro Scouters in Regular Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 30, 1946.
529 "Negro Boy Scout Troop Organized," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 9, 1942.
530 "Colored Scouts to go to Camp for One Week," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 24, 1942.
531 "Local Scouters," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 15, 1946.
532 "Nego Boy Scouts of Chehaw Council will have Meet Here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 5, 1947.
533 "Local Men to Aid in Scout Long-range Plan," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 28, 1947.
534 "5-Year Scout Plan Approved," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 10, 1947.
535 "5-Year Scout Plan Approved," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 10, 1947.

implement a new National Council program aimed at rural Scouts by trying it on one rural county in Chehaw Council.[536]

The weekend of May 9 and 10, 1948, Chehaw Council held a Council camporee at Chehaw Park.[537]

In 1949, W. E. Nexsen was selected the third scout executive, replacing Heidt S. Swearingen who has served since 1944..[538] The budget for 1949 was $26,726.70. In that year, the Council had ten districts. There were three white field executives and one black field executive. B. T. Warren, the black executive, transferred to Greensboro, South Carolina, and was not replaced. According to Iva J. Adams, W. E. Nexsen was called "Uncle Bill" or "Curley" by his friends.[539] According to Ralph Ellis, Nexsen was pronounced like "Nixon."

In 1949, the Scouts of Chehaw Council were actively participating in the community and gave a program at the Southwest Georgia fair at the Albany airport.[540] In June, the Council reported 2,303 boys involved in Scouting throughout the ten districts of Chehaw Council.[541] This number broke down as follows: 1,245 white Scouts, 425 black Scouts, 489 white Cub Scouts, 33 black Cub Scouts, 91 white Senior Scouts, and 20 black Senior Scouts. In August 1949, Chehaw Council held its First Annual Cub Scout Father and Son Campout at Camp Osborn.[542] In October, Chehaw Council held a Council-wide Cub Scout Leader Training at the First Methodist Church of Albany.[543] Speakers came from both the local and regional offices.

The year 1950 began with a budget shortage from 1949.[544] Early in May 1950, Chehaw Council held a Council-wide camporee at Camp Osborn for the purpose of patrol competition.[545] Patrols competed in various scout crafts and received rating up to "A" depending upon their performance.

In August 1951, Chehaw Council held its Third Annual Cub Scout Father and Son Campout at Camp Osborn.[546] The overnight event cost one dollar. The Tift-Turner District and the Worth District held a tri-county camporee from November 30 to December 1, 1951 at Camp Osborn.[547]

The Chehaw Council budget for November 1, 1951, until October 31, 1952, was $26,600.[548] The chairman of the finance drive was Frank L. Lumsford. Since 1940, Chehaw Council had held its business meetings jointly with its awards banquet in mid-December. Beginning in December

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536 "5-Year Scout Plan Approved," *Americus Times-Recorder,* October 10, 1947.
537 "Scouts to Attend Camporee Friday," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May, 6, 1948.
538 According to Ralph Ellis the name "Nexsen" was pronounced like the last name of the former President Richard M. Nixon.
539 *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts* ,Iva J. Adams, Page 51.
540 "Fair Opens Monday at Airport," *The Albany Herald,* October 29, 1949.
541 "Scouting Grows Over Council," *Americus Times-Recorder,* September 22, 1949.
542 "Scout Father and Son Outing 18th," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 10, 1951.
543 "Cub Scouts Meet This Thursday Outlined Today," *Americus Times-Recorder,* October 17, 1949.
544 "Scout Officals Re-Elected," *The Albany Herald,* December 14, 1949.
545 Untitled Article, *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 11, 1950.
546 "Scout Father and Son Outing 18th," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 10, 1951.
547 "Boy Scout Campaign Underway in County," *The Sylvester Local,* November 8, 1951.
548 "Chehaw Council Financial Drive," *Americus Times-Recorder,* September 26, 1951.

of 1951, only the business meeting was held. The Chehaw Council awards banquet was moved to February of 1952. It appears this was done so that the awards banquet would coincide with scout week. The first Chehaw Council awards banquet was held on February 8, 1952, at Radium Springs.[549] Numerous awards mere made to scouts, scoutmasters, and troops; and two Silver Beaver awards were presented by Roy Lyles, Deputy Regional Scout Executive. Also, at the 1952 awards banquet, Chehaw Council recognized an Eagle class for the first time by inviting all Scouts who received their Eagle rank in 1951 to attend.

In 1952, the Explorer program was growing in Chehaw Council. In April of 1952 N. Harold West, National Director of Exploring Service, and John Shutt, Deputy Regional Executive in Charge of Exploring, came to Chehaw Council to hold a series of orientation meetings and a weekend orientation campout at Camp Osborn.[550] Chehaw Council Explorers held a major event at Lake Blackshear on October 18 and 19 called Operation Blackshear.[551] Operation Blackshear was similar to a patrol competition campout but with Explorer competitions such as fishing, casting, and skeet shooting. Taking part in the first annual "Operation" were Post 4 and Post 6 of Albany, Post 21 and Post 22 of Americus, Post 40 of Cordele, and Post 60 and Post 69 of Tifton.[552] By 1952, the Council had three staff members, being: William E. Nexsen, Council Executive and Field Executives Larry Starrit and Harry L. Wheeler.

Due to the popularity of the annual Cub Scout Father and Son Campout, the Fourth Annual Cub Scout Father and Son Campout was held over four weekends in September of 1952.[553]

In March of 1953, Chehaw Council held a Junior Leadership Training Course at the Scout hut in Cordele.[554] Courses were held on three consecutive Wednesday nights, followed by a weekend campout April 18 and 19. A Council-wide camporee was held at Lake Blackshear September 18 and 19, 1953.[555] The camporee featured patrol competitions in fire building, first aid, swimming and water rescue.

In May 1953, an article detailing the planning for the 1953 National Jamboree contingent from Chehaw Council was published in the *Americus Times-Recorder* .[556] This article provides the details that would otherwise have been lost to time. Chehaw Council had been assigned Jamboree Troop No. 10 and left Atlanta on Jamboree Special Train No. 604 on July 12. The trip to California was by the southern route through Colorado Springs and Salt Lake City. The return trip was by the northern route through San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Vancouver, Yellowstone National Park, Chicago, and back to Atlanta on August 4, 1953. Dewey Reaves of Albany was named as Jamboree scoutmaster and Alex Phillips of Tifton was chosen as Assistant Jamboree scoutmaster. The total cost of the trip was $395. In October, former U. S. Representative Steve Pace, Jr. was named to head the campaign to raise the $35,000 budget needed for 1954.[557] However, due to a severe drought, the agriculture industry was suffering through a very slow year;

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549 "Awards Made at Annual Meeting," *The Albany Herald*, February 8,1952.
550 "Explorer Scout Series Announced," *Americus Times-Recorder*, April 17, 1952.
551 "Explorer Scouts Plan Field Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 7, 1952.
552 "Scout 'Operation' Held at Blackshear," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 20, 1952.
553 "Chehaw Announces Cub-Son-Dad Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 16, 1952.
554 "Scouts to take Training Couse," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 3 1953.
555 "Council-wide Camporee Set at Lake Blackshear, *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 22, 1953.
556 "Scout Jamboree Departure Dates are Announced, *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 7, 1953.
557 "Pace to Head Fund Drive for Chehaw Council," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 8, 1953.

and only $24,000 was raised.[558] At the December business meeting of the Council, President Phillips announced that Chehaw Council had lead the Section in unit growth for the last two months and that the target for 1954 was 126 units in the Council.[559]

In January 1955, the Council realigned into four districts rather than each county being a district.[560] The Northern District (latter named "Lake District"[561]) consisted of Crisp, Dooly, Schley, and Sumter Counties as well as the towns of Smithville, Arabi, and Warwick. The East District consisted of Tift, Turner, and Worth Counties. The Central District was made up of Dougherty, Lee, Terrell, and Mitchell Counties and the city of Newton. The West District consisted of Early, Miller, Clay, and Calhoun Counties. There were 121 Scout units active in the Council, with a total of 2,400 boys and 900 leaders.[562] The President for 1955 was Mr. R. E. McTigue of Albany.[563]

In May of 1955, Chehaw Council announced it would suspend operations in June unless additional funds were received to continue to operate.[564] The Council held a $100 a plate dinner at Radium Springs to raise money to fund the Council. Apparently funding was found as in August, all four staff professionals attended the 10th National Training Conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan.[565]

The week of September 22nd, 1955 Chehaw Council held a Jamboree at Kolomoki State Park. Over 300 scouts attended.[566]

One goal set for 1956 by new President Leo Leader was to have 3,651 Scouts in 176 active units by the end of the year.[567] The Council's membership at the beginning of 1956 was 2,717 Scouts in 123 units. It was announced that Chehaw Council was now reaching 11.7 percent of the boys of scouting age. The goal set at the formation of the Council in 1939 was to reach 17 percent of the boys. As of January 1956, over $30,000 of the Council's $38,800 budget had been raised due to the primary fund drive in the fall of 1955.

In 1956, The East District which was composed of Tift, Turner, and Worth Counties, served 546 Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Explorers, in addition to 204 trained adults.[568]

At the annual business meeting in December of 1956, it was announced that there were 3,149 scouts and 1,106 leaders active in Chehaw Council, which represented a 15.8 percent increase.[569] Attendance at Camp Osborn had shown a large increase over that of 1955. But the finance campaign had fallen $10,000 short, and the 1957 budget had been reduced to reflect this

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558 "Scouting Faces Serious Crisis, "*Americus Times-Recorder*, May 3, 1954.
559 "R. E. McTigue Named New Scout President," *The Albany Herald*, December 9, 1953.
560 "George Teaford to Head New Boy Scout District," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 16, 1954.
561 "Scouting Faces Serious Crisis, "*Americus Times-Recorder*, May 3, 1954.
562 "Scout Council Banquet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 10, 1955.
563 "*Sell America,"* The Albany Herald, February 11, 1955.
564 "Scout ing Faces Serious Crisis, "*Americus Times-Recorder*, May 3, 1954.
565 "Scout Leader to Attend Course," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 21, 1955.
566 "300 Scouts Expected," *The Dothan Eagle*, September, 22, 1955.
567 "Chehaw Council Names Officers," *The Albany Herald*, December 9, 1955.
568 "Early Bird Breakfast," Sylvster Local, October 11, 1956.
569 "Scout Council Holds Annual Meeting," *The Albany Herald*, December 14, 1956.

amount. Goals for 1957 included 37 additional units. Leo Leaderwas re-elected President for 1957.[570]

The major change in 1958 was the reduction from four to three districts.[571] Central District was based in Albany and had Leroy Starrett as District Executive. Lake District covered the Americus area and Russell A. Williams was the District Executive. The East District was centered in Tifton and had James A. Teeter as District Executive.

In December of 1959, a Cub Scout den was formed solely for handicapped boys by the First Christian Church of Albany and the Easter Seal Treatment Center.[572] This was the first recorded scout unit of any kind in Chehaw Council formed solely for that purpose. At the annual Chehaw Council Business Meeting in December of 1959, Council Executive W. E. Nexsen stated that 1959 had been a "banner year" and that Chehaw Council was one of the top councils in the region in scouting performance.[573] Chehaw Council had 3,400 scouts in 140 units, which was a gain of 20%.[574] However, only 56% of the $60,000 budget for 1959 had been raised. The goal for 1960 was set at 3,835 scouts and 159 units.[575] In order to fund that goal, President Chester O. Lee announced that a supplemental funding campaign would be held in March of 1960.

1960 was the 50th Anniversary of Scouting. James R. Blair of Americus was chairman of the 50th Anniversary Committee.[576] Chester O. Lee, President of Coats and Clark, was elected President of the Council at the December, 1959 Busienss Meeting and H. C. Camp of Sylvester was elected to the board.[577] The Chehaw Council awards banquet in February of 1960 drew 450 people. This was the largest crowd in the history of Chehaw Council.[578] In September, the Council held a banquet for all Eagle Scouts from Chehaw Council in conjunction with Scouting's 50th Anniversary.[579] W. Thomas Rice, President of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, was the speaker. Chehaw Council finished 1960 some $5,000.00 "in the red."

In March 1962, Jim Teeter, District Executive of East District, transferred to Columbia, S. C. On the advice of the Regional Executive, extra efforts were made to raise enough funds to reduce the deficit. This was done, and with funds in sight to do this Jim Snead was employed to fill the vacancy in August in the East District. The Council had its best year financially, raising $49,729.18 and reducing the deficit to $10,814.86. In 1962, the Council was presented the Department of Agriculture Conservation Award for Region VI. Also, Edward "Skip" Gnehm was selected to represent Region VI in the "Report to the Nation." Skip was a member of Troop 7 of Albany. On October 7th, the council held a University of Scouting at Albany Technical College.[580]

Josh Molder became Scout Executive on January 1, 1963. By purchasing a mimeograph machine for printing, the Council started a twice-a-month bulletin, *The Drumbeat*, going to all

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570 "Scout Council Holds Annual Meeting," *The Albany Herald*, December 14, 1956.
571 "Chehaw Re-Elects Johnson," *The Albany Herald*, December 12, 1958.
572 "Handicapped Boys Formed into Cub Scout Den Here," *The Albany Herald*, December 16, 1959.
573 "Pace to Serve as VP on Boy Scout Council," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 15, 1959.
574 "Chester Lee Heads Scouts as President," *The Albany Herald*, December 11, 1959.
575 "Appointments Made by Chehaw Council Prexy," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 16, 1960.
576 "Boy Soouts Plan Golden Jublee," *Sylvester Local*, September 24, 1959.
577 "Boy Scouts," *Sylvester Local*, December 17th, 1959.
578 "75 from Americus at Scout Dinner," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 19, 1960.
579 "Locals Attend Eagle Banquet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 9, 1960.
580 "Scouting," *Sylvester Local*, October 4th, 1962.

registered Scouters. The staff was increased to six men but after 18 months was cut back to five because of insufficient finances. The Council raised all professional staff to the Region VI salary standards. The Council purchased a new addressing machine, folding machine, postage meter, and other visual aid equipment.

In 1964, Don Farr, Finance Chairman of Chehaw Council, headed the finance sessions at the annual Region 6 meeting in Atlanta.[581]

In April, 1965, the Negro Division of Chehaw Council held Boy Scout Circus at the Monroe High School stadium. The Negro Division had over 800 registered scouts.[582] For 1965, Lake District funding campaigns were held in each community except Americus. Since the United Way provided funding for Scouting in Americus and Sumter County, no separate funding campaign was undertaken in Sumter County. The Chairmen for the various communities were Bill Stewart for Cordele, Allen Johnson for Dawson, Joe Middlebrooks for Warwick, Joe Easom for Ellaville, Gene Brim for Sasser, and Bill Green for Arabi. Beginning in 1965 zip codes were required for *Boys Life*.[583] Each council made a concerted effort to assure that these were added to the renewals including Chehaw Council. On October 11, 1965, Gordon N. Davis, Jr. was hired as the "field executive for the negro division."[584] The district was known as District 500 and included all troops consisting of black scouts in the entire council. Troops were numbered in the 500s. Beginning in 1966 the district was renamed the "Flint River District."[585]

In 1966, Chehaw Council had 3,379 Scouts at all levels and 1,200 adult volunteers.[586]

The 1967 budget was set at $367,165, which was to support 5 staff members, 3 clerical workers, 1,200 volunteers, and over 3,000 scouts.[587] In June, Ronald Tyson who had been the Lake District Executive until 1964 returned to Chehaw Council as Assistant Council Executive.[588] Between positions at Chehaw Council, he had served in the Far East Council based in Tokyo. In 1967, Reverend Charles Culbert of the Pinson Memorial United Methodist Church served as Chehaw Council Chaplin.[589] In 1967, the Council was third in the nation in percent membership gain. Also, in 1967, Dr. Jenkins, President of Albany State College, headed a drive to add 24 Negro packs and troops. At that time Chehaw Council had 734 Negro scouts and Dr. Jenkins wanted to see that number increased to at least 1100.[590]

In 1968, the Council was second in the nation in membership gain, finishing the year with 3,446 active scouts.[591] In 1968, Max Hardy served as Council President.[592] In 1968, Chehaw

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581 "Farr to Preside at Scout Affair," *Americus Times-Recorder*, April 11, 1964.
582 "Boy Scout Circus," Sylvester Local, April 15th, 1965.
583 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, August 11, 1965.
584 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, October 11, 1965.
585 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, February 25, 1966.
586 "Chehaw Boy Scout Council," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 21, 1966.
587 "Chehaw Boy Scout Council," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 21, 1966.
588 "Scout Leader Returning Home," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 10, 1967.
589 Herbert and Martha Floyd, *A History of Pinson Memorial UMC*, (2007)
590 "Negro Scout Troops to be Organized," *Sylvester Local*, August 10th, 1967.
591 "Chehaw Council Elects Officers," *The Albany Herald*, December 11, 1967.
592 My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts, Iva J. Adams, Appendix.

Council consisted of 15 counties.[593] Dooly and Wilcox Counties were not a part of the council in 1965.

In 1969, Chehaw Council opened a capital campaign. With the funds, the Council purchased a two-acre lot with a brick home on it at 2406 Dawson Road.[594] The Council built seven new troop camps at Camp Osborn and installed a new equipment storage and maintenance complex, with a storage shelter and fenced area. The pool was renovated and a new filter/chlorinating plant added. The chapel at Camp Osborn was constructed. The entire water system of Camp Osborn was replaced. A new (additional) deep well and pump were put in to serve the four troop camps on Horseshoe Ridge. A 250-foot walking bridge was constructed over the swamp between the main camp and Horseshoe Ridge. This bridge was later named "Ben M. Turner Bridge." Also, the Council bought 84 new tents, 28 dining flies, 168 new cots, and a great deal of additional camp equipment, including two rowboats.[595]

Also in 1969, Chehaw Council's Chaplain Reverend Charles A. Cuthbreth attemded the Protestent Chaptin's Workshop at Philmont.[596] His wife and 10 year old son also went with him. Reverend Cuthbert was the pastor at the Pinson United Methodist Church in Worth County. Council officers for 1969 were: B. J. Sumner, President; Vice-Presidents: William T. Divine, Jr, H. C. Camp , Ben Turner, Thomas M. Jenkins; Commissioner: Max Hardy; Treasurer: Frank C. Dozier, Jr.; and National Representatives: Keith Reyher, Frank L. Lumsford and Raymond A. Hudson.[597]

B. J. Sumner was elected President again for 1970. In addition other selected to serve were Commissioner: Milton Sterling; Vice–Presidents: H. C. Camp , George Plummer, E. D. Hamilton; and Ben Turner; treasurer: Hubert R. King. Jr.; Other executive board members elected Charles Culbreth, Abner Dismuke and George Hawthorne.[598]

Josh Molder retired as Scout Executive in March of 1971, and Wofford E. Malphrus assumed the duties on April 1 of the same year.[599] Soon after his arrival, the office site selection committee was asked to reconsider the decision to expand the residence purchased at 2406 Dawson Road and to consider instead purchasing the old Standard Oil district office at 930 W. Oglethorpe. The board approved their recommendation and Mr. Malphrus visited Mr. Maddox, District Manager for Standard Oil of Kentucky in Atlanta, to open negotiations. Merrill D. Grennor, who worked for Standard Oil as a District Manager in Albany, did most of the negotiations for the council.[600] After three appraisals of the property were made averaging $130,000, the board decided to offer $65,000 for the property with credit to Standard Oil for a $65,000 contribution. This offer was accepted after approval by Mr. Maddox, the Kentucky headquarters, and Standard Oil of California which owns Standard Oil of Kentucky. Renovation of the facility began in late 1971,

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593 "600 New Boy Scouts," *Ameicus Times-Recorder*, Janaury 17, 1968.

594 Chehaw Council's prior address was 107 South Jefferson Ave., Albany.

595 From Chehaw Council history, a brief history of the Council from 1939 to 1970 which is part of the official records of Chehaw Council. The author is unknown.

596 "Unforgeiable Journey," *Sylvester Local*, July 21, 1969.

597 "Chehaw Council," *Sylvester Local*, December 12, 1968.

598 "4 from Worth," *Sylvester Local*, December 10, 1970.

599 From Chehaw Council history, a brief history of the Council from 1939 to 1970 which is part of the official records of Chehaw Council. The author is unknown.

600 From the personal knowledge of Brooks Lovelace.

and the move to the new location was completed in February of 1977. The property on Dawson Road was sold at a $9,000 profit, which more than paid for the new furnishings.

According to the records found at the scout office, in 1970, Chehaw Council had 132 units and 3828 Scouts registered.[601] In 1971, it was 181 units and 4618 Scouts. In 1972, it was 185 units and 4613 Scouts. In 1973, it was 191 units and 4814 Scouts which were comprised of 2334 Cub Scouts, 2240 Boy Scouts, 240 Explorer Scouts in 83 Packs, 96 Troops, and 12 Posts.[602] In 1974, it was 191 units and 4392 Scouts. In 1975, it was 159 units and 3352 Scouts. In 1976, it was 165 units and 3601 Scouts. In 1977, it was 166 units and 3747 Scouts. In 1978, it was 104 units and 4346 Scouts.

The Fall Camporee for 1972 was held at Chickasaw in Mitchell County.[603]

In 1974 or 1975, the Council's districts were realigned into a new configuration, with 6 districts instead of 3 and with 17 counties instead of 15.[604] Dooly and Wilcox were moved from Central Georgia Council to Chehaw Council.

Council officers for 1974 were: President: George B. Plummer; Commissioner: Ray Roeder; Treasurer: Hubert R. King, Jr.; National Representative: T. Bonner Stewart; Legal Advisor: William T. Divine, Jr.; Chaplin: E. Ned Steele; Vice-Presidents: Charles Hayes, Frank D. Koran, and W. P. Westbrook, Jr.; Members-at-large: Henry Gilmore; Joe Paquette; Frank A. Wilson III; Eugene C. Black; Ben M. Turner; K. C. Lancaster; W. M. Coleman; Robert R. Fairburn; Robert Weber; Fred Long; Neal Pierce; and Wallace Binns.[605]

Chehaw Council finished 1978 with 4,348 registered scouts.[606]

Ledley B. (Bud) Symmes, Jr. was hired as the new Scout Executive effective December 1, 1979.[607] Cub Scout Day Camp was held at the Marine Base July 30th to August 3rd. The cost was $15 per scout.[608]

In 1980, the Articles of Incorporation were updated and approved in January. The Council Long-Range Planning Committee was activated in January 1980 and completed its work in August 1980. Also in January of 1980, a District Executive was elected for Kolomoki District. A feasibility study was completed in the fall of 1980, and Worrell Associates were employed for a Capital Campaign with the goal of $950,000.00. The Capital Campaign kicked off in December 1980 with Mr. George Plummer as Chairman. Also in 1980, Mr. Joe Brashears was appointed as Camp Development Chairman. Scout Executive L. B. Symmes' youngest son was killed January

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601 From Chehaw Council history, a brief history of the Council from 1970 to 1979 which is part of the official records of Chehaw Council. The author is unknown.

602 From the 1974 Chehaw Annual Appreciation Banquet program.

603 "Hundreds of Chehaw Scouts," *Sylvester Local*, November 9th, 1972.

604 From Chehaw Council history, a brief history of the Council from 1970 to 1979 which is part of the official records of Chehaw Council. The author is unknown.

605 "Boy Scout Council," *Sylvester Local*, Januayr 31, 1974.

606 "Chehaw Council," *Sylvester Local*, Febbruary 8th, 1979.

607 From Chehaw Council history, a brief history of the Council from 1979 to 1983 which is part of the official records of Chehaw Council. The author is unknown.

608 "Boy Scout Day Camp," *Sylvester Local*, July 26, 1979.

12, 1980. At the end of 1980, Chehaw Council had 43 units serving 4,764 scouts.[609] The Council achieved membership and unit growth for 1979, 1980, and 1981.

At the end of 1981, Chehaw Council had 135 units with 5,389 scouts.[610] The council was first in the Southern Region's 75 councils in growth scouts and units. The Spring Camporee was held at Camp Potter in 1981.[611]

Early in 1982 the development at Camp Osborn was started. A new well was completed with distribution lines and a 5,000 gallon storage tank. A new ranger house was completed and a camp ranger employed. New patrol tables and tent platforms were built and one new program shelter completed. In 1982, the Council had its seventh consecutive year of growth. In December 1982, a second son of L. B. Symmes, the Scout Executive, was killed. Cub Scout Camp for 1982 was called Camp Bear Claw and ran July 19th to July 23rd at five locations: Marine Corp Base, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Georgia Southwestern College, Veterans Memorial State Park and Kolomoki Mounds State Park.[612] The year ended with 32 Eagle Scouts and 5,394 scouts active in 242 units.[613]

Frank A. Wilson, III was elected Council President for 1983 at the annual business meeting in November of 1982.[614] John Rivers was elected Council Commissioner. Other officers appointed to serve were Perry Savelle as the Council Treasurer; Hubert R. King, Jr as the Assistant reasurer; William T. Divine as our Legal Counsel; Ray Brooks, Vice President for Program; Ray Collins, Vice President for Administration; David Butch, Vice President for Finance; Max Corner, Vice President for Membership-Relationship; Brooks and Mary Lovelace, Vice President for Exploring.

In 1983, Chehaw Council hired Mary Alice Shelton, as Pathfinder District Executive. She was the first female District Executive for the Council.[615] Also in 1983, construction was started at Camp Osborn on the staff leaders' cabins, 3 program shelters, 26 patrol tables, and 36 tent platforms. The dining hall was refurbished in preparation for the OA Conclave that was held at Camp Osborn in May 1983. However, financial support of Council operations was still a major problem.[616] The Cub Scout Camp or Camp Bear Claw was held at six locations around the Council in July.[617]

Tom Dugger became Scout Executive on November 1, 1983.[618] The Council ended 1983 with 4,500 members. The Council office staff was reduced from four to three and the professional staff was reduced from seven to six by not replacing the District Executive in the Pathfinder

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609 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, January 25, 1982.

610 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, January 25, 1982.

611 "Troop 100," *Sylvester Local*, May 7th, 1981.

612 "Registration," *Sylvester Local*, June 17, 1982.

613 "Scouting is Big Business," *The Albany Herald*, Feburary 3, 1983; The 1982 Annual Report of The Chehaw Counil Boy Scouts of America.

614 "Council Officers Elected," *Lee County Ledger*, November 11, 1982

615 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, January 25, 1983.

616 From Chehaw Council history, a brief history of the Council from 1979 to 1983 which is part of the official records of Chehaw Council. The author is unknown.

617 "Cub Scout Day," *Sylvester Local*, June 2nd, 1983.

618 From Chehaw Council history, a brief history of the Council from 1983 to 1986 which is part of the official records of Chehaw Council. The author is unknown.

District. Plans were abandoned to add an additional position in the Blackshear Trail District. Delinquent accounts totaling $41,000 were paid by the end of the year.

The early months of 1984 were spent reorganizing the Council and beginning financial efforts to retire three notes held by Trust Company Bank. The notes were (1) a $20,000 note against capital campaign pledges; (2) a $47,000 note against the Council office; and (3) a $10,000 note. Additional internal debts of approximately $39,000 were also found. By the end of 1984 only a $37,000 note remained. In May, the Council realigned the districts from six to four. The Flint, Pathfinder, Kinchalee, Kolomoki, Blackshear and East Districts were realigned in to the Central, Northeast, Southwest, and Southeast Districts.[619] The office staff was reduced by one and the professional staff was reduced by two. Year-end membership was 4,654, which was a 3.2% growth. The most dramatic change was the July 1st name change to Southwest Georgia Council.[620]

In January of 1985, the last note was paid off. Also in 1985, a field director position was eliminated. Summer camp at Camp Osborn had an 8% growth and the Council contingent to the National Jamboree was a success. The council had 42 Eagle Scouts. Year-end membership was 4,862, which was a growth of 4.4%. The year ended with a deficit of $36,000.

In 1986, efforts began to obtain clear title to Camp Potter in hopes of selling it for the endowment fund. Finances were still a problem, as the Council had to borrow money. The year ended with a total membership of 5,148, which is a 5.8% growth.[621]

Council Executive Tom Dugger left in January to join the National Staff; and Sam Richmond of Montgomery, Alabama, was selected as the new Council Executive. The year ended with a total membership of 5,315, which was a 5.8% growth.

In 1988, there was a significant loss of membership, but the exact numbers were not to be found in the records. 1989 was apparently a better year for membership as it was reported that most of the previous loss in membership had been made up.[622]

At the beginning of 1981 Chehaw Council had 4028 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 1982 Chehaw Council had 4396 total scouts registered.[623] At the beginning of 1983 Chehaw Council had 3712 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 1984 Chehaw Council had 3353 total scouts registered

Crisp County

In July and August of 1939, the Crisp County District held a three-part training program for new Scout volunteers and leaders.[624] The training was led by G. W. Irby of Cordele and Scout Executive Welty Y. Compton of Albany, and about 20 adults attended. Later in August, Gilbert

619 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, April 25, 1984.
620 Chehaw *Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, July 25, 1984.
621 From Chehaw Council history, a brief history of the Council from 1983 to 1986 which is part of the official records of Chehaw Council. The author is unknown.
622 From Chehaw Council history, a brief history of the Council from 1986 to 1989 which is part of the official records of Chehaw Council. The author is unknown. .
623 All 1980 number are from the Southeast Region Fact Books.
624 "Scout Training," *Cordele Dispatch*, August 4, 1939.

Bush of the Regional Scout Office came to Cordele and presented a program to the Cordele Kiwanis Club about Scouting.[625]

On September 29, 1939, the Crisp County District held its first Court of Honor.[626] Judge O. T. Gower was in charge of the event and Scout Executive Welty Y. Compton was the speaker. Scouts received ranks up to the level of Star in front of the over 100 people who attended.

In October of 1939, Mr. Zeesman advised the Lions Club that the registration of a second troop known as Troop 2 was almost complete and that Bob Davis would be the scoutmaster.[627]

In February of 1940, the Crisp County District held its second Court of Honor. Apparently, this was a combined Board of Review and Court of Honor, as a panel of eight distinguished men of the community sat as judges on the stage of the high school auditorium and tested the boys on their ranks and badges.[628] Parents, other Scouts, and the public were in the audience. Attending the Court of Honor were Troop 40 (formerly Troop 1) from Cordele, newly formed Troop 41 (formerly Troop 2) from Cordele, and Troop 42 of Vienna in Dooly County.

Also in June of 1940, four troops from the Cordele District attended the Chehaw Council summer camp at Graves Springs.[629] Two troops were from Cordele and one troop each was from Warwick and Vienna. This was the only summer camp ever to be known as "Camp Chehaw." Later in the summer, Troop 40 of Cordele and Troop 42 of Vienna held a second week-long summer camp at Camp Dooly.[630]

The Council's summer camp for 1941 was held at Camp Shehaw near Americus, and Scouts from Cordele are listed as attending. Additionally, there are no articles in the Cordele Dispatch indicating that the Cordele Scouts attended any other summer camp. Also in 1941, the Scouts assisted in collecting aluminum for the war.[631] Organization of both the Cub Scouts and an Emergency Service Corp were first mentioned as occurring in July 1941.[632]

The Council's summer camp for 1942 was again held at Camp Shehaw near Americus, and the Cordele Troops are specifically listed as attending. Both Troop 40 and Troop 41 were active in Cordele, as they are listed as playing baseball against various teams.[633]

In 1943, Camp Osborn opened as the permanent summer camp for Chehaw Council, and the Cordele Troops attended it that summer.[634]

In 1955, a council-wide realignment put Crisp County in the Northern District of Chehaw Council along with Schley, Sumter, and Dooly.[635] The district quickly became known as the Lake

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625 "Scouts Talk to Kiwanis," *Cordele Dispatch*, August 16, 1939.
626 "Boy Scout Court of Honor," *Cordele Dispatch*, October 1, 1939.
627 "Zeesman Tells All About Scouts," *Cordele Dispatch*, October, 1939.
628 "Judges for Boy Scout Court of Honor are Selected," *Cordele Dispatch*, February 16, 1940.
629 "Scout Camp Here," *The Albany Herald*, June 22, 1940.
630 "Boy Scouts to Hold Camporee," *Cordele Dispatch*, August 12, 1940.
631 "Boy Scouts to Collect Aluminum," *Cordele Dispatch*, July 10, 1941.
632 "Scout Offical Arrives Here," *Cordele Dispatch*, July 22, 1941.
633 "Baseball," *Cordele Dispatch*, July 24, 1942; "Meeting," *Cordele Dispatch*, July 6, 1942
634 "Scout Awards Are Announced," *The Albany Herald*, July 8, 1943.
635 "George Teaford to Head New Scout District," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 16, 1954.

District. Cordele's share of the 1955 – 1956 budget for Chehaw Council was $3,180.[636] By November, the city had raised $2,275.

Dooly County

In 1955, a council-wide realignment put Dooly County in the Northern District of Chehaw Council along with Schley, Crisp, and Sumter.[637] The district quickly became known as the Lake District. Vienna's share of the 1955 – 1956 budget for Chehaw Council was $2,400.[638] By November, the city had raised $375.

Dougherty County

The "Albany District" of Chehaw Council started a waste paper collection drive in the summer of 1944.[639] Paper was critically short due to the war and the troops made money by selling the paper to be recycled. Also according to the article, the first Boy Scout Circus for Chehaw Council was scheduled for later in 1944.

In 1945, Albany and Dougherty County had 11 Boy Scout troops, 3 Cub Packs, an Explorer Post and a Sea Scout Ship. Total scouts enrolled were 347.[640]

In December 1954, Lt. John H. Olive, Turner Air Force Base's scout project officer, held a "radio communications tour" for Chehaw Council Explorers.[641] According to the article he planned to do one such event each month (in 1955, I assume). Lt. Olive had apparently been providing the Scouts of Chehaw Council with an exciting program in 1954 as Estol Belflower remembers attending a weekend at Turner where "We were given parachutes and given a ride in a DC3 (my first airplane ride) and 'flew' an instrument simulator." At least one other scout has also told me about this weekend, but I cannot remember his name.

In 1967, Troop 101 was formed at the Turner Naval Air Station for boys whose fathers were stationed overseas.[642] Don Griffith was scoutmaster and Tommy Thomason was Assistant scoutmaster.

In 1979, Explorer Post 432 from Albany, an Explorer Post for Marching Band and Music, went to Fort Rucker for a four day band camp. The Post consists of 137 members from Junior and Sernior high school.

Lee County

In February 1941, Troop 16 met with the Sumter Troops at Camp Shehaw[643] to celebrate

636 "Scouts Rename Teaford Chairman," *Americus Times-Recorder,* November 17, 1955.
637 "George Teaford to Head New Scout District," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 16, 1954.
638 "Scouts Re-Name Teaford Chairman," *Americus Times-Recorder,* November 17, 1955.
639 "M. M. Wiggins Heads Boy Scout Committee," *The Albany Herald,* June 7, 1944.
640 "National Boy Scout Week," *Lee County Journal,* February 6, 1946.
641 "Scout Activities To Reach High Peak During December," *The Albany Herald,* December 5, 1954.
642 *Chehaw Drumbeat,* Chehaw Council, October 12, 1967.
643 "Explorer Post 432," *Sylvester Local,* August 30th, 1979.

the anniversary of Scouting. H. C. Mims, scoutmaster, C. O. Myers and L. L. Short.[644] Troop 16 was active with J. K. Alvis, scoutmaster, Spencer Faircloth, Senior Patrol Leader, Page Tharpe, Sribe, and Henry Lee, Quartermaster.[645] Max Hardy was scoutmaster of Troop 16 for 11 years.[646] Spencer Faircloth, Page Tharp, Bobby Foster, Kaylor Hines, Jade Varner and Billy Richardson attended Camp Osborn summer camp in 1945 from Lee County.[647] They had collected waste paper and sold it for the war effort to raise money for the camp fees.[648]

A troop formed in Lee County on April 15th, 1949 by the Chez-Nous Club as Troop 16. Z. T. Page was scoutmaster with Spencer Faircloth, Perry Kearse, and Johnny Groover serving as Assistant scoutmasters. The Troop Committee members were W E. Cannon, B E. Gunter, C. C. Allen, Arthur Long and Raymond Cannon. Troop scout leadership were: Edgar Stamps, Senior Patrol Leader; Jack Varner, Bobby Gunter, Charles Rhodes and Tommy Millert are Patrol Leaders; Ed Forrester is Scribe, and Charles Cannon is Quartermaster.

Troop 16 was still active in 1950 and attended the Spring Camporee at Camp Osborn.[649] In 1957, Troop 16 had 17 members and the scoutmaster was M. B. Hardy and 8 cub scouts Ms. Gwen Guilbeauq was Den Mother. [650] Troop 16 sent to the Valley Forge Jamboree in 1950 Zack Pate, Jr., Bobby Gunter, and Billy Manning.

In 1981, Troop 16 participated in a newspaper collection drive under scoutmaster J. M. Rhodes.[651]

In 1982, Troop 16 went to Camp Osborn.[652]

In April of 1983, Troop 16 took its annual Okefenokee Trip with 12 soouts lead by Scoutmaster J. M. Rhodes, Jr.[653] In November, 1983 Troop 210 was formed by the Methodist Mens Club with Harold Pinson as scoutmaster.[654]

Eight Boy Scouts had a camp-out Friday, February 8 at the "Monument" on the Philema Road. Those camping were: Calvin Eubanks, Melvin Eubanks, Nelson Breeden, Andy Roberson, Jason Brock, Scott Leibold, Jason Bell, Tim Prance and Scoutmaster J. M. Rhodes, Jr.[655]

In April, 1987, Troop 16 went on a 5 day camping trip to Lake George.[656] Those scouts camping were Jason Bell, Melvin Eubanks, Mitch Friar, Terry Futch, Steve Halstead, Scott Liebold, Wayne Liebold, J. J. Norris, Tim Prance, Andy Roberson, Keith Roland, Richard Scarbrough, Stanley Scarbrough, Ralph Bradley, Neal Eubanks, John Scarbrough, and J. M.

644 "Scout Week Observed," *Lee County Journal,* February 14, 1941.
645 "Scout Troop 16," *Lee County Journal,* February 12, 1943.
646 *History of Lee County Georgia,* Page 372.
647 "Leesburn Scouts Attend Council," *Lee County Journal,* July 13, 1945.
648 "Leesburg Scouts Staging Waste Paper Drive," 1945
649 "Merit Badges," *Lee County Journal,* March 3, 1950.
650 "Scout News," *Lee County Journal,* February 2, 1957.
651 "Scouts to Collect Newspaper," *Lee County Ledger,* August 20, 1981.
652 "Boy Scouts Attend Summer Camp," *Lee County Ledger,* July 1, 1982.
653 "Leesburg News," *Lee County Ledger,* April 7, 1983.
654 "New Boy Scout Troop is Forming in Leesburg," *Lee County Ledger,* November 10, 1983.
655 "Leesburg News," *Lee County Ledger,* February 14, 1985.
656 "Leesburg News," *Lee County Ledger,* April 2, 1987.

Rhodes, Jr., Scoutmaster.

Troop 210 was also active in 1987 and Harold Pinson was scoutmaster. The troop was sponsored by Leesburg United Methodist Church.[657] Troop 16 was active in 1988 with Scoutmaster J. M. Rhodes, Jr.[658] Troop 16 was sponsored by the Leesburn Lions Club.[659]

Troop 210 was active in 1990 and was sponsored by Leesburg Methodist Church.[660] Troop 16 was also active with Scoutmaster J. M. Rhodes, Jr.[661] In 1993, Troop 210 was active and the Scoutmaster was Danny Reeves.[662] Troop 16 held their annual Christmas Party with Scoutmaster J. M. Rhodes, Jr.[663] In 1995, Troop 210 was active and the Scoutmaster was Danny Reeves and Troop 16 was active with Scoutmaster J. M. Rhodes, Jr. In May of 1999, J. M. Rhodes, Jr. retired as scoutmaster of Troop 16 where he been the scoutmaster for 37 years. He followed in this position by Max Hardy, Sr.[664] Troop 210 was also still active. No activity for Troop 16 was found after 1999.

In 2005, Troop 210 was active and held a Scout Expo in Leesburg with Pack 210.[665] In 2010, Troop 7 was active with Amy Bacon as Scoutmaster[666] and meeting at the Redbone Fire Station and Troop 210 was still active.[667]

Mitchell County

No information found.

Schley County

Schley County was The Schley County District from1939 to 1945. It was then part of The Sumter-Schley District from 1946 to 1949. It then reverted back to The Schley District from 1950 to 1954. Schley County became a part of The Lake District in 1955.

In August of 1939, a troop in Ellaville again received a charter from the Boy Scouts of America.

In March of 1942, a committee was formed to organize a district of Marion and Schley Counties and align it with the Georgia-Alabama Council (k/n/a Chattahoochee Council).[668] The committee consisted of C. C. Wall of Ellaville, Chairman; R. J. Bond of Ellaville; H. M. Clements of Buena Vista; and T. B. Wright of Buena Vista. But, in April of 1944 the Georgia-Alabama

657 "Scout Leaders," *Lee County Ledger,* October 8, 1987.
658 "Leesburg, News," *Lee County Ledger,* April 4th, 1988.
659 "Achieved," *Lee County Ledger,* May 26th, 1988.
660 "Leesburg, News," *Lee County Ledger,* February 1st, 1990.
661 "Leesburg, News," *Lee County Ledger,* September 27th, 1990.
662 "Cub Scout," *Lee County Ledger,* April 8th, 1993.
663 "Boy Scout Troop," *Lee County Ledger,* December 16th, 1993.
664 "Leesburg, News," *Lee County Ledger,* May 27th, 1999.
665 "Scouts to Host Expo," *Lee County Ledger,* August 17th, 2005.
666 "Troop 7," *Lee County Ledger,* June 8th, 2011.
667 *Lee County Ledger,* February 24th, 2010.
668 "New District is Organized," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 5, 1942.

Council (Columbus) voted to transfer Schley County to Chehaw Council.[669] In 1945, Schley County joined the Sumter County District of Chehaw Council to form the Sumter-Schley District.[670]

Ellaville's Troop 28 attended Chehaw Council's Camp Osborn in 1945.[671]

In 1955, a council-wide realignment put Schley County in the Northern District of Chehaw Council along with Sumter, Crisp, and Dooly.[672] This district quickly became known as the Lake District.

Sumter County

Sumter County was The Sumter County District from 1939 to 1945. It was then part of The Sumter-Schley District from 1945 to 1949. It then reverted to The Sumter District from 1950 to 1954. It became part of The Northern District aka The Lake District beginning in 1955

The Sumter District was almost immediately enlarged to include Smithville in Lee County.[673] On July 17, 1939, Phil Jones was named District Chairman[674] and O. L. Evans was named District Commissioner. The Sumter District was the first district to have three scout troops organized.[675] The first Board of Review in the new District was held on July 31, 1939.[676]

The Sumter District held a three-night scoutmaster training course in July and August of 1939.[677] James R. Blair, Leadership Chairman, was in charge of the training. The first session was on Friday, July 28, 1939. The second session was Thursday, August 3, 1939.[678] The third and final training session was held on Thursday, August 9, 1939.[679] Twenty-four adults attended the training.[680] The training used the patrol method, much like Wood Badge training. Those attending the training from Americus were: J. S. Cook, James Fort, R. T. DeWitt, Evan Mathis, J. E. B. McLendon, Joseph C. Logan, R. C. James, John Sheffield, Milton Mize, Luther Bell, R. C. Pendergrass, James Buchanan, W. T. Feagin, Charles (Charlie) Hogg, A. C. Primrose, G. P. Findley, and James R. Blair. Also attending were Gatewood Pryor of Smithville, and Y. T. Sheffield, L. R. Moss, and Ernest Turner all of Plains.[681]

An article for Camp McKenzie of the Georgia-Alabama Council in Columbus appeared in the August 16, 1939, *Americus Times-Recorder* .[682] The Americus Scouts had camped at Camp

669 "Benning Becomes Part of Council," *The Columbus Daily Enquirer*, February 29, 1944.
670 "Boy Scout Court of Honor Tonight," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 26, 1946.
671 "Americus Scouters and Scouts Visit at Council Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 11, 1945.
672 "George Teaford to Head New Scout District," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 16, 1954.
673 "Evans is Scout Commissioner," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 7, 1939.
674 "Four Become Eagle Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 9, 1939.
675 "Local Scout Work Praised," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 18, 1939.
676 "Scout Board to Meet Monday," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 29, 1939.
677 "Scout Leaders Plan Conference," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 27, 1939.
678 "Scout Leaders in Conference," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 28, 1939.
679 "Scout Leaders End Training," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 10, 1939.
680 "Scout Leaders in Conference," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 29, 1939.
681 "Scout Leaders in Conference," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 29, 1939.
682 "Camp McKenzie to Open Aug. 28," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 16, 1939.

McKenzie prior to the opening of Camp Shehaw. From the article, it appears that the Americus Scouts had continued to attend the camp held annually just before the opening of school.

A statement of support for the new Chehaw Council was issued by Troop 21 scoutmaster Charles (Charlie) Hogg, Troop 22 scoutmaster Luther Bell, Troop 23 scoutmaster Joseph C. Logan and District Commissioner O. L. Evans.[683] The statement which was issued on September 2, 1939, went on to state the new rules for registering scouts, forming patrols within the troop, and troop finance.

At the October 1939 meeting of the Sumter District Board it was announced that a troop was being formed in Plains, Georgia and that the Farmer's Club was to be its sponsor.[684]

The Sumter District held its first Court of Honor on November 14, 1939, at the Americus High auditorium.[685] Steven Pace, Jr., Robert Arthur, Evan Mathis, Jr., and J. Frank Easterlin, Jr. received their Eagle ranks. Stephen Pace, Sr., Third District Congressman, was the speaker. In addition to other scouts receiving merit badges and rank awards, Reverend O. L. Evans received his Star rank. Although Reverend Evans was an adult and was then serving as District Commissioner, he began earning his ranks as soon as Americus joined Chehaw Council.[686] Prior to 1952 adults could earn merit badges and ranks also.

Eleven Sumter District scouts attended a Georgia-Florida Camporal in Daytona Beach, Florida.[687] The camporal was held December 1 to 3, 1939.[688] Scouts from all three Americus troops attended.

The 1939 Sumter District Annual Banquet was held December 12 at the First Methodist Church of Americus.[689] Quimby Melton, Editor of the Griffin newspaper and former editor of the *Americus Times-Recorder*, was the speaker. Both of Mr. Melton's sons were Eagle Scouts. For 1939, the Sumter District had 61 scouts advance in rank and 184 merit badges.[690] The year started with only Troop 21 and Troop 23. Troop 22 was charted in April of 1939.

For Christmas 1939, each troop in Sumter District undertook to assist needy families in the city.[691]

Scout week in 1940 was the first since scouting had been reorganized in the Southwest Georgia area.[692] On February 8, fifty-four boys and six adults made up of Americus Scouts and boys in Americus interested in Scouting went to Camp Shehaw to take part by radio in a renewal of the scout oath with other scouts around the country.[693] President Roosevelt also addressed scouts

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683 "Scout Leaders Here Endorse New Program," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 2, 1939.
684 "Sumter Scout Board Meets," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 28, 1939.
685 "Four Become Eagle Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 9, 1939.
686 "Americus Scouts Set Merit Badge Mark," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 15, 1939.
687 "Local Scouts go to Florida," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 30, 1939.
688 "Americus Scouts to go to Camporal at Daytona Beach," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 11, 1939.
689 "Sumter Scout District Plans Annual Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 5, 1939; "Sixty Persons Attend Rally of Boy Scouts Here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 9, 1940.
690 "Local Scouts have Big Year," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 30, 1939.
691 "Scouts Will Assist Needy," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 16, 1939.
692 "Scout Week Plans Made," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 8, 1940.
693 "Boys of Scout Age Invited to Camp, *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 8, 1940.

nationwide during the radio program.[694] On Friday, February 9, troops held chapel services at their local schools. On Sunday, the troops attended various churches together. The week climaxed on Thursday, February 15, with a parade and barbeque.

At a district meeting of the Sumter District which was held on March 1, 1940, James Buchanan was put in charge of a committee to increase the number of troops and cub packs.[695] Others on the committee are Seth Belcher and W. T. Feagan of Americus, Y. T. Sheffield of Plains, I. Hodges of Leslie, and H. N. West of DeSoto. At an April 26 meeting, James S. Cook was appointed to head the funding campaign which began May 15.[696] The budget year ran from June 15, 1940, until June 14, 1941. The Sumter District's budget was $1.400.

On March 19, 1940, R. H. Comer, Americus Junior High Principal, was appointed as Assistant District Commissioner.[697] Mr. Comer had charge of troops being formed in Leslie, DeSoto, Plains, and any new troops in Americus. Commissioner O. L. Evans remained in charge of Troops 21, 22, and 23.

Scouting was so strong in Americus in 1940 that there were not enough jobs for all the scouts needing to work and earn $2 as part of the First Class requirements and a notice had to be placed in the newspaper soliciting local businesses to help.[698] Scouts from Americus put a float in the Albany Civic Pride and Progress parade in April 1940.[699]

Funding for budget years 1940 and 1941 (June to June) was raised in a funding campaign in May of 1940.[700] Joseph S. Cook, Chairman of the Finance Campaign, set a goal of $1,350, which was nearly raised by the end of the two-day campaign.[701]

Frank Easterlin, Jr. of Troop 21 earned his Bronze Palm in July of 1940.[702] He was the first scout in the Sumter District to earn a palm.

From September 27 to 28, 1940, the Sumter District and the Cordele District held a joint camporee on the Flint River.[703] Forty Sumter District scouts attended from Troop 21, Troop 22, Troop 23, Troop 24.

The Sumter District's Training Committee was holding meeting every few weeks by the second half of 1940.[704] As the conversion to BSA was still relatively new, leaders had to be

694 "Scout Week Plans Made, *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 8, 1940.
695 "District Scout Meeting Held," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 1, 1940.
696 "Annual Scout Drive May 14," *Americus Times-Recorder,* April 27, 1940.
697 "Comer Named Scout Leader," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 19, 1940.
698 "No Jobs, Scouts Can't Pass Test; Give Them a Task," *Americus Times-Recorder,* April 3, 1940.
699 "Band, Scouts Enter Parade," *Americus Times-Recorder,* April 9, 1940.
700 "Scout Drive Ends Tonight," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 13, 1940.
701 "Scout Drive is Successful," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 15, 1940.
702 "Boy is Given High Award," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 7, 1940.
703 "Forty Local Scouts to Attend District Camporee in Cordele," *Americus Times-Recorder,* September 25, 1940; "Boy Scout Troop Leaders to Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 3, 1940.
704 "Scout Leaders Hold Meeting," *Americus Times-Recorder,* November 13, 1940; "Scout Leaders to Meet this Evening," *Americus Times-Recorder,* November 19, 1940.

[705]retained in some methods. Subjects included: The Budget Plan, Troop Leaders and Their Duties, and The Relation of Troop Leaders to the Scout Program.

With war being the primary topic of the day, scouts around the nation were urged by the National Council to begin efforts in mobilization for emergencies. The Sumter District began gathering information on troop members for use by the National Defense Program.[706] The information was to be used for easy mobilization in case of an emergency. Scouts from the Sumter District began practicing for emergency mobilization in December 1940.[707] Troop 22 was the troop with the best average time to reach its designated mobilization point. The average for all scouts was 15½ minutes.

Congressman Stephen Pace was the speaker at the 1940 Sumter District Banquet.[708] Outgoing Chairman Phil Jones turned control of the district over to the new James R. Blair, the new District Chairman. The Sumter District finished 1940 with 6 troops: Troop 21, Troop 22, Troop 23, Troop 24 all of Americus, Troop 25 of Plains, and Troop 26 of Smithville.

To close out 1940, the Sumter District's Troop 23 went on a Friday night "possum hunt."[709]

At the start of 1941 the troops in Sumter County were: Troop 21 with Charlie Hogg as scoutmaster was sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, Troop 22 with J. C. Wise, Jr. scoutmaster was sponsored by Rotary Club, Troop 23 with Joseph C. Logan as scoutmaster was sponsored by First Methodist Church, Troop 24 with H. C. Benford as scoutmaster was sponsored by the Masonic Lodges of Americus, Troop 25 with Broadus Wellons as scoutmaster was sponsored by the Plains Farmers Club, and Troop 26 with H. C. Mimms as scoutmaster was sponsored by the Smithville Lions Club.[710] Troop 26 in Smithville had just been formed at the first of 1941.[711] Scout week was a big event in 1941.[712] On Friday and Saturday all six of the Sumter District Troops and Troop 11 of Albany met at Camp Shehaw to listen to President Roosevelt's radio address and to have a wiener roast.[713] Troop 21 gave street demonstrations of scout skills. Troop 22 staged the play "The Fourth Musketeer" to support scouting. Troop 23 gave a chapel program at the local junior high. Troop 24 had a window display at Sheffield Hardware Company. Troop 25 prepared the float for the parade as well as a window display for a store in Plains.

In early 1941, a major effort was made to enlarge the Cub Scout program.[714] James Buchanan was appointed Chairman of the Cub Scout Committee.[715] Thirty parents attended an organizational meeting in March held by First Baptist Church, the sponsoring agency.[716] William

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705 "Congressman Pace Lauds Scout Program," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 7, 1940.
706 "Scouts Plan to Assist Defense," *Americus Times-Recorder,* November 20, 1940.
707 "Scouts Hold Mobilization Troop 22 Wins," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 5, 1940.
708 "Congressman Pace Lauds Scout Program," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 7, 1940.
709 "Troop 23 Holds Possum Hunt," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 9, 1940.
710 "Scouters to Meet Friday," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 2, 1941.
711 "Scout Troop at Smithville," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 1, 1941.
712 "Scout Week Planned Here," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 4, 1941.
713 "Scout Week Program Will Begin Next Friday," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 6, 1941; "Scouts Week Begins Here," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 10, 1941.
714 "Scout Movie," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 10, 1941; "Boys Invited to Cubbing Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 13, 1941
715 "Parents Meet to form Cub Scout Outfit,"; *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 21, 1941.
716 "Thirty Parents Attend Meeting for Cub Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 15, 1941.

Walters was chosen as the first Cub Master.[717] By August of 1941, all Cub Scouting in the Sumter District had been cancelled due to an outbreak of infantile paralysis.[718] Infantile paralysis had caused the cancellation of the 1935 National Jamboree. However, this outbreak appears to have been localized to the Americus area as no evidence of a nationwide or council-wide shutdown of Cub Scouting was found. By October of 1941, the Cub Scouts were meeting again.[719] Also, on Monday, December 1, 1941, Mr. Gerald A. Speedy, Assistant National Director of Cubbing, visited Americus to speak to the Cub Scout parents and leaders.[720]

Scouting was so popular in the Sumter District that in September of 1941, Commissioner O. L. Evans had to meet with the scoutmasters of the five troops to formally establish and unify colors for the neckerchiefs of each troop.[721] Troop 21 was to wear blue neckerchiefs with a gold border, Troop 22 was to wear solid blue neckerchiefs, troop 23 was to wear solid red neckerchiefs, troop 24 was to wear gold or yellow neckerchiefs with blue border, and troop 25 was to wear solid green neckerchiefs.

Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the scouts became a resource for home defense. On December 15, 1941, they put up posters announcing the dates that men could sign up for the Army Air Corps.[722] By December 29, the scouts had been assigned the more permanent duties of air raid messengers and black-out patrols to assure that no light could be seen from outside any house.[723]

The annual Sumter District Banquet was held on January 6, 1942, at the Sumter County Recreation Department. Reverend J. Ed Fain of the First United Methodist Church of Albany was the speaker.[724] Cub Scouting was active in early 1942 as the Cub Pack sold scrap metal to raise money for the Red Cross.[725] With World War II just beginning, the Scouts were called upon to assist passing in out and collecting Civil Defense registration cards in Americus.[726]

February 21st and 22nd, 1942, Chehaw Council held a BSA Emergency Service Corp training at Camp Shehaw in Amerius.[727]

The war effort required a continuous collection of paper for reuse. In January, the four troops in Americus gathered scrap paper for the war effort.[728] The paper was sold and the money was used to finance summer camp in 1942. In the March paper collection effort, the Americus Troops collected 17,000 pounds of papers in just a few weeks.[729] Again, the proceeds went to help

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717 "Cub Pack to Meet Friday." *Americus Times-Recorder,* April 4, 1941.
718 "Cub Scouts Will Not Meet Anymore," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 27, 1941.
719 "Den 2 Cubs Name Leaders at Meeting," *Americus Times-Recorder,* October 15, 1941; "Cub Den No. 1 Has Meeting Monday," *Americus Times-Recorder,* October 28, 1941.
720 "Scout Leader Here Monday," *Americus Times-Recorder,* November 29, 1941.
721 "Neckerchief Styles Adopted for Troops by Scout Leaders," *Americus Times-Recorder,* September 3, 1941.
722 "Locrual Boy Scouts Aid Army Air Corps," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 15, 1941.
723 "Boy Scouts to Render Service," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 29, 1941.
724 "Scouts and Backers Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 6, 1942.
725 "Cub Scouts Sell Junk," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 14, 1942.
726 "Boy Scouts will Meet at Junior High," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 23, 1942.
727 Untitled, *The Columbus Enquirer,* Februry 23rd, 1942.
728 "Scouts Get $24.40 From Sale of Paper," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 14, 1942.
729 "Scouts have Sold 17,000 Lbs. of Waste Paper ," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 9, 1942.

pay the fees for summer camp in 1942. In the March collections, Troop 21 collected 5,100 lbs., Troop 22 collected 4,450 lbs., Troop 23 collected 4,500 lbs., and Troop 24 collected 2950 lbs.

A call to organize a troop of Scouts for the black youth of Americus was run in the *Americus Times-Recorder* on February 4, 1942.[730] The meeting was held on February 5 at the Courthouse. The meeting was chaired by E. J. Hill and Professor Reese both of Staley High School. The committee which formed as a result of that meeting was known as the "Sumter District Negro Divisional Committee" or some variation of that name.[731] In May 1942, the first black Boy Scout Troop in Chehaw Council, the "Negro Boy Scouts of Americus," was organized.[732] The Americus troop was later assigned Troop number 200.[733] It was sponsored by Bethesda Baptist Church in Americus and King Bryson was named its first scoutmaster.[734]

The annual budget for 1942 – 1943 was set at $1,480.[735] The fundraising campaign was held in May. In 1942-1943, the Sumter District's fund-raising efforts fell short. Only $1,055 was raised.[736]

In September of 1942, a group of Scouts were spending the night at Camp Shehaw when after dark they heard calls for help from the swamp.[737] Hugh Henderson and Billy Entrekin walked to the Federal Nursery and called the police for help and then went into the swamp to search for those calling for help. Fire Chief Hugh Henderson, Sr. arrived and began sounding the siren on a police car to assist the Scouts in finding their way out of the swamp. The rescued party had been fishing at Guerry Bridge and while taking a shortcut home had become lost in the swamp.

Beginning in October, 1942, the Sumter District began its annual competition between troops based on recruiting, attendance, dues, church attendance, passing tests, merit badges, and uniforms.[738] Cub Scouting was still flourishing in the Sumter District.[739] In October 1942, three more Cub Scout Dens were added to Pack 2, which had been active in Americus for over a year.

A. E. Runnels, Secretary of the Albany Chamber of Commerce, was the speaker for the 1942 Chehaw Scout Banquet which was held in December for the first time.[740] As World War II was raging in both Europe and the South Pacific, the major focus of the program was presenting to the troops and packs Victory Service Citations recognizing those who had participated in service projects to aid in the war effort. An early event in 1943 was the presentation of the Silver Beaver award to Reverend Evans. Reverend Evans was supposed to receive the Silver Beaver award at the Banquet but was ill and could not attend. He received the award in February, 1943.[741]

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730 "Negros to form Boy Scout Group Thursday at 7:30," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 4, 1942.
731 "Negro Divisional Scout Committee Has Regular Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 27, 1944.
732 "Negro Divisional Scout Committee Has Regular Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 27, 1944.
733 "Negro Boy Scout Troop Organized," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 9, 1942.
734 Alan Anderson, *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 26, 2006, <www.sumtercountyhistory.com> (2007).
735 "Annual Scout Campaign Set," *Americus Times-Recorder*, April 25, 1942.
736 "Scout Fund is Short of Goal; $1,055 Raised," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 30, 1942.
737 "Scouts Rescue Three Negros," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 10, 1942.
738 "Boy Scouts to Hold Contest," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 28, 1942.
739 "Cub Scouts Expand Here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 2, 1942.
740 "Scouts Cited for Service," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 12, 1942.
741 "Scout Week Plans Made," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 5, 1943.

The duties of air raid messengers and blackout patrols that were undertaken by the Scouts in 1941 continued thought 1942 and into 1943. In December of 1942, Reverend Evans issued new assignments.[742]

Scout Week in 1943 was planned by Reverend Evans, and it ended with a cookout at Camp Shehaw.[743] A feature in 1943 was the Eagle Court of Honor for John W. Sheffield, Jr.[744]

In addition to the War effort to collect paper and metal, the Boy Scouts helped to sell War Bonds to the public. In September of 1943, the Americus Scouts met to make plans to assist in the Third War Bond Drive.[745] John Pope, a former Troop 21 scout and former Troop 23 scoutmaster, purchased a $1,000 bond from his home in Clinton, Tennessee.[746]

In 1943, Chehaw Council changed its budget year to a calendar year. Thus, the Districts had to run a special fund-raising campaign to raise funds for the 6½ months from June 14, 1943, until December 31, 1943.[747] Reverend Mark Anthony was the Chairman of this special fund-raising campaign.[748]

The Sumter District had 44 scouts attend Camp Osborn in 1943.[749] In December of 1943, the Sumter District participated in a nationwide newspaper drive.[750] Americus Troops 21, 22, and 23 collected newspapers in different areas of the city.[751] The December paper drive gathered 75,000 pounds of paper.[752] At the end of the month, citizens were still calling Reverend Evans with requests for scouts to pick up paper. The scouts put out a call for additional help gathering the paper.

The scouting movement was so strong in Americus in 1943 that the Boy Scouts in Americus had a woodworking shop, which included considerable woodworking equipment in the scout hut on Elm Street.[753] In August of 1943, Troop 25 of Plains, undertook a Malaria control program in the city of Plains.[754]

The collection of paper for the war effort had continued through 1943 and in January of 1944 Troop 21 asked all businesses to empty out old files and boxes to search for paper.[755] In the next few days Troop 21 collected 2,800 pounds of paper from Glover Grocery Company and four other businesses.[756] In total the scouts collected 7,000 pounds of paper from the Glover Grocery

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742 "Scouts Assigned for Duty During Blackouts Here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 1, 1942.
743 "Scout Week Plans Made," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 5, 1943.
744 "Scout Week is Started Here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 7, 1943.
745 "Scout Troops to Hold Joint Meeting Tonight," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 7, 1943.
746 "Ex-scoutmaster Buys $1000 Bond Through Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 25, 1943.
747 "Scout Drive on June 8th," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 5, 1943.
748 "Scout Drive Plans Made," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 7, 1943.
749 "44 Scouts to Attend Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 14, 1943.
750 "Waste Paper Drive Starts," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 13, 1943.
751 "Scouts to Collect Waste Paper Friday Instead of Today" *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 30, 1943.
752 "Twenty Tons of Paper Shipped from Americus," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 31, 1943.
753 "Scout Work Shop Has Been Moved," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 28, 1943.
754 "Plains Scouts to Launch Drive to Control Malaria," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 10, 1943; "Plains Boy Scouts Inspect Homes in Malaria Cleanup," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 13, 1943.
755 "Scouts Will Pick Up Waste Paper," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 22, 1944.
756 "Scouts Get Much Paper," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 25, 1944.

Company.[757] The largest single residential contributor of waste paper was John Sheffield whose residence contributed between 700 and 800 pounds. In February, the Scouts of the Sumter District set up a tent for the citizens to drop off paper near city hall.[758] However, within two weeks strong winds had destroyed the tent.[759] Undeterred, Reverend Evans urged everyone to contact the scouts with paper donations and he offered his house as a collection point.[760]

On January 20, 1944, the Sumter District held its 1944 annual banquet. In addition to the usual meal, this banquet consisted of the local troops demonstrating scout skills. At the January 1944 Chehaw Council Banquet, Charlie Hogg received the Silver Beaver.[761]

Paper collections in 1944 were again a major focus of the Americus Troops and other youth and student groups.[762] Troop 21 won the first contest in 1944 which ended on March 5. Troop 21 had collected 15,300 pounds; Troop 23 had collected 14,275 pounds; and Furlow Grammar School was third with 9,340 pounds. Troop 21 won a prize from Sears. In the latter part of 1944 transportation became such a problem due to the shortage of parts which were diverted to the war that the Scouts could no longer make regular pickups. Papers had to be dropped off at paper collection points, because the Scouts could not get transportation to make pickups.

Beginning in September of 1944, Field Executive Ralph Ellis began monthly meetings of the Sumter District Negro Divisional Committee.[763] Frank M. Staley, Sr. was Chairman of the Committee in 1944, 1945,[764] 1946.[765] In 1944, E. W. Lash was appointed Chairman of the Training Committee and R. S. Douthard, Jr. was appointed Chairman of the Health Committee. A program of leadership training was begun for training scoutmasters and Troop Committees and committee meetings were scheduled for the fourth Tuesday in each month.

In 1945 there were at least five troops active in Sumter County: Troop 21, Troop 22, Troop 23, Troop 25 and Troop 200.[766]

Paper collections continued in 1945 and the Americus Troops were the primary group collecting the paper.[767] On August 16, a few days after the Japanese surrendered, Reverend Evans put a notice in the *Americus Times-Recorder* that the Scouts would continue to collect paper for some time.[768] However, this was the last of the 3½ years of paper collection notices.

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757 "Letter Files are Scource of Large Amounts of Paper," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 23, 1944.
758 "Paper Brought to Scout Tent," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 1, 1944.
759 "Waste Paper Tent is Down," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 12, 1944.
760 "Scouts Will Call for Waste Paper," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 18, 1944.
761 "Hogg Honored by Scouting," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 26, 1944.
762 "Troop 21 Winner of Sears Prize in Paper Drive," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 16, 1944.
763 "Negro Divisional Scout Committee Has Regular Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 27, 1944.
764 "Negro Scouters Have Regular Meeting," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 23, 1945.
765 "Negro Scouters in Regular Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 30, 1946.
766 "Americus Scouters and Scouts Visit at Council Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 11, 1945; Julian Smith, a scout in Troop 25, attended Camp Osborn in 1945.
767 "Scouts to Emtpy Waste Paper Bin Saturday Morning," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 9, 1945.
768 "Scouts will Collect Waste Paper Friday," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 9, 1945.

Senior Scouting came to Americus in March of 1945.[769] Mr. H. M. Cox, leader of the Senior Scout Post, convened the first meeting on March 15. The post was sponsored by the Masonic Lodge in Americus.

At some point in 1945, Schley County joined the Sumter County District to form the Sumter-Schley District.[770] This was most likely early in the year, as the Ellaville troop (Troop 28) was mentioned with the Sumter County Troops in the Camp Osborn report.[771] Troop 21, Troop 22, and Troop 23 all attended Camp Osborn in the summer of 1945.[772] Most likely Troop 200 attended the Chehaw Council summer camp for the black troops; however, no reports have been found of the camp. In August of 1945, the Sumter District held a Three-Day Patrol Camp at Camp Shehaw.[773] The camp finished a new bridge across the creek and repaired a wood platform around the water pump. The official announcement of the ending of World War II reached Americus on Wednesday, and the camp closed a day early to celebrate.[774]

In August 1945, Frank M. Staley, Jr., of Americus, became the first-ever black Boy Scout to achieve the Eagle rank in Chehaw Council.[775] In November 1945, the known members of the Sumter-Schley Negro Divisional Committee were Frank M. Staley, Sr., E. J. Hill, Eddie McNeal, J. E. Brown, W. R. Burleigh, E. W. Lash, Rev. J. B. Shields, Dr. R. S. Douthard, J. B. Dorsey, Charlie Dozier, Clifford Lewis, and J. C. Childers.[776]

In 1946, Americus had two troops of black Scouts: Troop 200 and Troop 201.[777] At an October 30, 1946 meeting of the Sumter-Schley Negro Divisional Committee, it was announced that D. T. Grant, E. J. Hill, F. M. Staley, Sr., and J. E. Brown had attended a Scout "training school" in Albany. It was not specifically for scoutmaster training as it was announced that such a course was being prepared.[778] In November and December of 1946, announcements for the upcoming December banquet for the Sumter-Schley Negro Divisional Committee stated that Americus had two black troops, Troop 200 and Troop 201. This is the first time Troop 201 is mentioned.[779] Unfortunately, no report of the banquet was published.

1947 started with Field Executive Henry Stipe starting a scoutmaster training course in Americus.[780] For Scout Week in February 1947, Troop 21 built a trail in Rees Park showing the various steps in scouting.[781] The week ended with a wiener roast for the scouts of the District.[782] In March of 1947, Chehaw Council held its annual council-wide meeting for black scouts and their

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769 "Senior Scout Post to have Party on Wednesday," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 13, 1945.
770 "Boy Scout Court of Honor Tonight," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 26, 1946.
771 "Americus Scouters and Scouts Visit at Council Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 11, 1945.
772 "Americus Scouters and Scouts Visit at Council Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 11, 1945.
773 "Sumter Scouts Plan Three-Day Patrol Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 5, 1945; "Scout Camporee Scheduled for August 14 and 15," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 9, 1945.
774 "Scout Camp Concludes Today," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 15, 1945.
775 Alan Anderson, Local Black History Chronology, <www.sumtercountyhistory.com/history/BlackHx.htm> (2007).
776 "Negro Boy Scout Group will Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder,* November 11, 1945.
777 "Annual Meeting of Sumter Negro Scout Group "*Americus Times-Recorder*, November 27, 1946
778 "Negro Scouters in Regular Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 30, 1946.
779 "Annual Meeting of Sumter Negro Scout Group "*Americus Times-Recorder*, November 27, 1946
780 "Scout Leaders Hold Training Course Here," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 18, 1947.
781 "Scouts Begin Celebration," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 7, 1947.
782 "Scouts End Week with a Weiner oast," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 15, 1947.

leaders at Campbell A.M.E. in Americus.[783] Principal speaker was C. L. Harper, Executive Secretary of the Georgia Teachers Association. Officers of the Sumter County Divisional Committee (black scouts) were F. M. Staley, Chairman, and E. J. Hill, Vice-Chairman.[784] B. T. Warren was the Chehaw Council Field Executive for the black troops. Scouting was still active in Schley County because in April Council Executive Heidt Swearingen spoke to the Ellaville Lion's Club about Scouting, and the Ellaville Troop attended.[785]

From August 28 to August 30, the Sumter-Schley District held a major District Camporee at Camp Shehaw.[786] Henry Stipe, Field Executive for Chehaw Council, was the Camp Director.[787] The troops competed against each other and the winning troop received a shoulder patch. Points were awarded for first aid, knot tying, fire building, signaling, and other camp projects.[788]

On August 30, 1947, an announcement was made in the *Americus Times-Recorder* that 50 new merit badge books covering every subject had arrived and were at the Carnegie Library for Scouts to checkout.[789]

The end-of-the-year banquet for 1947 was held on December 7 and Scout Executive Heidt Swearingen attended.[790] H. K. Undercofler was elected Chairman for the Sumter-Schley District. It appears that only Troop 21 and Troop 22 were active in Americus during 1947. In the rest of the District, Troop 25 in Plains and Troop 28 in Ellaville were active.[791] The only known active Cub Pack was Pack 21 in Americus.

Scout Week for 1948 marked the first documented time that both the white and black scouts of Americus participated together in the event.[792] As part of Scout Week, a status report of Sumter Scouting was published in the *Americus Times-Recorder* in February of 1948.[793] Active scouts were reported as approximately 100 white Scouts, 43 black Scouts, and 43 Cubs. Active troops in Sumter County were: Troop 21 of Americus sponsored by the Kiwanis Club with Charlie Hogg scoutmaster, Troop 22 of Americus sponsored by the Rotary Club with Kernwood Brown scoutmaster, Troop 23 of Americus sponsored by First Methodist Church with Claude Morris scoutmaster, Troop 25 of Plains sponsored by the Plains Lions Club with Oliver W. Spann scoutmaster, Troop 200 of Americus sponsored by Bethel Baptist Church with R. S. Douthard, Jr. scoutmaster; Troop 201 of Americus sponsored by Campbell A.M.E. with John Cherry scoutmaster; Troop 205 of Plains sponsored by "Colored Baptist and Methodist Churches of Plains" with C. M. Ruff scoutmaster. A single Cub Pack was sponsored Furlow School P.T.A. and J. Tietjen was the Cubmaster. Also part of Scout Week was the publication of a list of long-time supporters of scouting.[794] These people were: Charlie Hogg, A. C. Primrose, James

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783 "Nego Boy Scouts of Chehaw Council will have Meet Here," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 5, 1947.
784 "Colored Scout Group Held Meeting," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January, 1948.
785 "Boy Scout Program Presented at Meet of Ellaville Lions," *Americus Times-Recorder,* April 23, 1947.
786 "Local Scouts Prepare for Camp Shehaw Festivities," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 27, 1947.
787 "Local Scout to Hold Camporee at Camp Shehaw," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 21, 1947.
788 "Local Scouts Prepare for Camp Shehaw Festivities," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 27, 1947.
789 "More Merit Badge Pamphlets Arrive," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 30, 1947.
790 "Undercofler Heads Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 9, 1947.
791 Troop 25 being active is from the personal knowledge of Julian Smith a scout in Troop 25 at that time; "Boy Scout Program Presented at Meet of Ellaville Lions," *Americus Times-Recorder,* April 23, 1947.
792 "Boy Scout Week to be Observed," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 5, 1948.
793 "Americus Troops Produce 24 Eagle Scouts Since 1934," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 10, 1948.
794 "Scouts Express Thanks," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 11, 1948.

Buchanan, J. W. C. Horne, Bob Morton, Paul Wootten, W. T. Feagan, Phil Jones, and O. L. Dixon, Jr.. Later in February, a report of the Sumter-Schley Negro Divisional Committee stated that three new Negro troops had just been formed at Bethel Baptist Church, Scott Mater Methodist Church, and at Andersonville, Georgia. Bethel Baptist Church was obviously a typographical error as the first black troop was sponsored by Bethel Baptist Church. No troop numbers were given for these troops. James Hargrove, Scout Commissioner of the Sumter-Schley Negro Divisional Committee, chaired the meeting as Chairman Staley was out of town.

The weekend of May 9 and 10, Chehaw Council held a Council-wide camporee at Chehaw Park. Attending from the Sumter-Schley District were Troop 21 of Americus, Troop 22 of Americus, Troop 23 of Americus, and Troop 25 of Plains.[795] Regretfully, on the Saturday trip home, the truck with 18 boys from Troop 22 and Troop 23 overturned and slid down an embankment near Neyami Farm on Highway 19.[796] Walter Howard (Hal) Singletary, age 13, of Troop 23 was killed. He was taken by private car to Phoebe Putney Hospital in Albany and then transferred to an Albany undertaker. He was buried on Saturday in his scout uniform at Oak Grove Cemetery in Americus with scouts from Troop 23 as Pallbearers. Terry Watts, Russell Thomas, Jr., and Billy James all suffered broken bones. They were assisted by two medical doctors who passed by the wreck and stopped to provide assistance. Also in May, Cub Commissioner William L. Tietjen held a series of three meeting for the parents of boys entering Cub Scouting. Later that month he showed a "sound" movie about how Cub Scouting operates.[797]

At a Chehaw Council Executive Board meeting in July, it was announced that the Sumter-Schley District had added three troops and 39 scouts in the first six months of 1948.[798] The District had a total of ten troops and a total of 197 scouts, making it second only to the Dougherty-Lee District. Regretfully, the ten troops were not listed by number.

In September of 1948, a District Camporee was held at Camp Shehaw.[799] James R. Stott , Field Executive for the northern area of Chehaw Council was the Camp Director. Merit badges and rank advancements were earned and the best troop received a shoulder patch. The three troops that attended were Troop 21 and Troop 22 of Americus, and Troop 28 of Ellaville.

In November of 1948, it was reported that there were three white troops in Americus, one white troop in Plains and one white troop in Ellaville.[800]

An active Senior Scout Unit was reported at a January 1949 meeting of the Sumter-Schley District.[801] The Senior Scout Unit was sponsored by the Americus Kiwanis Club. Additionally, another attempt was being made to organize a troop in the Leslie-DeSoto area. In March of 1949, a report of the black Scout troops stated that there were about 75 black Scouts and 4 active black troops. Troop 200 and Troop 201 were located in Americus; Troop 205 was located in Plains; and

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795 "Scouts to Attend Camporee Friday," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May, 6, 1948; Article on Death of Walter Singletary, *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 10, 1948. "Camporee Near Albany Attended by Albany Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 11, 1948.

796 Article on Death of Walter Singletary, *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 10, 1948.

797 "Scout Movie on Cubbing will be Shown," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 25, 1948.

798 "Fine Progress is Reported in Scout Council," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 9, 1948.

799 "Sumter-Schley Scouts on Shehaw Camporee," *Americus Times-Recorder,* September 10, 1948.

800 "Contest Begun by Scouts of District," *Americus Times-Recorder,* November 1, 1948.

801 "Scouters Hold Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 21, 1949.

Troop 206 was located in Andersonville.[802] Most surprisingly, in 1949, Americus had a Sea Scout Crew, which took a two-week cruise with the Navy.[803] In March of 1949, seven new Scouts jointed Troop 25 in Plains and received their membership cards, one of whom was Billy Carter, brother of the future President of the United States.[804]

A camporee was held at Camp Shehaw in August of 1949 with Troop 21, Troop 23 and Troop 25 attending.[805] A total of 17 Scouts attended. The camporee was a competition between troops and patrols.

In January of 1950, Troop 21, Troop 22, and Troop 23 were known to be active in the city of Americus.[806] On January 22, 1950, over 60 Scouts, leaders and parents from Sumter County attended the dedication of Camp Osborn. All three Americus troops were represented.[807] Also, in 1950 Chehaw Council made each county its own District, thus changing the Sumter-Schley District to the Sumter District.[808]

On February 1, 1950, the Sumter-Schley District held its largest Court of Honor ever, with about 300 merit badges awarded.[809] In early 1950, Troop 27 in Leslie was activated, with 37 Scouts and Bill Arnez as the scoutmaster.[810] In mid-May a report of the black troops in the Sumter-Schley District listed three active troops which were: Troop 521 (formerly Troop 201) sponsored by Campbell Chapel A.M.E. of Americus with C. Childers, scoutmaster, and J. Roy Moore, Assistant scoutmaster; Troop 525 (formerly Troop 205) sponsored by Plains Baptist Church with Mr. Hawk as its new scoutmaster; and Troop 526 of Andersonville with W. H. Hudson, Lovin Hill and S. M. Holton, Scout leaders.[811] Additionally, three troops which were in the process of registering were listed. They were: Troop 520, sponsored by Bethesda Methodist Church of Americus with R. S. Douthard, Jr., scoutmaster and R. L. Freeman, Assistant scoutmaster, which was to register in July; Troop 522, sponsored by *[church omitted from article]* A.M.E., with J. T. Phillips, scoutmaster, which was to register shortly; and Troop 523, which was to be registered soon by J. B. Dorsey and L. S. Shell. No reason has been found for the renumbering of the black troops from the 200s to the 520s.

The Explorer Scouts, a division of Scouting for older Scouts, must have been active in Americus, as Mr. Schmidt announced in the *Americus Times-Recorder* that an area Explorer encampment was to be held in Panama City, Florida.[812] The dates were August 10 to 13 and the event included flights on a C-47 plane, deep sea fishing trips, and ocean swimming. The cost was $4.50.

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802 "Negro Scout Troops Re-Register Here," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 25, 1949.
803 Untitled Article, *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 18, 1949."
804 "Plains Scouts Hold Meeting," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 17, 1949.
805 "Three Scout Troops Attend Local Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 10, 1949.
806 "Boy Scout News," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 9, 1950.
807 "Many from Americus Attend Dedication of Boy Scout Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 23 1950.
808 No actual year was found but 1950 was the most likely year based upon circumstantial evidence.
809 "Scouts Plan Honor Court," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 1, 1950
810 "Leslie Boy Scout Troop Organized," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 3, 1950
811 "Scouting Climbing in Negro Units." *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 13, 1950.
812 Explorer Scouts to have Encampment, *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 27, 1950.

At the conclusion of 1950, it was announced that Troop 21 of Americus had earned 294 merit badges during 1950, which was a council record and one of the highest ever reported in the region.[813]

For Scout Week in February 1951, the Scouts appeared on WDEC radio's morning show.[814] In April Troop 21 of Americus and Troop 5 of Albany met in Albany for the first of three swim meets.[815] Matches were held for Scouts ages 11 to the Explorer Scouts. Americus won the first met in April by the score of 59 to 39. Also in April of 1951, Eagle Scout James R. (Jim) Littlefield of Troop 22 in Americus received the first God and County Award in Chehaw Council.[816] Known troops that were active in 1951 were Troop 21, Troop 22, and Troop 23. Also, Troop 21 had an Explorer Unit, and the district had an active Cub Scout Pack.

Future President Jimmy Carter served on the Troop 25 in Plains Troop Committee from 1951 until 1954. In 1954 he wa/s advisor to Explorer Post 25. In 1956 he was Scoutmaster of Troop 25. Also during this time he and Roseland were leaders of Cub Pack 25.[817]

In March of 1952, the Sumter District changed Boards of Review from District-wide to within the Troop.[818] The Troop Board of Review was to consist of Troop Committeemen. In April, the Rotary Club changed Troop 22 to an Explorer Post with the name "Air Explorer Post No. 22." However, the Sumter District agreed to reserve Troop number 22 for future use of the Rotary Club should it recharter a Scout troop.[819] Also in 1952, the Kiwanis Club in Americus was sponsoring Explorer Post No. 21 in conjunction with Troop 21.[820] Exploring was first reported in the district in 1951 but not as a separate Post. Explorers were reported as members of Troop 21.[821]. Just before the November elections, the Boy Scouts nation-wide placed cardboard liberty bells on doors reminding people to vote.[822] The Sumter District Scouts participated in this program by placing over 4000 of the liberty bells in Americus.[823] In December of 1952, all Scouts of the Sumter District participated in a city-wide emergency preparedness drill.[824] The drill was in preparation for disasters ranging from tornados to atomic bombs.[825]

In 1953, Pack 21 of Americus held a "hot-rod" race.[826] Cars were built of boxes and boards and were raced on Crawford Street in front of the hospital. Each car was sponsor[827]ed by a local merchant and the sponsor's name was painted on the side of the car. In May of 1953, six troops gathered at Myrtle Springs for a campout and patrol competition. The troops that attended were: Troop 21 of Americus, Troop 22 of Americus, Troop 23 of Americus, Troop 25 of Plains, and two

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813 "Kiwanis Observes Boy Scout Week." *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 10, 1951.
814 "Americus Observes Boy Scout Week." *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 8, 1951.
815 "Ameicus Scouts Sink Albany Team," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 14, 1951.
816 "Littlefield Wins Top Scout Award," *Americus Times-Recorder,* April 21, 1951.
817 "Harry Wheeler Recalls Scouting Days With Carter," Citrus County Chronical, February 3, 1977
818 "Scout Troops to have Own Board of Review," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 15, 1952.
819 "Roundtable for Scouters Planned," *Americus Times-Recorder,* April 24, 1952.
820 "Scout Operation Held at Lake Blackshear," *Americus Times-Recorder,* October 20, 1952.
821 "Explorer Scouts Leave for Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 23, 1951.
822 "Scouts will aid in Vote Campaign," *Americus Times-Recorder,* October 30, 1952.
823 "Scouts Deliver Liberty Bells," *Americus Times-Recorder,* November 3, 1952.
824 "Scout Emergency Mobilzation Set," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 2, 1952.
825 "Mobilzation by Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 5, 1952.
826 "Cub Scouts Plan Hot-Rod Race," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 24, 1953.
827

troops from Cordele. Competitions included first aid in the dark and tornado preparation. At the end of 1953, in Americus the active units were Troop 21, Troop 23, Troop 520 and Troop 521, Cub Pack 21, and Explorer Post 22.[828] The active units in Plains were Troop 25 and Cub Pack 25. The active units in Andersonville were Troop 526 and Cub Pack 526. The Chehaw Council funding campaign for 1954 was begun in October and Steve Pace, Jr. of Americus was the Chairman. Scouts of the Sumter District placed posters and cards around town to publicize the campaign.[829]

In March of 1954, Cub Scouting in Sumter County was active and held a training course. Known Cub Packs were Pack 21 of Americus, Pack 121 of Americus and Pack 25 of Plains.[830] Also in March, Ms. Stellanova Osborn spoke at Georgia Southwestern College on her work in international relations and on another occasion to read her poetry.[831] In July, the Sumter District held a fund-raising banquet to supplement the Chehaw Council 1953 budget.[832] The goal was $700. The banquet netted $300 toward the District's goal.[833] In October, the Sumter District began its regular funding campaign for 1955. The Sumter District's share of the Council's 1955 budget was $3,500.[834]

In 1955, a council-wide realignment put Sumter County in the Northern District of Chehaw Council along with Schley, Crisp, and Dooly.[835] The district quickly became known as the Lake District. In 1955 troops known to be active were: Troop 21 of Americus, Troop 23 of Americus, Troop 25 of Plains, and Troop 27[836] of Americus. Troop 23, which had been sponsored by the Americus First Baptist Church since its founding in the 1930s, was now sponsored by the Civitian Club of Americus.[837] Beginning in April the Lake District held a series of training courses for Cub Scout leaders.[838] In May, the Lake District ran a notice in the local paper to determine if there was enough interest for an Explorer Post.[839] In August, forty fathers and sons from Packs 21 and 121 spent the night at Camp Osborn.[840] In October of 1955, a one-day fund drive was held to raise $4,600.[841] At the "kick-off" breakfast, an attendance prize of a "diamond stickpin" was won by Mack Furlow. The "diamond stickpin" was a dime, pinned to a stick. On October 7, $3,000 of the target had been collected; and a number of the teams had not reported.[842] By November a total of $3,800 of Americus's share of the 1955 – 1956 Council budget had been collected. Americus' share of the Council budget was $4,100.[843]

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828 "Boy Scout Work," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 14, 1953.
829 "Scouts to Distribute Posters for Campaign," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 9, 1953.
830 "Cub Scout Leaders Will Meet Tonight," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 31, 1954.
831 "Ga. Southwestern Students Hear Ms. Osborn," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 26, 1954; "Mrs Osborn Sets Two Speechs Here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 24, 1954.
832 "Sumter Scout District Plans Fund Dinner Here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 28, 1954.
833 "Scouts Net $300 from Banquet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 28, 1954.
834 "Boy Scout Fund Campaign Opened," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 5, 1954.
835 "George Teaford to Head New Scout District," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 16, 1954.
836 "Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 28, 1955.
837 "Americus Civitans to Sponsor Troop" *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 16, 1955.
838 "Cub Program Training Set," *Americus Times-Recorder*, April 9, 1955.
839 "Boys Invited to Exployer Unit Meet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 11, 1955.
840 "Fathers, Cubs Attend Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 8, 1955.
841 "Boy Scout Drive is Held Today." *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 4, 1955.
842 "Scout Fund Up To $3000 Today," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 7, 1955.
843 "Scouts Rename Teaford Chairman," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 17, 1955.

Troops known to have been active in the Americus area at the beginning of 1956 were Troop 17 of Smithville, Troop 21 of Americus, Troop 24 of Concord, Troop 27 of Americus, and Troop 25 of Plains.[844] There is no record of when the Smithville Troop changed its number from Troop 26 to Troop 17. Also in early 1956, the Kiwanis Club had begun to sponsor an Explorer Post in addition to Troop 21.[845] In the summer, a softball team named the "Eagle Scouts" participated in the Americus City League. Most of the members came from Troop 21. They finished the season with 5 wins and 7 losses.[846] Beginning October 16, a month-long finance drive began in Chehaw Council and the Lake District. Charles Kohlhase was the Chairman of the funding-raising committee for the Lake District.[847] The goal was $6,000 but only $3,244.85 was raised.[848]

In January 1957, Troop 27 dedicated its new scout hut next to Americus High School. The building was built by the troop's sponsoring organization the Civitian Club.[849] With the addition of this scout hut, Americus had two troops with their own scout huts designed and built for them. In October, the annual funding drive started with Steve Pace, Jr. as its chairman.[850] The drive began with its traditional Early Bird Breakfast on October 8 at 7:30 in the morning. The goal for the funding drive was $5,000; however, only $3,000 was raised.[851]

In 1960, Don Farr of Americus was a member-at-large of the National Council; and he attended the Golden Anniversary of Scouting dinner held in Washington, D.C.[852] The dinner was attended by President Eisenhower, Vice-President Nixon, and most members of Congress.

It appears that at some time in the late 1950s, the Lake District subdivided into the East Lake District, which was based in Cordele, and the West Lake District, which was based in Americus. The first mention of this is in 1961, and it does not appear that a new district was formed but rather an administrative subdivision of the Lake District was made.[853] In 1961 the known troops, which were active in the Lake District, were Troop 17 of Smithville, Troop 21 of Americus, Troop 22 of Americus, Troop 27 of Americus, Troop 41 of Cordele, and Troop 42 of Cordele.[854]

In 1962, both the East and West subdistricts joined together for the semi-annual camporee at Lake Blackshear.[855] The 1962 theme was a "caveman" campout. Troops in the West subdistrict were Troop 17 of Smithville with scoutmaster Dick Young, Troop 20 of DeSoto with scoutmaster Tommy Toms, Troop 21 of Americus with scoutmaster Charlie Hogg, Troop 22 of Americus with scoutmaster Charlie Gurr, Troop 24 of Ellaville with scoutmaster Andy Vanierberghe, Troop 25 of Plains with scoutmaster P. J. Wise, Troop 27 of Americus with scoutmaster P. J. Wise, Troop 72 of Sasser with scoutmaster Early Rogers, Troop 73 of Bronwood with scoutmaster Murray

844 "Boy Scout Court Tonight", *Americus Times-Recorder*,March 4, 1956.
845 "Explorer Scouting Explained to Club", *Americus Times-Recorder*,February 18, 1956.
846 "Standings," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 24, 1956.
847 "Kohlhase Local Scout Chairman," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 8, 1956.
848 "Scout Fund Far Short of Goal," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 15, 1956.
849 "New Troop 27 Scout Hut Dedication Sun.," *Americus Times-Recorder*, Janaury 25, 1957.
850 "Pace Selected to Direct Local Boy Scout Drive," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 30, 1957.
851 "Boy Scout Drive, Short of Goal," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 9, 1957.
852 "Farr Invited to Scout Dinner," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 30, 1960.
853 "Baldwin to Head Annual Fund Drive Here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 22, 1961.
854 "Troop 22 Wins Camporee Honors," *Americus Times-Recorder*, April 3, 1961.
855 "Scout District Plans Camporee," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 15, 1962.

Heath, and Troop 74 of Terrell County with scoutmaster Buster Kennedy. No East subdistrict troops were listed.

In January 1963, the Lake District held a troop leaders' training camp out at Camp Osborn.[856] In March, the District tried a new approach to starting new packs, troops, and posts.[857] The District held a "Together Dinner" which was designed to organize multiple units at one time. Later in the year, the District was recognized by the National Council for having a 14.4% gain in membership using the Together Dinner program.[858] At the end of 1963, the active units in Sumter County were Troop 21 & Pack 21 sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, Troop 22 & Pack 22 sponsored by Lions Club, Troop 23 sponsored by the New Era Community Club, Troop 28 sponsored by the Brooklyn Heights Baptist Church, and Troop 29 sponsored by Methodists Men's Club of Leslie. Troop 25 sponsored by the Plains Lions Club, was omitted from the list in the article, most likely by mistake.

The year 1964 began with District Executive Ronald Tyson taking the Lake District adult leaders on an overnight 25-mile instructional canoe trip down the Flint River.[859] In April, the Lake District held a large Scout Fair at the Sumter County Fair Grounds.[860] It began with a parade through downtown Americus. Troops from all of the counties in the district attended and thirty-three troops had display booths setup at the fairgrounds. Cub Pack 21 of Americus won first place for a booth on bird study. Over 2000 people attended the fair.

Later in 1964, Troop 25 of Plains received a caboose from Seaboard Air Line Railroad to use as its scout hut.[861] Caboose #5453 was built in 1925 and had over 1,800,000 mile of service before being donated to the scouts.

In 1966, Rusty Reddish of Americus was named as the head of the Lake District fund raising.[862] Sumter County was funded by the United Way, which contributed $8,500 to the Lake District of Chehaw Council.[863]

For 1967, the Lake District had 427 scouts and 179 leaders.[864] In October, the District held a camporee in Dawson. Troop 21 of Americus won first place. Troop 70 of Dawson won second place. Troop 29 of Leslie won third place.

Terrell County

Dawson (Terrell County) was one of the original eight towns included in the Chehaw Council planning. However, it appears that the area could not organize; and it was not one of the districts included in Chehaw Council when it opened on June 15, 1939. Scouting was active in

856 "Scout Leaders Plan Campout," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 23, 1963.
857 "Scout Dinner Here Tonight," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 4, 1963.
858 "Scout Program Here Recognized," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 30, 1963.
859 "Scouters Plan Trip by Canoe," *Americus Times-Recorder*, Janaury 24, 1964.
860 "Local Scout Event Outstanding Success," *Americus Times-Recorder*, April 13, 1964.
861 "Plains Scout Troop Given Train Caboose," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 6, 1964.
862 "Reddish Heads Fund Drive," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 10, 1966.
863 "$36,841 Goal Estabished by United Givers, *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 10, 1966.
864 "Boy Scouts Benefit from United Givers," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 30, 1967.

Dawson in 1939; as the Lions Club built the troop a cabin outside of town.[865] The year that Terrell County became a district of Chehaw Council has not yet been established.

Tift County

Tifton (Tift County) was one of the original eight towns included in the Chehaw Council planning. However, it appears that the area could not organize and it was not one of the districts included in Chehaw Council when it opened on June 15, 1939. The year that Tift County scouting became a district of Chehaw Council has not yet been established. However, Ralph Puckett, Sr. was the first President of the Tift (Tifton) District, and he served as such until 1946, when Lennon E. Bowen, Sr. became District President.

In May of 1958, the Tifton, Omega, Ashburn and Sylvester troops went to Camp Osborn for the first Camporee of the season. On Saturday the boys went to Turner AFB to celebrate Armed Forces Day.[866]

In 1972, Tifton was part of the East District which included the counties of Turner, Tift, Worth, and Mitchell.[867] The District had 45 scout units active.

In July 2005, Troop 321 from Tifton postponed its trip to Jekyll Island to assist Sylvester in its disaster relief from Hurricane Dennis. They were joined by troop 100 of Sylvester and Troop 31 of Ashburn.[868]

Turner County

In May of 1958, the Tifton, Omega, Ashburn, and Sylvester troops went to Camp Osborn for the first Camporee of the season. On Saturday the boys went to Turner AFB to celebrate Armed Forces Day.[869]

In July 2005, Troop 321 from Tifton and Troop 31 of Ashburn went to Worth County to assist Sylvester in its disaster relief from Hurricane Dennis..[870]

Worth County

In April, 1940 the Sylvester Scouts attended the Scout Jubilee in Moultrie.[871] In June of 1940, the Sylvester Boy Scouts attended a camporee and Tomato Festival in Pelham with 250 other Boy Scouts with their scoutmaster Roy Dunn and assistant I. H. Mann.[872] A year-end report of the Worth County District was submitted on June 16, 1940. It appears from the article that the officers for the 1939-1940 fiscal year continued to serve for the 1940-1941 year.[873] Mr. Columbus

865 "Dawson Boy Scouts Will Have Cabins For Camping," *The Dawson News*, May 4, 1939.
866 "Loal Scouts on Camporee," *Sylvester Local*, May 22nd, 1958.
867 "East District Scout Exec Announced," *Americus Times-Recorder*, April 1972.
868 *Sylvester Local*, July 20th, 2005.
869 "Loal Scouts on Camporee," *Sylvester Local*, May 22nd, 1958.
870 *Sylvester Local*, July 20th, 2005.
871 "Sylvester News," *Sylvester Local*, April 25th, 1940.
872 *Sylvester Local*, June 6th, 1940.
873 "District Scout Meeting Is Held In Sylvester," *The Albany Herald*, June 16, 1940.

Alford was the District Chairman, George B. Hawthorne was Treasurer, E. E. Flowers was Chairman of the New Troop Committee, I. H. Mann was Chairman of the Camping and Activities Committee, and W. H. Hawkins was Chairman of the Advancement Committee.

There was a troop in Warwick in February, 1941 which had a branch patrol in Abram Community.[874] In 1942, the Boy Scouts of Troop 34, enjoyed an outing Friday night on Warrior creek. Prof. Lester Farr is the scoutmaster and Talmadge Gray was a guest on the trip.[875]

In February, 1943, Paul Smith, Assistant Scout Executive of Chehaw Council, spent three days in Worth County reorganizing Troop 30 and a Cub Pack. Mr. G. T. Hall was elected scoutmaster and the troop is sponsored by the American Legion. Troop 34 at Poulan is active with J. C. Branch, scoutmaster. Wenton Warren was chosen Cub Master and Mrs. Raymond Dupriest and Mrs. Leon Houston as Den Mothers.[876] He also reorganized Troop 35 in Bridgeboro. Troop 33 was active and sponsored by the Kiwanis Club with Mr. Olin Gammage as scoutmaster.

In June, 1944, the Kiwanis Club headed a drive for citizens to purchase tags for 10 cents each to fund the building of a scout hut. The land had already been donated.[877] Two hundred dollars was raised.[878] By November, the Boy Scout hut at the edge of Sylvester on the Cordele road was nearly completed. The Reverend O. C. Cooper was largely responsible for its completion.[879]

On January 11th, 1945, the Worth County District Committee met. Reverend O. C. Cooper was the District Chairman, P. M. Lancaster was District Chairman, and Ralph Ellis was District Professional.[880] On May 27th, 1945, a general meeting was held to charter a Cub Scout pack in Sylvester.[881] Council Executive H. S. Swearington was in charge of the meeting. Mr. T. R. Perry was chosen as Cub Master. Den mothers were Mrs. W. R. Camp and Mrs. T. R. Perry.

In January of 1947, Sylvester had two active Boy Scout Troops. Troop 33 sponsored by the Kiwanis Club with Ridley Monk as scoutmaster and Troop 34 sponsored by Pinson Methodist Church with C. B. Wilder as scoutmaster. The Cub Pack is sponsored by the Baptist Church with T. R. Perry, Jr. as Cub Master.[882] Reverend Joseph Cook was the District Chairman and Eugene Attaway is District Commissioner.[883] Mr. W. Rush Camp was Chairman of the Worth District in 1949.[884]

Worth County held its first concerted effort to organize a Negro troop in March of 1950. Senator Frank L. Lumsford , President of Chehaw Council and William Nexsen, Chehaw Council Executive attended the meeting along with John F. Jordan, Chairman of the Worth

874 "Abram News," *Sylvester Local*, February 2, 1941.
875 *Sylvester Local*, April 9th, 1942.
876 "Boy Scout Activities," *Sylvester Local*, February 25, 1943.
877 "Kiwanis Club Sponsors," *Sylvester Local*, June 29th, 1944.
878 *Sylvester Local*, July 14th, 1944.
879 *Sylvester Local*, November 9th, 1944.
880 "Scout Committee Meets," *Sylvester Local*, January 11th, 1945.
881 "Cub Scout Meeting," *Sylvester Local*, May 24th, 1945
882 "Boy Scout," *Sylvester Local*, January 23rd, 1947.
883 "Scout Committee," *Sylvester Local*, February 20th, 1947.
884 "County Scout Group," *Sylvester Local*, July 14th, 1949.

County Interracial Scout Committee.[885] In August, 1950 someone broke into the Boy Scout hut and did extensive damage.[886] In September, the Worth County Scout District voted to give the Scout Hut to the city as it was directly in the path of a new street.[887] Clint Sumner, Jr. was the first Eagle Scout from Worth County who received the Eagle Rank in September, 1952.[888] He was a member of Troop 33 with Ridley Monk as scoutmaster. Poulan's Troop 137 has reactivated in 1953 with Dan Smith as scoutmaster and is sponsored by Poulan Baptist Church.[889]

In April, 1955 Sylvester and Worth County opened a new Scout hut. The land was donated by Dr. T. C. Jefford at Morningside Drive and Wallace Street.[890] It will be used by Troop 33 with Scoutmaster Billy Bosemann, and Explorer Post Explorer Post 34 with Advisor Edgar Flowers. Troop 127 and Dan Smith, scoutmaster, was still active in 1955.[891] Troop 33 held a Scout and Dads cookout in May of 1955.[892] In October of 1956, there were eight scout units in Worth County.[893]

In May 1957, Cub Pack 30 was active seven dens and was sponsored by Pinson Memorial Methodist Church with A. B. Malloy, Cub Master.[894] In June, Troop 33 with H. R. Floyd, scoutmaster, attended summer camp at Camp Osborn.[895] In April, 1958, Eugene Attaway was scoutmaster of the Sylvester Troop 33 which has 35 scouts and was sponsored by the Kiwanis Club.[896] In May, The Sylvester Troop 33 joined Tifton, Omega and Ashburn troops for the first Camporee of the season at Camp Osborn. On Saturday the boys went to Turner AFB to celebrate Armed Forces Day.[897] Troop 33 went to Camp Osborn in July, 1959. Ray Pendley was the scoutmaster.[898]

Poulan restarted their troop in February, 1960 naming it the Chase Osborn Memorial Troop.[899] Chehaw Council designated it Troop 100 in honor of the 100 anniversary of the birthday of Governor Osborn. It was sponsored by the Poulan First Baptist Church and Dan Smith was scoutmaster. In 1962, Vaughn Willis was scoutmaster of Troop 33.[900] Troop 100 of Poulan was still active in 1963 and was sponsored by Poulan Community Council and Improvement Club.[901] Troop 33 attended summer camp on Jykell Island in June.[902] Troop 33 had been sponsored by the

885 "Scout Rally," Sylvester *Local,* March 23rd, 1950.
886 "Vandals Damage Scout Cabin," *Sylvester Local,* August 24th, 1950.
887 "Scout Cabin Givin to City," *Sylvester Local,* September 14th, 1950.
888 "Kiwanians Honor First Eagle Scout in Worth County," *Sylvester Local,* September 18th, 1952.
889 "Poulan to have Boy Scout Troop," *Sylvester Local,* May 14th, 1953.
890 "Scout Hut," *Sylvester Local,* April 7th, 1955.
891 *Sylvester Local,* February 17th, 1955.
892 "Scouts Hold Cookout," *Sylvester Local,* May 5th, 1955.
893 "Early Bird Breakfast," Sylvster Local, October 11, 1956.
894 "Local Cub Scouts," *Sylvester Local,* May 17th, 1956.
895 "Troop 33," *Sylvester Local,* June 27th, 1957.
896 "Attaway is scoutmaster," *Sylvester Local,* April 24th, 1958.
897 "Loal Scouts on Camporee," *Sylvester Local,* May 22nd, 1958.
898 "Loal Scouts," *Sylvester Local,* June 18th, 1959.
899 "Scout Troop," *Sylvester Local,* February 18th, 1960.
900 "Boy Scout Meeting," *Sylvester Local,* October 18th, 1962.
901 "Aultman," *Sylvester Local,* February 28, 1963.
902 "Boy Scout Camp," *Sylvester Local,* June 9th, 1963.

Sylvester Kiwansis Club for 20 years.[903] Troop 30 attended Camp Osborn in June.[904]

In 1965, Worth County's active units were: Troop 30 sponsored by Pinson Memorial Methodist Church with Scoutmaster Ridley Monk; Troop 33 sponsored by Sylvester Kiwanis Club with Scoutmaster Vaughn Willis; Troop 100 sponsored by Poulan Community Council with Scoutmaster Al Paduch; and Explorer Post 30 sponsored by Pinson Memorial Methodist Church with advisor Fred Long.[905] In 1966, George Carr became scoutmaster of Troop 33 of Sylester.[906] He replaced Leroy Waara. Liberty Hill Baptist Church started a Scout Troop near Bridgeboro with Brodus Hembree as scoutmaster. Troop 30 ran the Scout-O-Rama newspaper at the 1969 Scout-O-Rama in Albany publishing 6 edition each 2 ½ hours apart.[907]

Troop 30 from Sylvester, Troop 100 from Poulan, and Troop 33 of Sylvester all attended the 1970 Scout-O-Rama.[908] Troop 30 again published the newspaper for the event. Ridley Monk was scoutmaster of Troop 33, John Porter was scoutmaster of troop 100, and Ben Dismuke was scoutmaster of Troop 33. In September, Brian Carr, a member of Troop 33 was killed in a car wreck.[909]

The Fall Camporee for 1972 was held at Chickasaw in Mitchell County.[910] Troop 30 with Scoutmaster Hilton Houston as did Troop 138 with Scoutmaster Henry Skinner attended.[911] In February of 1973, members of Troops 30, 33, and 138 posed for a joint photo. Henry Skinner was scoutmaster of Troop 138, Hilton Houston was Scoutmaster of Troop 30, and Hal Nolen was scoutmaster of Troop 33. Troop 100 of Poulan had Elbert Kilcrease as scoutmaster in March of 1973.[912] Troop 138 attended Camp Osborn and their scoutmaster was Henry Skinner.[913] In 1974, Troop 138 of Poulan was led by Scoutmaster Billy Smith.[914] Hilton Houston was still Scoutmaster of Troop 30. In September of 1974, Troop 138 took a trip down the Itchtucknee River in Florida.[915] In 1976, Troop 100 of Poulan won 10 out of 27 competitions at the May Camporee at Camp Osborn.[916] Elberts Kilcrease was the scoutmaster.

In March of 1978, Worth County had six Cub Packs: Pack 30 Pinson Memorial Methodist Church, Sylvester; Pack 110, Sylvester, Road Elementary PTA; Pack 431, Sylvester Elementary PTA; Pack 459, Hillcrest Elementary PTA; Pack 535, Futrill Auto Parts; and, Pack 548, Brooks and Jones Chapel Church.[917] Worth County also had five Boy Scout Troops: Troop 30, Pinson Memorial Methodist Church, Sylvester, Scoutmaster Hilton Houston; Troop 100, Poulan Community Council, Poulan, Scoutmaster James E. Kilcrease; Troop 535, Parker Elementary

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903 "Boy Scout," Sylvester Local, July 25th, 1963.
904 "Two Boy Scouts," *Sylvester Local*, 11th, 1963.
905 "Recognition Dinner," *Sylvester Local*, January 28, 1965.
906 "George Carr," *Sylvester Local*, April 21st, 1966.
907 "Nose for News," *Sylvester Local*, April 24th, 1969.
908 "3 Worth Scout Troops," *Sylvester Local*, April 16th, 197i0
909 "2-Car Crash," *Sylvester Local*, September 3rd, 1970.
910 "Hundreds of Chehaw Scouts," *Sylvester Local*, November 9th, 1972.
911 *Sylvester Local*, November 30th, 1972.
912 "Poulan Scouts," *Sylvester Local*, March 8th, 1972.
913 "Attend Camp Osborn," *Sylvester Local*, July 12th, 1973.
914 "2 Scouts," *Sylvester Local*, February 14th, 1974.
915 "Scouts Float," *Sylvester Local*, Setpember 19th, 1974.
916 "Poulan Scouts," *Sylvester Local*, May 20th, 1976
917 "Scout Parnters," *Sylvester Local*, March 2nd, 1978.

School, Sumner, Scoutmaster John T. Newkirk; Troop 548, Brooks and Jones Chapel Church, Sylvester, Scoutmaster Joseph N. Morgan; Troop 499, Center of New Hope, Warwick, Scoutmaster John A. Nesmith; Troop 408, Worth County Sheriff's Department, Sylvester.[918]

In 1980, Troop 30 sponsored by Pinson Memorial United Methodist Church was still active. Hilton Houston was still the scoutmaster.[919] In October of 1980, Troop 33 made a ten-hour canoe trip down the Alapaha River.[920] In 1981, Troop 100 attended the Pathfinder District Fall Camporee at Camp Osborn. Scoutmaster was Rodney Hutchinson.[921] Pathfinder District consisted of Worth, Mitchell and East Dougherty Counties. In April of 1984, Troop 100 was active with Scoutmaster Rodney Hutchinson.[922] In October of 1986, Troop 33 with Scoutmaster Johnny Griner and Troop 100 with Scoutmaster Rodney Hutchinson were active.[923] In 1988, Troop 33 with Scoutmaster Johnny Griner and Troop 100 were active.

In March of 1991, Troop 303 (not Troop 33) was formed and sponsored by Salem Baptist Church in Red Rock.[924] The scouts came from Pack 33 which was also sponsored by Salem Baptist Church. In June, 1991, the Kiwanis Club and Troop 33 renovated the scout hut in Sylvester.[925] The repairs included a new roof, new paint, landscaping, a new flag pole, new electrical wiring. The work took approximately three months. Boy Scout Troop 33, chartered to the Sylvester Kiwanis Club, assisted with the Peanut Capital Invitational Marching Festival held at the football stadium in Sylvester in 1992.[926] Troop 444 and Pack 444 both sponsored by the Pinson Memorial United Methodist Church in Sylvester participated in the first Spring Fling at Camp Osborn in April of 1993.[927] In November of 1998, Troop 33 held a yard sale.[928]

Living History Day will be sponsored by Boy Scout Troop 100 and will bring masters of primitive skills such as fire-building, flint knapping, tomahawk-throwing, weaving, tanning, bow-and-arrow and weaving to the Duck Pond in Sylvester on Saturday, March 26, 2005.[929] In 2005, Worth County had three active troops: 33, 100 & 353 which at this time were assocated with Southwest Georgia Council. Michelle (Miki) Hutchinson had served as scoutmaster of Troop 100 since 2001.[930]

Chehaw Council Becomes Southwest Georgia Council

In 1984, the Chehaw Council changed its name to that of Southwest Georgia Council.[931] The Articles of Incorporation of the Council were amended on the 27th of November, 1984 and the certificate was issued by the Secretary of State on November 30th, 1984. This name change

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918 "Scout Parnters," *Sylvester Local,* March 2nd, 1978.
919 *Sylvester Local,* January 24th, 1980.
920 *Sylvester Local,* October 9th, 1980.
921 "Troop 100," *Sylvester Local,* November 5th, 1981.
922 "Troop 100," *Sylvester Local,* April 19th, 1984.
923 "Peanutfest," *Sylvester Local,* October 16th, 1986.
924 "Boy Scout Troop," *Sylvester Local,* March 13th, 1991.
925 "Scouts, Kiwanis," *Sylvester Local,* June 26th, 1991.
926 "Scouts Assist," *Sylvester Local,* November 4th, 1992.
927 "Fling a Success," *Sylvester Local,* April 7th, 1993.
928 "Boy Scout Yard Sale," *Sylvester Local,* October 28th, 1998.
929 "Living History Day," *Sylvester Local,* March 9th, 2005.
930 "Worth Rich in Scouting Tradition," *Sylvester Local,* February 23rd, 2005.
931 Approved July 2, 1984, by the Chief Scout Executive of BSA.

resulted from several matters. First was a newly discovered sense of political correctness by the National Council, which instructed Councils named in honor of American Indians that such names were somehow disparaging to them and should be changed. Second, the Chehaw Wild Animal Park in Albany was making national news for neglecting some of its animals, and the Council was being affected due to the similarity of names.[932]

The 1995 Cub Scout Campout was held in November, 1995 at Camp Osborn and had over 500 Cub Scouts and parents attending.[933]

In 2002, Southwest Georgia Council held an Eagle Scout Reunion in conjunction with the 60th Anniversary of Camp Osborn.[934]

At the beginning of 1981 Southwest Georgia Council had 4028 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 1982 Southwest Georgia Council had 4396 total scouts registered.[935] At the beginning of 1983 Southwest Georgia Council had 3712 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 1984 Southwest Georgia Council had 3353 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 1985 Southwest Georgia Council had 2885 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 1986 Southwest Georgia Council had 2874 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 1987 Southwest Georgia Council had 2764 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 1988 Southwest Georgia Council had 2393 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 1989 Southwest Georgia Council had 2198 total scouts registered.

At the beginning of 1991 Southwest Georgia Council had 3906 total scouts registered.[936] At the beginning of 1992 Southwest Georgia Council had 4136 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 1993 Southwest Georgia Council had 4289 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 1998 Southwest Georgia Council had 3473 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 1999 Southwest Georgia Council had 3274 total scouts registered.

At the beginning of 2000 Southwest Georgia Council had 3499 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 2003 Southwest Georgia Council had 1456 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 2004 Southwest Georgia Council had 1641 total scouts registered. At the beginning of 2005 Southwest Georgia Council had 2137 total scouts registered.

Chehaw Council, Again

At the May 5th, 2005 Executive Board meeting President Carl Hancock moved to change the council name back to Chehaw Council. The motion passed unanimously. The change was authorized on June 6th, 2005 by BSA National although it took until July, 2005 for the name change to go into actual use by BSA National. At a meeting of Eagle Scouts at Camp Osborn on June 18, 2005, Council President Hancock announced that the Executive Board of the Council had voted to change the name of Southwest Georgia Council back to Chehaw Council and that BSA National

932 Documents changing name to Southwest Georgia Council filed with the Georgia Secretary of State.
933 "Lee Cub Scouts," *Lee County Herald*, November 8th, 1995.
934 "Camp Osborn Celebration," *Sylvester Local*, May 29th, 2002.
935 All 1980 number are from the Southeast Region Fact Books.
936 BSA Local Council Facts 1991-1993.

had approved the change. The actual name change was not filed with the Secretary of State until October 2006.[937]

For many years, Chehaw Council had operated with only three districts. A fourth district was created in 2008 to serve Baker, Mitchell, Calhoun, Clay, Early, and Miller Counties. The new district was named Choc-Taw.

At the beginning of 2009 Chehaw Council had 2504 total scouts registered.[938]

At the beginning of 2010, Chehaw Council had 2399 total scouts registered.[939]

At the beginning of 2011 Chehaw Council had 826 total scouts registered.[940]

Other Significant Events in Chehaw Council History

The Last Eagle Scouts of Chehaw Council

With the merger of Chehaw Council, which was effective November 1, 2012, the last Eagle Scout is not simple to determine. Cody A Hughes of Troop 3 has an Eagle Board of Review date of December 20, 2012; Joshua H Bacon of Troop 7 has an Eagle Board of Review date of December 19, 2012; James A Joiner of Troop 270 has an Eagle Board of Review date of, December 17, 2012; and, Cody D. Brienza, Brent K. Goldsmith; and Edward F. Newcomb, all of Troop 15, have an Eagle Board of Review date of November 20, 2012. All received their Eagle rank after the merger of Chehaw Council and Alapaha Area Council to for South Georgia Council, but they asked that their Eagle certificates reflect Chehaw Council. Brandon N. Carter, Woodrow Greene, Carl Johnson, Nicholas K. McGhee, Tyerus R. Skala all of Troop 26 and Clay Jones and Joshua A. Chappell of Troop 270 all have an Eagle Board of Review date of October, 30th, 2012, and were the last Eagle Scouts to earn the rank before the council merger.

Council Office Locations

At its formation, Chehaw Council had its Council headquarters at 107 North Jefferson Street.[941] The property is now part of the old downtown First Baptist Church of Albany complex. By 1943, the Council office had moved to 113½ Pine Avenue above the Smith Lumber Company. 113 Pine Avenue is now part of the park in front of the Flint Riverquarium. The Council shared the second floor with the U. S. Army recruiting office. In 1949, the Council office moved to the second floor of the Champion Building at 126½ Pine Avenue. The bottom floor was occupied by Phillips Motors. The building is currently still standing and is owned and used by The Albany

937 Chehaw Council 2006 Recharter Documents filed with the Georgia Secretary of State.
938 From the Chehaw Council Operations Report.
939 From the Chehaw Council Operations Report.
940 From the recharter application. Report dated February 14, 2011.
941 Address and years are from the City of Albany Business Directories, Dougherty County Library.

Herald newspaper. The council received its mail at Post Office box 125 in Albany. In 1961, the office moved to 106 South Jefferson Street and its phone number was "Hemlock 2-6995."[942]

In 1969, two acres at 2406 Dawson Road were purchased for the Scout office. The renovations at the Dawson Road location were never completed. In 1971, the Council bought the Standard Oil Company building at 930 West Oglethorpe Avenue. The Council paid $65,000 for the property and building, and Standard Oil Company donated the remaining value of $65,000. The Council moved in February 1972. The Dawson Road property was sold shortly thereafter.

In 2005, the Council sold the West Oglethorpe property to the neighboring church. The building was in need of substantial repairs and the sale was more profitable. The Council moved to a temporary location of 1519 Mitchell Avenue on October 1st of that year. In October of 2007, the Council was offered an unused medical office at Fourth and Madison Avenue in Albany by Phoebe Putney Hospital for $1 per year and the building was converted into the new Council office. This Albany Scout Office was closed in 2019 due to budget concerns and the building on Madison Avenue was returned to Phoebe Putney Hospital.

Council-Wide Events – Andersonville National Historic Site

Each year the Andersonville National Historic Site places individual flags on the graves of veterans buried in the cemetery. Individual troops from Chehaw Council assist in the placement of the flags. Each troop decides if it will attend; therefore, the troops and the number of scouts vary from year to year. Scouts from other councils as well as Girl Scouts also participate.

Council-Wide Events – Advance-O-Rees

An Advance-O-Ree is a council-wide gathering of scouts which focuses on the earning of merit badges. Known Advance-O-Rees were held in 1988 and 2004. Both were held at Camp Osborn. Each year Thronateeska District holds a merit badge college at Georgia Southwestern State University. Rather than being contained in one weekend, the merit badge college has sessions scheduled over a four-week period.

Council-Wide Events – Okefenokee Expeditions

Going to the Okefenokee Swamp and camping on Billy's Island has been a tremendously exciting event for scouts from southwest Georgia. Editor Mike Greene attended the last full council campout on Billy's Island and at least two more campouts with his troop, the last being in 1973. In the 1970s, the scouts launched at Stephen C. Foster State Park on the southwest side of the swamp rather than the tourist entrance near Waycross. A single road built on a raised roadbed ran the 20 miles through the swamp from Fargo, Georgia, to Stephen C. Foster State Park. A one-third mile canal ran from the park to the Suwannee River. Billy's Island was about 1½ miles up the Suwannee River at its headwaters. If you passed the dock on Billy's Island, you were in the swamp rather than a visible channel. The island was covered with raccoons, bears, and other wild animals. At night, the swamp was dotted with pairs of orange eyes belonging to the many alligators. There was an ongoing competition between the scouts and the raccoons, with the scouts

[942] A 1960 *Owl Hoot* has a return address of PO Box 125 Albany and Council stationary of the same period has the Jefferson Street address.

trying to store their food so that the raccoons could not get it at night. The scouts tried hanging their coolers from trees and between trees, as well as placing heavy items on the top of the coolers. The raccoons were the clear winners no matter what the scouts tried. The raccoons were fussy eaters as well. They would take only the meat. Located on Billy's Island was the site of a lumber town that housed the workers who clear-cut the swamp in the early 1900s. Exploring the remains was a great Saturday event. At one time, there was a population of 600 people on Billy's Island. The settlement included a theater and railroad turnaround. The railroad entered from the west. By the 1970s, only a cemetery and rusting metal remained of the community. However, the railroad track bed was still clearly visible in the early 1970s.

The first documented Okefenokee Expeditions from the territory which would later become South Georgia Council were awards for the top campers at Camp Nochaway.[943] Camp Nochaway for 1924 was known to have operated on the point system for awards. For the week of June 10, 1924, four boys were awarded the grand prize, which was a trip to the Okefenokee Swamp.[944] In the summer of 1925, the top five campers at Camp Nochaway, which was held at Crystal Lake, would receive a trip to the Okefenokee Swamp. Those selected were Burton Morris and Wade McArthur of Albany, Mercer Bridewell of Bainbridge, Edwin Bishop of Ashburn, and Marvin Smith of Moultrie.

The next documented council trip to the swamp was at Christmas of 1943, Chehaw Council, Suwannee River Area Council, and Northeast Georgia Council all attended a Region 6 sponsored campout in the Okefenokee Swamp. The Chehaw Council contingent consisted of one scout from Troop 21 in Americus and scouts from the Ashburn troop. The council produced a leather neckerchief slide for those scouts who went on the trip. A photo of some members of the expedition is in Appendix 70. Sometime in the late 1940s, the Council organized Okefenokee Swamp campouts appear to have temporarily stopped.

However, individual troops continued to camp at the Okefenokee Swamp. In order to camp on Billy's Island, a permit was required from the State of Georgia. In June of 1959, Troop 21 of Americus received a permit to camp on Billy's Island and spent 5 days camping in the swamp.[945] In 1968, Cub Pack 121 of Sumter County took a one-day trip to the Okefenokee Swamp.[946]

Josh Molder, Scout Executive, restarted the Council organized Okefenokee Swamp expeditions in the 1960s.[947] The December 11, 1964, *Chehaw Drumbeat* has a wonderful article on these expeditions. It can be read in Appendix 101. The 1965 expedition was held March 11 to 14 and 186 scouts attended, which was the largest number ever.[948] Jim Snead, Jim Champion, and Al Rizzardi lead the group. *Boys Life* sent a photographer to document the expedition and the article can be found in Appendix 104. The 1966 expedition was March 17 to 20. District Executive Max Shumack was the leader. The January 1966 Drumbeat stated "The Okefenokee Expedition is too great for any Explorer or Senior Scout to miss."[949] The minimum age of 14

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943 The earliest Scout trip to the Okefenokee Swamp is the 1921 trip by scouts from the Columbus Council.

944 "Scout News, *The Post-Search Light*, June 19, 1924.

945 "Scouts Enjoy Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 30, 1959.

946 "Okefenokee Visitors," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 14, 1968.

947 Chehaw Council *Drumbeat*, March 25, 1971.

948 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, December 24, 1964; *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, March 25, 1965.

949 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, January 25. 1966.

was required for any scout or explorer. The 1967 Okefenokee Swamp expedition was March 9 to 12 1967.[950]

The 1968 Chehaw Council expedition was from March 14 to March 17 and each of the 192 scouts and leaders paid only one dollar for the trip.[951] The first night temperatures dropped to almost freezing.[952] On the third day, WALB-TV from Albany sent a crew which filmed the expedition for a thirty minute TV show which ran on April 18th.[953] The 1969 expedition ran from March 14 to 16, and 236 scouts from Chehaw Council attended.[954]

In 1970, 171 scouts from Chehaw Council camped on Billy's Island from March 6 to 8.[955] On Saturday, most of the scouts boated or canoed to Big Lake, a trip of about 20 miles into the heart of the swamp. Also on Saturday, a total solar eclipse of the sun took place. The scouts viewed the event by looking at its reflection in the dark swamp water. However, the highlight of the event was the loss of a scoutmaster who was fishing and became disoriented as darkness fell. A boat was send back to Stephen C. Foster State Park and the park rangers in boats with searchlights were summoned. The scoutmaster was found unharmed at about 10:15 that night.[956] On Sunday as the Scouts were leaving the area, several older scouts found a snake and coerced the young scout to pick it up, saying "it isn't poisonous!" Were upon the young scout attempted to pick it up and was immediately bitten. District Executive Brooks Lovelace and Activity Coordinator Joe Abernathy took the scout to the doctor. It was determined that the snake was not poisonous after waiting to see if any of the symptoms appeared. None did, but this delayed the Scouts' departure for several hours.[957]

In 1971, individual troops camped on various weekends. Troop 27 from Americus camped out from March 12 to 14, 1971.[958]

Through 1970, the State Park Service allowed the Scouts from the entire council to camp on Billy's Island at one time. In 1971, the state determined that such a large number of boys at one time was not good for the eco-system of Billy's Island. Thereafter, only one troop or two small troops together could camp on Billy's Island on the same weekend. In 1973, the state stopped all camping on Billy's Island; and the Okefenokee Swamp Expeditions ended.

Council-Wide Events – Scout Shows and Scout Fairs

Scout Shows and Scout Fairs were public demonstrations of scouting skills. Prior to 1971 a Scout Fair was referred to as a Scout-O-Rama.[959] Troops from the entire council camp out at a

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950 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, December 12, 1966.

951 "600 New Boy Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 17, 1968; *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, December 25, 1967; "Boy Scout," Sylvester Local, April 18th, 1968.

952 "Local Boy Scouts . . .," *The News-Examiner*, March 21, 1968.

953 "Local Boy Scouts . . .," *The News-Examiner*, March 21, 1968.

954 "Going to Okefenokee," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 12, 1969; "Schley Scouts Attend Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 20, 1969; "Scouts Report Increase in Activities in 1970," *The Albany Herald*, February 6, 1970.

955 "Three Local Boy Scout Troops in Wilds of Okefenokee," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 12, 1970.

956 The park ranger's involvement is from the personal knowledge of J. Michael Greene.

957 The information regarding the snake is from the personal knowledge of Brooks Lovelace.

958 "Troop 27 Camps on Billy's Island," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 16, 1971.

959 "Scout Fair '71," Chehaw *Drumbeat*, February 11, 1971.

designated location such as a fair ground, and setup demonstrations of scouting skills. On Saturday, the public is invited to visit and see the demonstrations and displays.

Chehaw Council is known to have held these events in 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1974, 1975, 1979, 1980, and 1983. In 1969 and 1970, the events were held at the Albany Exchange Club Fairgrounds.[960] In 1972 the event was also held April 29 and 30 at the Albany Exchange Club Fairgrounds.[961]

Council-Wide Events – Council Camporees

Council Camporees are usually held every other spring, but at times in past the have been held every year. The Council Camporee is a bigger gathering of scouts than summer camp because summer camp is spread out over a number of weeks. The Council Camporee is held on one weekend for all scouts in the Council and usually all cub scouts in the Council.

Chehaw Council Firsts

Belflower, Estol was the first youth to be awarded the Vigil Honor in Immokalee Lodge. He received the Vigil Honor on April 28, 1956.

Buchanan, Jimmy of Americus was one of five known charter members of Immokalee Lodge in 1945.

Coker, Dot of Sycamore was the first person to be awarded the Silver Fawn in Chehaw Council. She received the award in 1971.

Collier, Henry David of Tifton was one of five known charter members of Immokalee Lodge in 1945.

Cummings, Caroline of Pack 3 in Albany is credited with being the first young lady to sign-up for Cub Scouts in the South Georgia Council. She came to the Albany Service Center to join.

Green, Palmer In 1941 Chehaw Council presented its first Silver Beaver awards to Palmer Greene of Cordele and Edmund Landau of Albany. Palmer Greene was a scoutmaster from Cordele and had been instrumental in the formation of the Chehaw Council.

Landau, Edmund A. Sr. In 1941 Chehaw Council presented its first Silver Beaver awards to Edmund Landau of Albany and Palmer Green of Cordele. Rabbi Landau had been an active supporter of Scouting in Albany since the days of Nochaway Council. Additionally, he had been a vocal advocate of the formation of Chehaw Council.

Littlefield, James R. of Americus was the first Scout to earn the God and Country Award in Chehaw Council. He earned the award in April of 1951. He was a Chehaw Council Eagle Scout from Troop 22 of Americus, scoutmaster of Troop 27 in Americus, and a Silver Beaver. Mr.

960 "Biggest 'Scout-O-Rama' Planned at Fairgrounds," *The Albany Herald*, March 24, 1970.
961 "Big Albany Scout Show Scheduled April 29-30," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 20, 1972.

Littlefield died on September 15, 2018 in Americus.

Mosley, Crawford E. in 1985, Crawford Mosley was one of the first two people to receive the Founder's Award in Immokalee Lodge, Chehaw Council.

Morton, Billy Morton of Tifton was one of five known charter members of Immokalee Lodge in 1945.

Nexsen, W. E. on April 15, 1950, W. E. Nexsen became the first person to receive the Vigil Honor in Immokalee Lodge of Chehaw Council. For person information see his listing under Council Executives.

Senn, Chip was the first Tiger Cub in Chehaw Council when the program begain in 1982.[962]

Staley, Frank M., Jr. of Americus, became the first-ever black Boy Scout to achieve the Eagle rank from Southwest Georgia. He earned the rank on April 30 of 1945 as a member of Troop 200 from Americus, Georgia, Chehaw Council.[963]

Unruh, Carlton in 1985, Carlton Unruh was one of the first two people to receive the Founder's Award in Immokalee Lodge, Chehaw Council.

Wood, Luther, Jr. was one of five known charter members of Immokalee Lodge in 1945 and the Lodge's first Chief. He served from 1945 through 1947 as the Lodge Chief. He was an Eagle Scout from Albany, Georgia although he was born in Tallahassee, Florida. He died in 2008 and is buried at the Andersonville National Military Cemetery.

The Unsuccessful Attempts to Merge or Dissolve Chehaw Council

In the decade or more before the merger of Chehaw Council in 2012, the Council was purposed to be merged or dissolved at least three times. The exact chronological order of the events may not be correct, but each time Chehaw Council's financial situation went "in the red" the National Council would propose one or more mergers or dissolutions.

One such early proposal and probably the earliest was to merge with Alapaha Area Council. However, it was understood that Alapaha Area Council was not interested and the matter never proceeded to a formal proposal or a vote. Alapaha Area Council may not have been in any better financial shape than Chehaw Council, which would have also factored into the decision. Chehaw Council soon returned to a financially solvent position and the issue was dropped.

Another proposal, which was suggested when Chehaw Council was again out of money was to not renew the Council's charter. Thus, allowing the National Council to divide its territory between the surrounding Councils. The proposal was that the Albany District would become part of the Suwannee River Area Council of Tallahassee or possibly the Council from Dothan, Alabama. The Tifton District with Camp Osborn would join Alapaha Area Council. At the time,

962 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, July 25, 1982

963 The day and month are taken directly from the Eagle Scout Certificate of Frank M. Staley, Jr.

I (J. Michael Greene) was the District Chairman of the Thronateeska District (Americus) and the Section Director asked if I wanted the District to become part of Chattahoochee Council of Columbus or Central Georgia Council of Macon. As Camp Ben Hawkins of the Central Georgia Council was very close to the district, Central Georgia Council was chosen. However, Chehaw Council again became solvent and the issue was dropped.

The third proposal that was to have Chehaw Council merge with Alapaha Area Council and Okefenokee Area ,Council to form one large Council across South Georgia. But, a study of the costs of covering such a large area with professionals showed that there would be no financial savings. Therefore, the idea was dropped. Again, shortly thereafter Chehaw Council became solvent.

Wood Badge in Chehaw and Southwest Georgia Councils

Wood Badge was started in Chehaw Council in 1975. All Wood Badge courses held by Chehaw Council or Southwest Georgia Council were held at Camp Osborn. Joe Abernathy directed the first course, which was a week-long course at Camp Osborn in 1975. Bob Pomeroy directed the second course in 1977, which was the largest course ever and the first weekend course. Bob Pomery was the BSA Regional Director. He was invited by the council to come and scoutmaster the course since there was no person in the council that was qualified.

During SR 386 in 1982 Wood Badge, ashes from other past Wood Badge fires from around the world were added to the fire at Camp Osborn. Since 1975 Camp Osborn has hosted fourteen Wood Badge courses.

SE83 1975 Joe T. Abernathy (Director)

SE128 1976 Bob Pomeroy (Director), Jim Champion (Senior Patrol Leader)

SE141 1977 James H. Champion (Scoutmaster), Troy L. Bishop (ASM), Eddie Quinlan (SPL), T. Bonner Stewart (ASPL), Marvin Allen (CC), Alf Bell (CC), Barney Philpot (CC), Darrold Termunde (QM), Howard Unruh (AQM). Beaver Patrol: William M. Coleman, Art Dormady, Henry Erwin, and David Ray Hege. Bob White Patrol: Richard Burton, Lewis Carden, Greg Lewis, Tlmothy Range, and, George L. Young. Eagle Patrol: W. Wayne Barnette, Frank L. Davis, Jr., Billy Kimbrough. L. Travis Smith, and, Robert A. Tuggle.

SE241 1979 Troy Bishop (Scoutmaster), Joe Abernathy (ASM), Glen Hale (ASM), Darrold Termunde (SPL), Alf Bell (ASPL), William Coleman (CC), Ray Collins (CC), Travis Smith (CC), James Forsyth (CC), Bonner .Stewart (QM), Ben Andrews (AQM), and Joe C. Bishop (AQM). Beaver Patrol: Pat Attwater, Wayne Hill, Robert Marshall, Mike Pallo, and Bill Wages. Eagle Patrol: A1ice Haddock, Rodney Hutchinson, Wesley Kaylor, Paul Moore, Jr., Loy Morgan, and J.M. Rhodes. Bobwhite Patrol: Paige Bradford, Kennith Brown, Carlton Farmer, Dick Johnson, Miles Martin, Tim McRae, and Sylvester Zachery. Fox Patrol: John Balha, Richard Greene, Hal Haddock, Sam Irwin, Daryl Lacy, and Jack Smith.

SE 336 1982 Darrell Termunde (Scoutmaster), Derby Thompson (SPL), Jim Ralston (ASPL), Bill Coleman (ASM), Jim Forsyth (ASM), Richard Tyson (QM), Paige Bradford (QM), Steve Taylor (QM), Frederick Seig (CC), Jim Champion (CC), Ken Flanders (CC), Charlie Bausch

(CC), and Geoge Stough (CC). Beaver Patrol: James L. Smith, John Stacy, Judith A. Dolan, Carl V. Hancock, Jr., Doug Gruber, J. Edward Liedy. Bob White Patrol: Tim Lee, H. Eugene Stowell, Gene Googe, Marc A. Reid, Harry W. Shemery, Johnny Griner. Eagle Patrol: Clark Brookins, Carol B. Fincher, James R. Micklon, Richard A. Jones, Jack L. Hodges. Owl Patrol: John A. Ricks, Ed Bradshaw, Eddy Sagul, Billy L. Daniel, Diane Davis, Robert F. Gerbert. Fox Patrol: Elaine G. Stacy, Edward L. Patton, George Gray, John M. Brady, Shaun M. Raulston, Luther W. Jewell, Jr., Edward Neal Harvey, II.

SR37 1994 Derby Thompson (Scoutmaster). Beaver Patrol: Burt Bateas, Gregory Fullerton, Deron Hudley, Terry Innis, Phillip May, Kathy McClean, and, Michelle Smith. Bobwhite Patrol: G. R. Cason, D1mald Dudley, Glenda Littleton, Jim Mitchell, Ray Perkins, and Clyde Shamlee.

SR141 1996 Keith Pry (Scoutmaster), Jim Tolbert (ASM), L. J. Arnold (ASM), Jeff Scott (SPL), Keith Ransom (ASPL), Barbara Arnold (OM), Bruce Otruba (OM), Sam Thompson (Chef), Barney Knighton (TMC), Raymond Cason (CC), Kathy McClean (CC), Tnn McCrae (CC), Gary Cannon (CC), Rick Boyd (CC), and Blaine Stover (CC). Beaver Patrol: Barry Bell, Ken Breedlove, Eric Ginter, Betsy Miller, Joe Najjar, Greta Roddy, Raymond Teal. Bobwhite Patrol: Darlene Brown, Jjim Gegogeinw, Randall Goetz, Lloyd Graham, Wayne Joyce, Rhonda Pridgen, and Bobby Vaughn. Eagle Patrol: Bobby Boone, Bill Bean, Bud Ebaugh, Rick Jaramille, Lonnie Lewis, Chip Mattocks, Paul Sumner: Fox Patrol: Mike Ellis, Mary England, Larry Gray, Bennie Hall, Bill Rees, Amy Heidt, and Bruce Shearer

SR277 1999 Tolbert, Jim (Scoutmaster), Arnold, Barbara (CC), Arnold, L.J. (CC), Bell, Barry (CC), Burke, George (CC), Findley, John (ASPL), Ginter, Eric (AQM), Gray, Larry (AQM), Jackson, Joe, Klick, Ted, Knighton, Barney (QM), Najjar, Joe (ASM), Scott, Jeff (CC), Shearer, Bruce (ASM) , Thompson, Sam (SPL). Beaver Patrol: Erickson, Mari, Holt, Danny, Mi1lerd, Phil, Mohl, Robert, Najjar, Tony, Slenker, Bo. Bobwhite Patrol: Bopp, Lois, Crowell, John, Johnson, Mike, Mathews, Mitchell, Musgrove, Ernest, Taylor, Steve and Thompson, Coleta. Fox Patrol: Brock, Allen, Griffin, Kevin, Maw, Bryan, Tolman, Bin, and Turner, Ferrell. Bear Patrol: Bookout, Cindy, Canty, Vernice, Hazlett, Thom, Nelson, Tony, Rodgers, Randy, and Stone, Lamar. Buffalo Patrol: Brock, Ronda, Erickson, Dick, Fletcher, Clifford, Moffet, John, Truver, Rob, and Wilson, Travis

SR386 2001 Barbara Arnold (Scoutmaster), Arnold, L.J. (ASM), Najjar, Joe (ASM), Burke, George (ASM), Bookout, Cindy (ASM), Slenker, Bo (ASM), Gray, Larry (QM), Sumner, Paul (QM), Brock, Ronda (QM), Brock, Allen (QM), Ginter, Eric (SPL), Scott, Jeff (ASPL), Shearer, Bruce (CC), Wilson, Dale (CC), Bopp, Lois (CC) , Heidt, Amy (CC), Robinson, Kenny (CC), McRae, Tim (CC), Griner, Johnny (Ranger). Beaver Patrol: Garten, T.J., Lingefelt, Robert, Mathew, Lawrence, Nolan, Emmitt, Rackley, Labron, and Scott, Melissa. Bobwhite Patrol: Colter, Keith, Hall, Tony, Jones, Joseph, Reynolds, Ruby, and Rowe, Michelle. Bobwhite Patrol: Daniel, Skeeter, Ehrler, Kathy, Harris, Inez, Parker, Patric, Scott, Steve, Sparks, Roger, and Webb, Alan. Owl Patrol: Adkins, Michael, Andrews, Glenda, Blackmon, Jeff, Bonz, Patrick, Howell, Joel, Lunsford, Steve, Pettiford, Eugene, and Webb, Mercedes

SR642 200 Joe Najjar (Scoutmaster), Steve Scott, Bo Slenker, Dale Wilson, Mike Johnson, Amy Heidt, Paul Sumner, Tim McRae, Rod Hutchinson, Bruce Shearer, Sindy Tuller, and L. J. Arnold. Beaver Patrol: Bill Anderson, David Scott, Josh Moore, John Takash, and Alicia

Owens Shook, and, Derrell McGee. Eagle Patrol: Terry Fennell, Melvin Hines, Jason Clements, Rob Scott, Janette Abernathy, and Michelle Willis. Bob White Patrol: Mark Barrett, John Cirone, Renea Fennll, Linda A leman, Wade Crozier, and, Ned Newcomb. Fox Patrol: Becky McFarling, Lloyd Myers, Clifford Williams, Jason Martin, Eric Hermann, and Floyd Wilson.

SR742 2006 L. J. Arnold (Scoutmaster)

SR883 2008 Tim McRea (Scoutmaster), Raymond Teal (TG), Mike Johnson (TG), Clay Chester(TG), Benny Hall (TG), and, Dale Wilson (TG). Beaver Patrol: Aron Bensonhaver, Andy Sparling, Bill Mitchell, Ellis "Bob" Jackson, Teresa Crawford, and, Tony Crowder. Bob White Patrol: Billy Culpepper, Brent Williams, Bryan Kelley, Marie Jones, Otis Tookes, and, Steve Owens. Eagle Patrol: Andrew Horne, Bill Waller, Charles Lackey, James Hussion, Jason Crowell, and, Roger Cherry. Fox Patrol: Chuck Phelps, David Workman, Grant Johnson, Phillip Millerd, and, Rick Bishop. Owl Patrol: Carol Burnham, Jerame Goodman, Michael Aultman, Michael Harris, and, Richard Garrett.

SR1030 2010 Bo Slingter (Scoutmaster), Jermane Goodman (Guide), Michelle Willis (Giude), Mike Pepito (Guide), Dale Wilson (Guide). Owl Patrol: Paul Brown, Douglas Jamieson, Preston Parker, Han Schmeisser, and, Lavern Watson. Bear Patrol: Amy Bacon, Stephen Butler, Chris Chappell, Jill Cribbs, and, Roland McCarthy. Buffalo Patrol: Kevin Kirkland, Duane Montgomery, Rodney Wall, Edward Williams, and John Wilson. Antelope Patrol: Mike May, Vickie Souther, Douglas Spink, Jay Williams, and, Camron Wilson.

S9-97 2012 Paul Sumner (Scoutmaster), Heidt, Amy (SPL), Sumner, Paul (ASM), Johnson, Mike (ASM), Hall, Bennie (ASM), Pepito, DeAnn (ASM), Scott, Steve (ASM), Crowder, Tony (QM), Crawford, Mark (AQM), Barrett, Mark (Scribe), Crawford, Teresa (Asst Scribe), Owens, Steve (TG), Chester, Clay (ASM), Pepito, Mike (TG), Newcomb, Ned (TG), Sears, Robert (TG), Workman, David (TG), Goodman, Jerame (ASM), Willis, Michelle (TG), Wilson, Dale (ASM), Copstias, Ken (Alternate Instructor), Ellis, Mike (Staff Chef/ Instructor), Phelps, Chuck (Cook Staff), Waller, Bill (Cook Staff), Kelly, Bryan (Cook Staff), Jones

Table 1

Council Executives

(Through the merger of Chehaw Council in 2012)

Aumuckalee Council

Silas Johnson	1922	1 Year

Nochaway Council

Wesley M. Bagby	December, 1920 to March, 1925	4 Years
John C. Gamble	March, 1925 to April, 1925	0 Years
James H. Gillion	April, 1925 to 1927	2 Years
Mercer Sherman	1927 to 1930	3 Years

Chehaw Council

W. (Welty) Y. Compton	May 30, 1939 to September, 1944	6 Years
Heidt S. Swearingen	October, 1944 to 1949	5 Years
W. E. Nexsen	1949 to 1962	13 Years
Josh Molder	January 1, 1963 to March, 1971	8 Years
Wofford E. Malphrus	March, 1971 to December 1, 1979	8 Years
Ledley B. (Bud) Symmes, Jr.	December, 1979 to November 1, 1983	4 Years
Tom Dugger	November 1, 1983 to New Council	See next

Southwest Georgia Council

Tom Dugger	From Past Council to 1987	4 Years
Sam Richmond	1987 to December 11, 1989	2 Years
Arnold Landry	December 11, 1989 to 1993	4 Years
Ted Klick	August, 1993 to July, 2002	9 Years
David L. Foil	2002 to New Council	See next

Chehaw Council

David L. Foil	*From Past Council* to 2006	4 Years
Ray Allen	2006 to January, 2012	6 Years
None[964]	January, 2012 to November, 2012	1 Year

[964] Preston Parker was a District Executive and the sole Chehaw Council professional on staff from mid-January, 2012 until the merger. Therefore, he was the defacto Council Executive for almost 1 year; although, he did not hold the title.

Table 2
Council Presidents

Aumuckalee Council

T. M. Furlow	Americus	1921
R. P. Glenn	Americus	1922

Nochaway Council

Daniel H. Redfearn	Albany	1920 & 1921
Gordon E. Reynolds		1922, 1923 & 1924
J. S. Billingslea		1925
W. B. Haley		1926
Frank B. Wood		1927, 1928 & 1929

Chehaw Council and Southwest Georgia Council[965]

J. W. Bush	Albany	1939 & 1940
L. M. Smith	Albany	1941 & 1942
W. R. Turner	Cordele	1943, 1944 & 1945
James R. Blair	Americus	1946
G. C. McKenzie	Ashburn	1947 & 1948
Frank J. Lunsford	Leary	1949 & 1950
Roger H. Dickinson	Albany	1951
John T. Phillips, Sr.	Albany	1952 & 1953
R. E. McTigue	Albany	1954 & 1955
Leo Leader		1956 & 1957
Elston Johnson	Tifton	1958 & 1959
Chester O. Lee		1960 & 1961
William. J. Boswell		1962
Keith Reyher		1963 & 1964
Don Robert Farr	Americus	1965 & 1966
Raymond A. Hudson		1967 & 1968

[965] An article in the *Americus Times-Recorder* on February 10, 1955 reviews the history of Chehaw Council. However, the list of past Presidents is inaccurate and should not be relied upon. "Boy Scout Banquet," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 10, 1955.

B. J. Sumner	Tifton	1969, 1970 & 1971
Ben M. Turner	Cordele	1972 & 1973
George B. Plummer	Albany	1974 & 1975
Frank D. Koran	Tifton	1976 & 1977
Milton C. Sterling		1978 & 1979
Eley C. Frazer, III	Albany	1980, 1981 & 1982
Frank A. Wilson, III	Leslie	1983
Max Corner		1984 & 1985
Mark Pirrung		1986 & 1987
Bruce Smith		1988 - 1989
John L. Moulton		1990 - 1991
Greg Fullerton	Albany	1992 - 1995
Lem Griffin	Albany	1996 - 1998
Richard Crozier	Americus	1999 - 2001
Bruce Shearer	Albany	2002 - 2003
Carl Hancock	Albany	2004, 2005 & 2006
Joe Najjar	Albany	2007, 2008 & 2009
Clay Chester	Albany	2010, 2011 & 2012

Table 3

Other Chehaw Council Professionals

(In alphabetical Order)

Adkins, Michael	Thronateeska District	2000 - 2003
Baker, Dale	Kolomoki District	1981
Barth, Charles	Field Director	1982
Bean, William	Tifton DE	1995
Bennett, Todd Robert	Thronateeska DE	1996 - 2000
Bensonhaver, Aaron	Aguila & Southwest Districts	2007 - 2009
Brashear, William	Blackshear District, East District	1983
Cendroski, Ed	Kolomoki District	1983
Cox, Jerome Wesley	East & West District Executive	1956 - 1958
Davidson, Buddy	Central District	1964 - 1965
Davis, Gordon	Flint District	1966 – 1984
Dean, William	District Executive	1995
Densley, Ronald C.	East District	1972
Ellis, Ralph	Field Director, Northern Chehaw	1943 – 1945
Erikson, Steve	Central District	1986 - 1989
Ford, Wesley	Southeast District	1988
Goodwin, W. L. Jr.	Central District	1988
Graff, William C (Bill)	East District	1967 - 1972
Griffin, Kevin	DE Achewon/Tifton	1997 - 1999
Hall, Toney	DE Worth County	2001
Hart, Ed	NE & SW Districts	1997
Hartman, Earl K.	Blackshear, East	1982 - 1983
Harvey, Edward (Ed) Neal II	Kinchalee District	1981 - 1984
Hayes, Jim	Northeast District	1992
Helms, J. B.	Field Executive	1949
Knowlton, David	East District	1967
LaGrange, Frank	Agulia DE	1997
Lee, Tim	Kolomoki District	1981 - 1983
Lovelace, Brooks W., Jr.	Central (Nochaway) District	1969-1972
Meyers, Lloyd	DE Tifton	2004
Parker, Preston	Thronateeska (Chehaw) & Chehaw (SGaC)	2012 - 2016
Philpot, Barney	East, Blackshear Trails	1981
Powell, Jade	Thronateeska District	2009
Ransdell, Paul	Northeast District	1988
Recor, James O	Sr. DE Albany	1995
Redgrave, Ann	Americus DE	1995
Renshaw, Parke	Field Director	1943
Riley, Mark	Northeast District	1989 - 1990
Sanders, Michael/Mitchell	Southeast District	1992
Schoeffler, Ron	East District	1974
Stott, James R.	Field Executive, Northern Chehaw	1948

Shelton, Mary Alice	Pathfinder District	1983
Shumack, Max	Lake District	1964 - 1967
Simmons, Mike	Southeast District	1989 - 1990
Smith, Larry	Central & SW DE; Asst CE 1992	1989 - 1992
Smith, Paul A.	Assistant Scout Executive	1941 - 1943
Smithwick, Jimmie	Field Executive	1949
Snead, Jim	East District	1962 – 1966
Snipes, Henry	Field Executive, Northern Chehaw	1945-1947
Stacey, John	Southwest District	1988
Starrett, Leroy	Field Director	1950s
Taylor, Andy	Thronateeska District	2003 – 2008
Taylor, Steve	Pathfinder District	1981
Teeter, Jim	East District	1959 - 1962
Tillery, Reid	Lake District	1974
Tripp, Gil	Lake District	1967 - 1970s
Tuggle, Robert A.	DE	1976 – 1979
Tuten, Bruce	Field Director	1979 - 1982
Tyson, Ronald	DE & Asst. CE	1961-64 1967-69
Warren, B. T.	Unknown Title	1949
Weldy, Bob	Blackshear Trails, East, Kinchalee	1981 – 1982
Wheeler, Harry	Field Executive East & Lake Districts (August, 1951[966]-1956)[967]	1951 – 1956
Will, Frank	Central District	1967 - 1968
Willliams, Russell A.	Lake District	1958
Wilson, David	Aguila District	2005

966 "Harry Wheeler Recalls Scouting Days With Carter," Citrus County Chronical, February 3, 1977

967 "Early Bird Breakfast," Sylvster Local, October 11, 1956.

Table 4

Known Districts and District Chairman of Chehaw Council

District	1941	1944	1947
Calhoun	D. J. Salter		
Clay		F. A. Graham	
Crisp-Dooly	W. H. Johnson	M. E. Peavy	Ben M. Turner
Dougherty-Lee	W. H. Burt	A. W. Muse	Earl L. Speer
Early	Guy Maddox		
Mitchell North		Frank Twitty	George J. Joiner
Mitchell South		H. C. Harris	P. B. Stephens
Nochaway			Frank Gilmore
Sumter (-Schley)	James R. Blair	James R. Blair	Schley Gatewood, Sr.
Terrell	Henry Jennings		H. A. Wilkinson
Three-Notch			L. Stein
Tift	Ralph Puckett	Ralph Puckett	Lennon E. Bowen
Turner		G. C. McKenzie	L. L. Burdette
Worth	C. A. Alford	P. M. Lancaster	Joseph S. Cook

District	1949
Calhoun	
Clay	Norman R. Hawley
Crisp-Dooly	W. A. Banks
Dougherty-Lee	R. H. Conrad
Early	P. B. Stephens
Mitchell North	William S. Israel
Mitchell South	A. W. Schmidt
Nochaway	H. A. Wilkinson
Sumter (-Schley)	Joseph C. Logan
Terrell	A. B. Phillips
Three-Notch	A. L. Pritchett
Tift	A. W. Greene
Turner	
Worth	

District	1950	1951	1953
Crisp	Norman R. Hawley	Cecil Pate	E. C. Coleman
Desoto (Early)		Phillip Sheffield	Phillip Sheffield
Dooly	Robert Harmon	W. E. Griffin	
Dougherty-Lee	R. E. McTigue	Leo Leader	A. E. Dubber
Mitchell	R. E. Bellamy	C. W. Harwell	J. E. Vann
Nochaway	William S. Israel		
Sumter	Luther Bell	Roy Parrish	Horace Odum
Terrell		John Payne	
Three-Notch	Julian Moore		
Tift	Homer M. Rankin	John H. Peterson	R. M. Kinnon
Turner	J. A. Wurst	R. E. Blue	
Worth	J. A. Banks	Walker Camp	

District	1955	1958
Central (Lee, Dougherty, Terrell, & Mitchell)	L. D. Hand	Chester O. Lee
East (Tift, Turner, & Worth)	R. M. Kennon	William T. Smith, Jr.
North (Crisp, Dooly, Schley, & Sumter)	George Teaford	George Mixon
West (Miller, Early, Calhoun, & Clay	Russell Mansfield	*Merged into Central*

District	1969	1971
Central (Albany Area)	R. A. Brown	R. A. Brown
East (Tifton Area)	T. Bonner Stewart	Fred Nelson
Lake (Americus & Cordele Area)		Harold Johnson
Flint (Black scouts for entire Council)		Henry F. Gilmore

District (To 6 Districts in 1975)	1975
District #1 (West Dougherty & Baker)	
District #2 (Sumter, Schley, Lee & Terrell)	Bill Wages
District #3 (Tift & Turner)	H. C. Barber
District #4 (E. Dougherty, Mitchell, S. Worth)	
District #5 (Crisp, Dooly, Wilcox, N. Worth)	
District #6 (Calhoun, Clay, Early & Miller)	

District (To 4 Districts in 1984)	1986	1992
Central (Albany Area)	Doug Parker	Vic Sullivan
Northeast(Americus & Cordele Area)	George Teaford	Bill Krenson
Southeast (Tifton Area)	Jack Perry	Jeff Lawhorn
Southwest	Marvin Singletary	George Loyed

District	2004	2008	2012
Achewon (Tifton)			
Aguila (Albany)	Ritchey Marbury		
Thornateeska (Americus)	Mike Greene	Wade Barr	John Carroll
Choc-Taw (Southwest Counties)	N/A		

Table 5

Known Sumter County District Officers

1939	Phil Jones[968]	Chairman
	O. L. Evans[969]	District Commissioner
1940	Phil Jones[970]	Chairman
	O. L. Evans[971]	District Commissioner
	W. R. (Bob) Morton[972]	Deputy District Commissioner
	O. L. Dixon, Jr.[973]	Deputy District Commissioner
	R. H. Comer[974]	Deputy District Commissioner
	M. P. Cain[975]	Dean of Merit Badge College
	James Buchanan	Organizing Chairman
	James R. Blair	Leadership Training
	Evan Mathis	Finance Chairman
	James Collins	Advancement Chairman
1941	James R. Blair[976]	Chairman
	O. L. Evans[977]	District Commissioner[978]
	W. R. (Bob) Morton	Deputy District Commissioner[979]
	O. L. Dixon, Jr.	Deputy District Commissioner
	James Buchanan	Organizing Chairman
	Mark Anthony	Leadership Training
	Evan Mathis	Finance Chairman
	A. C. Primrose	Advancement Chairman
1942	James R. Blair	Chairman
	O. L. Evans[980]	District Commissioner Emeritus[981]
1943	James R. Blair	Chairman
	O. L. Evans[982]	District Commissioner Emeritus[983]

968 "Four Become Eagle Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 9, 1939.
969 "Evans is Scout Commissioner," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 7, 1939.
970 "Four Become Eagle Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 9, 1939.
971 "Evans is Scout Commissioner," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 7, 1939.
972 "Scout Leaders to Attend Scout Meeting," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 23, 1940.
973 "Scouts to Attend Church Service," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 10, 1940.
974 "Comer Named Scout Leader," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 19, 1940.
975 "Counselors are Named," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 25, 1940.
976 "Congressman Pace Lauds Scout Program, *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 7, 1940.
977 "Evans is Scout Commissioner," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 7, 1939.
978 "Neckerchief Styles," *Americus Times-Recorder*, September 3, 1941.
979 "Scout Week Planned Here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 4, 1941.
980 "Evans is Scout Commissioner," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 7, 1939.
981 "McCrary New Leader of Scout Troop 23," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 25, 1942.
982 "Evans is Scout Commissioner," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 7, 1939.
983 "44 Scouts to Attend Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 14, 1943.

1944	James R. Blair[984]	Chairman
	A. C. Primrose	Vice-Chairman
	J. E. B. McLendon	Treasurer
	Fred Speer	District Commissioner
	O. L. Evans[985]	District Commissioner Emeritus
1945	W. R. (Bob) Morton[986]	Chairman
	W. P. White	Vice-Chairman
	Fred Speer	District Commissioner[987]
	O. L. Evans[988]	District Commissioner Emeritus[989]
1946	W. P. White	Chairman
	Harold White	Vice-Chairman
	Coleman Speer	District Commissioner[990]
1947	Schley Gatewood, Sr.	District Chairman[991]
	Hulme Kinnebrew	Vice-Chairman[992]
	Charlie Keefer	District Commissioner[993]
1948	H. K. Undercofler	District Chairman[994]
	Hulme Kinnebrew	Vice-Chairman
	Charlie Keefer	District Commissioner
	William L. Tietjen	Cub Scout Commissioner[995]
1949	Joseph C. Logan	District Chairman[996]
	A. W. Schmidt	Vice-Chairman
	George Erwin	District Commissioner
	William L. Tietjen	Cub Scout Commissioner[997]
1950	A. W. Schmidt	District Chairman[998]
	Randolph Stackhouse	Vice-Chairman
	Luther Bell	District Commissioner
1951	Luther Bell	District Chairman[999]

984 "Annual Scout Meeting is Held," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 1, 1944.
985 "Evans is Scout Commissioner," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 7, 1939.
986 It appears that the district became the Sumter-Schley District in 1945. "Boy Scout Court of Honor Tonight," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 26, 1946.
987 "Morton to Head Sumter District Scout Committee," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 11, 1944.
988 "Evans is Scout Commissioner," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 7, 1939.
989 "Sumter Scouts Plan Three-Day Patrol Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 4, 1945.
990 "W. P. White to Head Scouting Here in 1946," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 11, 1945.
991 "Dr. Gatewood Heads Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 12, 1946.
992 "District Scout Camporee," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 27, 1947.
993 "Undercofler Heads Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 9, 1947.
994 "Undercofler Heads Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 9, 1947.
995 "Scout Movie on Cubbing will be Shown," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 25, 1948.
996 "Logan to Head Scout District," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 16, 1948.
997 "Cub Scouts," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 12, 1949.
998 "A. W. Schmidt Heads District Boy Scout Group," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 29, 1949.
999 "Luther Bell to Head Scouts Here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 22, 1950.

	Rily McMath	District Commissioner[1000]
1952	Roy Parish	District Chairman[1001]
1953	Roy Parish	District Chairman[1002]
	Steve Pace, Jr.	Vice-Chairman
	Roy Parker	District Commissioner
1954	Horace Odum	District Chairman[1003]
	John Oxford	Vice-Chairman
	William Wallis	District Commissioner[1004]
1955	George Teaford	District Chairman[1005]
	Allen Burson	Vice-Chairman[1006]
	John T. Williams	District Commissioner[1007]
1956	George Teaford & Preston Cobb (by October)	District Chairman[1008]
	Allen Burson	Vice-Chairman
	Ben M. Turner[1009] (thru January) & Don Farr[1010]	District Commissioner
1957	Don Farr	District Chairman[1011]
1958	Don Farr	District Chairman[1012]
	John Flatt	Vice-Chairman[1013]
1959	George Mixon	District Chairman[1014]
1960	Henry Collier	District Chairman[1015]
1961	Henry Collier	District Chairman[1016]
1962	Lynn Fowler	District Chairman[1017]
	Larry Alford	District Commissioner[1018]
1963		District Chairman
1964	Tom Gailey	District Chairman[1019]

1000 "Luther Bell to Head Scouts Here," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 22, 1950.
1001 "Parrish to Head Scouters Again," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 12, 1952.
1002 "Parrish to Head Scouters Again," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 12, 1952.
1003 "Boy Scout Work," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 15, 1953.
1004 "Scout Leaders Set Roundtable," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 20, 1954.
1005 "George Teaford to Head New Scout District," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 16, 1954.
1006 "Scouts Re-Name Teaford Chairman," *Americus Times-Recorder*, Novmeber 17, 1955.
1007 "George Teaford to Head New Scout District," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 16, 1954.
1008 "Scouts Re-Name Teaford Chairman," *Americus Times-Recorder*, Novmeber 17, 1955; "Kohlhase Local Scout Chairman, *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 8, 1956.
1009 "Scouts Re-Name Teaford Chairman," *Americus Times-Recorder*, Novmeber 17, 1955.
1010 "Locals Attend Scout Session." *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 14, 1956.
1011 "Local Scouters Attend Dinner," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February, 1957.
1012 The assumption that Don Farr served is based upon "Tifton Man Heads Chehaw Council," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 15, 1957.
1013 "Tifton Man Heads Chehaw Council," *Americus Times-Recorder*, December 15, 1957.
1014 "Chehaw Re-Elects Johnson," *The Albany Herald*, December 12, 1958.
1015 "75 From Americus at Scout Dinner," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 19, 1960.
1016 "Baldwin to Head Annual Boy Scout Fund Drive," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 22, 1961.
1017 "Local Citizens Attend Albany Scout Dinner," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 12, 1962.
1018 "District Scout Group Meets," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 16, 1962.
1019 "New Boy Scout Executive Hired," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 26, 1964.

1965	Tom Gailey	District Chairman[1020]
1966	Langdon (Lang) Sheffield	District Chairman[1021]
1967	Tom Gailey	District Chairman[1022]
1968		
1969	Jimmy Buchanan	District Chairman[1023]
1970		
1971	Harold Johnson	District Chairman[1024]
	John Roberts	District Commissioner
1972	Ted Baldwin	District Chairman[1025]
1973		
1974		
1975	Bill Wages	District Chairman[1026]
1976	Wayne Woodward	District Chairman[1027]
1977		
1978		
1979		
1980		
1981	Wade Barr	
1982	John Rivers	
1983	Winston Oxford	
1984	Wade Barr & David Rainwater	
1985		
1986	George Teaford	District Chairman[1028]
	Jimmy Tindol	District Commissioner
1987		
1988	George Teaford	District Chairman[1029]
	Jimmy Tindol	District Commissioner
1989	Ricky Arnold	District Chairman[1030]
1990		
1991		
1992	Bill Krenson	District Chairman[1031]

1020 "Extension of Scouting in Local Area Studied," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 25, 1965.
1021 "Locals Attend Scout Meeting," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June 7, 1966.
1022 "Fund Leader," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 26, 1967.
1023 "Eagle Scout Davis," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 29, 1969.
1024 From a 1970 Chehaw Council "Drum Beat."
1025 From the 1972 Chehaw Council Banquet program, February 17, 1972.
1026 "Five Receive Silver Beaver Awards Here," *The Albany Herald*, February 23, 1975.
1027 "Silver Beaver Awards," *The Albany Herald*, February 15, 1976.
1028 *News of Scouting*, Southwest Georgia Council, May 1, 1986.
1029 Immokalee Lodge Planning Book, 1988.
1030 *Southwest Georgia Scouter*, Southwest Georgia Council, August-September, 1989.
1031 *The Square Knot*, Southwest Georgia Council, Summer, 1992.

	Debbie Bissett	District Commissioner
1993		
1994	Richard Crozier	District Chairman[1032]
1995		
1996		
1997		
1998		
1999		
2000		
2001		
2002		
2003	Bill Krenson	District Chairman
2004	J. Michael (Mike) Greene	District Chairman
	Bo Slenker	District Commissioner
2005	J. Michael (Mike) Greene	District Chairman
	Bo Slenker	District Commissioner
2006	J. Michael (Mike) Greene	District Chairman
	Joe Jones	District Commissioner
2007	J. Michael (Mike) Greene	District Chairman
2008	Shearer Turton (part year) & Wade Barr	District Chairman
	Michele Lingefelt	District Commissioner
2009	John Carroll	District Chairman
2010	John Carroll	District Chairman
2011	John Carroll	District Chairman
2012	John Carroll	District Chairman
	Shearer Turton	District Commissioner
2013	J. Michael (Mike) Greene	District Chairman
	Melissa Kirkland	District Commissioner
2014	J. Michael (Mike) Greene	District Chairman
	Melissa Ginter (fna Kirkland)	District Commissioner

[1032] Program from the 1994 Silver Beaver Program, February 1994.

Table 6

District Executives for Sumter County

Ellis, Ralph	Northern Chehaw	1943 - 1945
Snipes, Henry	Northern Chehaw	1945 - 1947
James R. Stott	Northern Chehaw	1948 - 1951
Wheeler, Harry	Northern Chehaw	1951 - 1957
Russell A. Williams	Lake District	1957 - 1961
Tyson, Ron	Lake District	1961 - 1964
Shumack, Max	Lake District	1964 - 1967
Tripp, Gil	Lake District	1967 - 1973
Braun, P. T.	Lake District	1973 - 1973
Tillery, Reid	Lake District	1974 – 19??
	Missing Executives	
Hayes, Jim	Northeast District	By 1992 - 1996
Bennett, Todd Robert	Thronateeska District	1996 - 2000
Adkins, Michael	Thronateeska District	2000 - 2005
Taylor, Andy	Thronateeska District	2005 - 2008
Powell, Jade	Thronateeska District	2009 – 2010
Walbridge, Brad	Thronateeska District	2010 - 2012
Parker, Preston	District 3, South Georgia Council	Nov. 2012 – Dec. 2012
Parker, Preston	Chehaw District , South Georgia Council	2013 -

Table 7
Georgia Councils[1033]
By Date Created

Number	Name	Formed	Closed	Changed To
92	Atlanta	1915	1939	Changed Name to Atlanta Area 92
98	Columbus	1919	1923	Changed Name to Muscogee County 98
95	Floyd County	1919	1923	Changed Name to Cherokee 95
96	Macon	1919	1923	Changed Name to Central Georgia 96
93	Augusta	1920	1925	Changed Name to Richmond County 93
100	Nochaway	1920	1929	Closed. Run by Direct Service. 1930
99	Savannah	1920	1923	Merged into Chatham County 99
	Aumuckalee	1921	1922	Merged into Nochaway 100
	Okefenokee	1921	1922	Became Okefenokee Area 758
	McIntosh County	1922	1923	Merged into Chatham County 99
101	Northeast Georgia	1922	1931	Changed Name to Gainesville Area 428
101	Ococah	1922	1924	Changed Name to Northeast Georgia 101
96	Central Georgia	1923		
99	Chatham County	1923	1942	Changed Name to Empire 99
94	Chattahoochee	1923	1950	Changed Name to George H. Lanier 94
95	Cherokee	1923	1923	Changed Name to Floyd County 95
95	Floyd County	1923	1925	Absorbed into Atlanta 92 in 1929
98	Muscogee County	1923	1925	Changed Name to Columbus Area 98
98	Columbus Area	1925	1930	Closed. Run by Direct Service 1930
93	Richmond County	1925	1929	Changed Name to Augusta Area 93
758	Okefenokee Area	1926	2014	Merged with Coastal Empire 3/1/2014 to form Coastal Georgia (#99)
755	Withlacocchee	1926	1930	Absorbed by Okefenokee Area 758
95	Griffin Area	1927	1930	Changed Name to Flint River 95
428	Gainesville Area	1928	1932	Closed. Run by Direct Service. July 1933
93	Augusta Area	1929	1941	Changed Name to Georgia-Carolina 93
95	Flint River	1930		
100	Northwest Georgia	1932		
91	Georgia-Alabama	1934	1964	Merged into Chattahoochee 91
101	Northeast Georgia	1935		
92	Atlanta Area	1939		
97	Chehaw	1939	1984	Changed Name to Southwest Georgia 97
93	Georgia-Carolina	1941		
99	Coastal Empire	1942	2014	Merged with Okefenokee 3/1/2014 to form Coastal Georgia (#99)
90	West Georgia	1946	1964	Merged into Chattahoochee 91
94	George H. Lanier	1950	1989	Merged into Chattahoochee 91
98	Alapaha Area	1960	2012	Merged into South Georgia Council 98
91	Chattahoochee	1964		
97	Southwest Georgia	1984	2005	Changed Name to Chehaw 97

[1033] Both tables of Georgia Councils are from a list of all BSA Councils (not just Georgia) that I was given by the person who did the research. Regretfully, I cannot remember his name to give him the credit he deserves.

97	Chehaw	2005	2012	Changed name from Southwest Georgia 97 Merged into South Georgia Council 98
98	South Georgia Council	2012		Formed November 1, 2012 from the merger of Alapaha Area Council and Chehaw Council using the temporary name South Georgia Council. January 12, 2013, the name South Georgia Council was made the permanent name.
99	Coastal Georgia	2014		From the 3/1/2014 merger of Coastal Empire (98) and Okefenokee Area (758)

Table 8
Georgia Councils
By Name

Number	Name	Formed	Closed	Changed To
98	Alapaha Area	1960	2012	Merged into South Georgia Council 98
92	Atlanta	1915	1939	Changed Name to Atlanta Area 92
92	Atlanta Area	1939		
93	Augusta	1920	1925	Changed Name to Richmond County 93
93	Augusta Area	1929	1941	Changed Name to Georgia-Carolina 93
	Aumuckalee	1921	1922	Merged into Nochaway 100
96	Central Georgia	1923		
99	Chatham County	1923	1942	Changed Name to Empire 99
94	Chattahoochee	1923	1950	Changed Name to George H. Lanier 94
91	Chattahoochee	1964		
97	Chehaw	1939	1984	Changed Name to Southwest Georgia 97
97	Chehaw	2005	2012	Changed name from Southwest Georgia 97 Merged into South Georgia Council 98
95	Cherokee	1923	1923	Changed Name to Floyd County 95
99	Coastal Empire	1942	2014	Merged with Okefenokee 3/1/2014 to form Coastal Georgia (#99)
99	Coastal Georgia	2014		From the 3/1/2014 merger of Coastal Empire (98) and Okefenokee Area (758)
98	Columbus	1919	1923	Changed Name to Muscogee County 98
98	Columbus Area	1925	1930	Closed. Run by Direct Service 1930
95	Flint River	1930		
95	Floyd County	1919	1923	Changed Name to Cherokee 95
95	Floyd County	1923	1925	Absorbed into Atlanta 92 in 1929
428	Gainesville Area	1928	1932	Closed. Run by Direct Service. July 1933
94	George H. Lanier	1950	1989	Merged into Chattahoochee 91
91	Georgia-Alabama	1934	1964	Merged into Chattahoochee 91
93	Georgia-Carolina	1941		
95	Griffin Area	1927	1930	Changed Name to Flint River 95
96	Macon	1919	1923	Changed Name to Central Georgia 96
	McIntosh County	1922	1923	Merged into Chatham County 99
98	Muscogee County	1923	1925	Changed Name to Columbus Area 98
100	Nochaway	1920	1929	Closed. Run by Direct Service. 1930
101	Northeast Georgia	1922	1931	Changed Name to Gainesville Area 428
101	Northeast Georgia	1935		
100	Northwest Georgia	1932		
101	Ococah	1922	1924	Changed Name to Northeast Georgia 101
	Okefenokee	1921	1922	Became Okefenokee Area 758
758	Okefenokee Area	1926	2014	Merged with Coastal Empire 3/1/2014 to form Coastal Georgia (#99)
93	Richmond County	1925	1929	Changed Name to Augusta Area 93
99	Savannah	1920	1923	Merged into Chatham County 99

98	South Georgia Council	2012		Formed November 1, 2012 from the merger of Alapaha Area Council and Chehaw Council using the temporary name South Georgia Council. January 12, 2013, the name South Georgia Council was made the permanent name.
97	Southwest Georgia	1984	2005	Changed Name to Chehaw 97
90	West Georgia	1946	1964	Merged into Chattahoochee 91
755	Withlacocchee	1926	1930	Absorbed by Okefenokee Area 758

Table 9
Summer Camps

Year	Where	Who	Camp Director
	Third Congressional District & Aumuckalee Council Summer Camps		
1919	Wells' Mill, Sumter County, Georgia	Americus Scouts	Silas Johnson
1920	Magnolia Springs, Sumter County, Georgia	Americus Scouts	Silas Johnson
1921	Camp Friendship (Northeast Georgia Council)	Aumuckalee	N/A
1922	Magnolia Springs, Sumter County, Georgia	Aumuckalee	Unknown
	Nochaway Council Summer Camps (Each Camp known as Camp Nochaway)		
1921	Barnet's Mill Bridge, Baker County, Georgia	Nochaway	W. M. Bagby
1922	Barnet's Mill Bridge, Baker County, Georgia	Nochaway	W. M. Bagby
1923	Rhodes Ferry, Seminole County, Georgia	Nochaway	T. M. Ticknor
1924	Crystal Lake, Irwin County, Georgia	Nochaway	*Unknown*
1925	Crystal Lake, Irwin County, Ga & Lake Bradford, Fl	Nochaway	*Unknown*
1926	Lake Walters, Baker County, Georgia	Nochaway	W. A. Muse
1927	Rawson Farm, Lee County, Georgia	Nochaway	*Unknown*
1928	Kinchafoonee Creek, Lee County, Georgia	Nochaway	*Unknown*
1929	None	Nochaway	*None*
	Nochaway Council Closes and Area Goes on Direct Service		
1930	None	Americus Scouts	N/A
1931	None	Americus Scouts	N/A
1932	Camp Shehaw	Americus Scouts	J. S. Burton
1933	Camp Shehaw	Americus Scouts	J. S. Burton
1934	Camp Shehaw	Americus Scouts	Troop SMs
1935	Camp Shehaw	Americus Scouts	W. E. Gear
1936	Camp Shehaw	Americus Scouts	O. L. Evans
1937	Camp Shehaw	Americus Scouts	Tallmadge DeWitt
1938	Camp Shehaw	Americus Scouts	Ralph Williams
1939	Camp Shehaw	Americus Scouts	Bill Cumbaa
1930	*Unknown*	Albany Scouts	*Unknown*
1931	*Unknown*	Albany Scouts	*Unknown*
1932	*Unknown*	Albany Scouts	*Unknown*
1933	*Unknown*	Albany Scouts	*Unknown*
1934	*Unknown*	Albany Scouts	*Unknown*
1935	*Unknown*	Albany Scouts	*Unknown*
1936	*Unknown*	Albany Scouts	*Unknown*
1937	*Unknown*	Albany Scouts	*Unknown*
1938	*Unknown*	Albany Scouts	*Unknown*
1939	*Unknown*	Albany Scouts	*Unknown*

1937	Camp Thronateeska	Cordele Scouts	L. E. Culberson
1938	Camp Thronateeska	Cordele Scouts	Bill Gaeslin
1939	Camp Thronateeska	Cordele Scouts	Clyde Wilson, Jr.

	Chehaw Council Opens (District Camps No Longer Listed)		
Year[1034]	**Where**	**Who**	**Camp Director**
	Camp Chehaw		
1940	Graves Springs, Lee County, Georgia	Chehaw Council	C. J. Bott
	Camp Shehaw		
1941	Camp Shehaw [1035]	Chehaw Council	Paul Smith
1942	Camp Shehaw [1036]	Chehaw Council	Paul Smith
	Camp Osborn		
1943	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Paul Smith
1944	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Ralph Ellis
1945	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Parke Renshaw
1946	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1947	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Henry Snipes[1037]
1948	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Henry Snipes[1038] J. B Helms[1039]
1949	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1950	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Leroy Starrett
1951	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Leroy Starrett
1952	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Leroy Starrett
1953	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1954	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1955	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1956	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1957	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Leroy Starrett
1958	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Mr. Russell
1959	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Jim Snead
1960	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1961	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1962	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1963	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Leroy Starrett

1034 Chehaw Council opened June 15, 1939, which was not in time to run a summer camp. Consequently, 1939 is listed under the District/County camps.

1035 Chehaw Council used the Sumter District's Camp Shehaw as the council camp in 1941 & 1942.

1036 Chehaw Council used the Sumter District's Camp Shehaw as the council camp in 1941 & 1942.

1037 "Chehaw Scouts Enjoy Summer Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, 1947.

1038 Informatioin provided by Bill Huggins on August 27, 2008.

1039 New Scout Camp Opens," *The Atlanta Journal*, June 6th, 1948

1964	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Buddy Davidson
1965	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Jim Snead[1040]
1966	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Jim Snead
1967	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1968	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Ron Tyson[1041]
1969	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Bill Graff
1970	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Gil Tripp
1971	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Brooks Lovelace
1972	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Brooks Lovelace
1973	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	P.T. Braun
1974	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Penn Bernhardt
1975	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Ron Schaffer
1976	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1977	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1978	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1979	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Gordon Davis[1042]
1980	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1981	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1982	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1983	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Ed Harvey[1043]
1984	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Charles Barth
1985	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1986	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1987	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1988	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1989	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1990	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1991	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1992	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Al Bell
1993	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1994	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Blane Stover
1995	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1996	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Jim Tolbert
1999	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1998	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Jim Tolbert
1999	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
2000	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
2001	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
2002	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
2003	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Lloyd Myers
2004	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Michael Adkins
2005	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Sam Thompson
2006	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Sam Thompson
2007	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Sam Thompson
2008	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Marie Jones

1040 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, August 11, 1965.
1041 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, March 25, 1968.
1042 Chehaw Council, Sylvester Local, June 14th, 1979.
1043 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, July 25, 1983, Page 4.

2009	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Marie Jones
2010	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Marie Jones
2011	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Ray Allen
2012	Camp Osborn	Chehaw Council	Preston Parker

	Chehaw Council's Segregated Camps		
1942	Eight Miles North of Albany[1044]	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1943		Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1944	Lee County on Ga. Hwy 32 at Kinchafoonee creek[1045] 90 scouts from 11 troops attended	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1945		Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1946		Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
	Camp Potter		
1947	Camp Potter	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1948	Camp Potter	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1949	Camp Potter[1046]	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1950	Camp Potter	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1951	Camp Potter	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1952	Camp Potter	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1953	Camp Potter	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1954	Camp Potter	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1955	Camp Potter	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1956	Camp Potter	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1957	Camp Potter	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1958	Camp Potter	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1959	Camp Potter	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*
1960	Camp Potter	Chehaw Council	*Unknown*

[1044] "Colored Scouts to go to Camp for One Week," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 24, 1942.

[1045] According to Ralph Ellis, Chehaw Field Director from 1943 to 1945, in 1944 Chehaw Council ran a summer camp for black scouts of the Council in Lee County near where Georgia State Highway 32 crosses the Kinchafoonee Creek. He and Park Renshaw helped at the camp. It must have been on private land, as a search of the Lee County deed records shows no land owned by the scouts in Lee County; "Chase S. Osborn," Macon Telegraph, July 30, 1944.

[1046] "South Georgia Boy Scouts Now Camping," *Alabama Tribune,* July 22, 1949; "Negro Scout Camp," *The Atlanta Journal Constitution,* July 17, 1949.

Table 10

Chehaw Council
1939 Executive Board Members

J. W. Bush	Albany	Council President
B. E. Carlisle	Camilla	Council Commissioner
L. W. Smith	Albany	Council Treasurer
W. R. Turner	Cordele	Vice-President
George B. Hawthorne	Sylvester	Vice-President
T. O. Marshall	Americus	National Council Representative

Table 11

Chehaw Council
1940 Executive Board Members

J. W. Bush	Albany	Council President
B. E. Carlisle	Camilla	Council Commissioner
L. W. Smith	Albany	Council Treasurer
W. R. Turner	Cordele	Vice-President
George B. Hawthorne	Sylvester	Vice-President
T. O. Marshall	Americus	National Council Representative

Table 12

Chehaw Council
1941 Executive Board Members

L. W. Smith	Albany	Council President
I. H. Mann		Council Commissioner
J. R. Pinkston	Albany	Council Treasurer
W. R. Turner	Cordele	Vice-President
H. Phil Jones	Americus	Vice-President
J. W. Bush	Albany	National Council Representative

Table 13

Chehaw Council
1942 Executive Board Members

L. W. Smith	Albany	Council President
I. H. Mann		Council Commissioner
J. R. Pinkston	Albany	Council Treasurer
W. R. Turner	Cordele	Vice-President
H. Phil Jones	Americus	Vice-President
Dan Hammack		Vice-President
J. W. Bush	Albany	National Council Representative

Table 14

Chehaw Council
1943 Executive Board Members

W. R. Turner	Cordele	Council President
L W. Smith	Albany	Council Commissioner
J. R. Pinkston	Albany	Council Treasurer
I. C. Gortatawsky	Albany	Executive Vice-President
H. Phil Jones	Americus	Vice-President
Guy Maddox	Blakey	Vice-President
Henry Jennings	Dawson	Vice-President
J. W. Bush	Albany	National Council Representative
Gay Cobb	Cordele	At-Large
Evan Mathis	Americus	At-Large
A C Kent	Cordele	At-Large
P E. Fletcher	Cordele	At-Large
Charles M. Herrick	Albany	Organization Chairman
Victor Manget	Albany	Leadership Chairman
E. A. Landau	Albany	Advance Chairman
L. E. Bowen	Tifton	Finance Chairman
Wallace Sheffield	Americus	Camping Chairman

Table 15

Chehaw Council
1944 Executive Board Members

W. R. Turner	Cordele	Council President
L W. Smith	Albany	Council Commissioner
J. R. Pinkston	Albany	Council Treasurer
I. C. Gortatawsky	Albany	Executive Vice-President
H. Phil Jones	Americus	Vice-President
J. W. Bush	Albany	National Council Representative
A C Kent	Cordele	Committee Chairman
Charles M. Herrick	Albany	Committee Chairman
L. E. Bowen	Tifton	Committee Chairman
B. S. Hudson	Sylvester	Committee Chairman
W. H. Burt	Albany	Committee Chairman
K. B. Hodges	Albany	Committee Chairman
Wallace Sheffield	Americus	At-Large
C. M. Smith, Jr.	Albany	At-Large
William Israel	Edison	At-Large
L. H. Singletary	Pelham	At-Large
T. O. Marshall	Americus	Honorary
E. A. Landau	Albany	Honorary
A. W. Muse	Albany District	District Chairman
James R. Blair	Sumter District	District Chairman
P. W. Landcaster	Worth District	District Chairman
Frank Twitty	North Mitchell District	District Chairman
H. C. Harris	South Mitchell District	District Chairman
M. E. Peavy	Crisp-Dooly District	District Chairman
G. C. McKinzie	Turner District	District Chairman
Ralph Puckett	Tiff District	District Chairman
F. A. Graham	Clay District	District Chairman

Table 16

Chehaw Council
1945 Executive Board Members

W. R. Turner	Cordele	Council President
Unknown		Council Commissioner
J. R. Pinkston	Albany	Council Treasurer
I. C. Gortatawsky	Albany	Vice-President
Frank S. Lunsford	Leary	Vice-President
L. E. Brown		Vice-President
L. W. Smith	Albany	National Council Representative
J. W. Bush	Albany	National Council Representative

Table 17

Chehaw Council
1946 Executive Board Members

James R. Blair	Americus	Council President
Victor Manget	Albany	Council Commissioner
J. R. Pinkston	Albany	Council Treasurer
I. C. Gortatawsky	Albany	Vice-President
Kenneth Hodges	Albany	Vice-President
Oscar Witchard	Blakley	Vice-President
L. W. Smith	Albany	National Council Representative
W. R. Turner	Cordele	National Council Representative
George B. Hawthorn	Sylvester	Advancement Chairman
Frank L. Lumsford	Leary	Camping Chairman

Table 18

Chehaw Council
1947 Executive Board Members

G. C. McKenzie	Ashburn	Council President
Victor Manget	Albany	Council Commissioner
J. R. Pinkston	Albany	Council Treasurer
I. C. Gortatawsky	Albany	Vice-President
H. Phil Jones	Americus	Vice-President
Oscar Witchard	Blakley	Vice-President
James R. Blair	Americus	National Council Representative
W. R. Turner	Cordle	National Council Representative
Ben M. Turner	Cordele	Crisp-Dooly Chairman
Earl L. Speer		Mitchell Chairman
George J. Joiner		Notchaway Chairman
T. Schley Gatewood	Americus	Sumter Chairman
Henry A. Wilkerson		Terrell Chairman
L. Stien		Three-Notches Chairman
L E. Bowen		Tift Chairman
L. L. Burdette		Turner Chairman
J. S. Cook		Worth Chairman

Table 19

Chehaw Council
1948 Executive Board Members

For the 1948 year, the council switched from electing officers at the December business meeting held the Demcember before the year of service to the annual banquet held in January of that year. I am still looking for the 1948 election in either December of 1947 or January of 1948.

G. C. McKenzie	Ashburn	Council President

Table 20

Chehaw Council
1949 Executive Board Members

Frank L. Lumsford	Leary	Council President
Victor Manget	Albany	Council Commissioner
J. R. Pinkston	Albany	Council Treasurer
W. A. Royer	Albany	Vice-President
Carl R. Crow	Camella	Vice-President
C. C. Chappell	Cordele	Vice-President
James R. Blair	Americus	National Council Representative
G. C. McKenzie	Ashburn	National Council Representative
J. W. Bush	Albany	At-Large
L. W. Smith	Albany	At-Large
I. C. Gortatawsky	Albany	At-Large
H. Phil Jones	Americus	At-Large
W. R. Turner	Cordele	At-Large
George B. Hawthorn	Sylvester	At-Large

Table 21

Chehaw Council
1950 Executive Board Members

Frank L. Lumsford	Leary	Council President
Bonner H. Brown	Albany	Council Commissioner
J. R. Pinkston	Albany	Council Treasurer
W. A. Royer	Albany	Vice-President
Carl R. Crow	Camella	Vice-President
C. C. Chappell	Cordele	Vice-President
James R. Blair	Americus	National Council Representative
G. C. McKenzie	Ashburn	National Council Representative
H. Phil Jones	Americus	At-Large
W. R. Turner	Cordele	At-Large
Kenneth Hodges	Albany	At-Large
Joseph C. Logan	Americus	At-Large
L. C. Cuttle	Vienna	At-Large
Norman R. Hawley		Crisp Chairman
R. H. Conrad		Dougherty – Lee Chairman
P. B. Stephens		Mitchell Chairman
William S. Israel		Notchaway Chairman
A. W. Schmidt		Sumter-Schley Chairman
Henry A. Wilkerson		Terrell Chairman
A. L. Pritchitt		Early Chairman
A. B. Phillips		Tift Chairman
A. W. Greene		Worth Chairman
W. A. Banks		Miller Chairman

Table 22

Chehaw Council
1951 Executive Board Members

R. H. Dickinson	Albany	Council President
Frank L. Lumsford	Leary	Council Commissioner
J. R. Pinkston	Albany	Council Treasurer
Thomas O. Marshall, Jr.	Americus	Vice-President
A. B. Phillips	Tifton	Vice-President
C. W. Hand	Pelham	Vice-President
James R. Blair	Americus	National Council Representative
W. A. Royer	Albany	National Council Representative
A. L. Pritichett	Blakley	At-Large
Joe Jenkinst	Vienna	At-Large
A. W. Schmidt	Americus	At-Large
Jeff White	Albany	At-Large
Earl L. Speer	Albany	At-Large
Frank Faulk	Albany	At-Large
C. C. Chappell	Cordele	At-Large
W. R. Turner	Cordele	At-Large
P. M. Landcaster	Sylvester	At-Large
G. C. McKenzie	Ashburn	At-Large
R. L. Heath	Leesburg	At-Large
P. B. Stephen	Pelham	At-Large

Table 23

Chehaw Council
1952 Executive Board Members

John T. Phillips, Sr.	Albany	Council President
Frank L. Lumsford	Leary	Council Commissioner
J. R. Pinkston	Albany	Council Treasurer
R. E. McTigue	Albany	Vice-President
W. A. Banks	Sylvester	Vice-President
T. Schley Gatewood	Americus	Vice-President
W. R. Turner	Cordele	National Council Representative
A. B. Phillips	Tifton	National Council Representative
Steve Outlaw	Albany	At-Large
C. D. McKnight	Albany	At-Large
Harmond Jeffords	Pouland	At-Large
W. T. Sipple	Tifton	At-Large
H. C. Camp	Sylvester	At-Large
R. L. Heath	Leesbrug	At-Large
Frank Faulk	Albany	At-Large
W. T. Smith	Tifton	At-Large
Earl E. Speer	Albany	At-Large
Thad Huckabee	Albany	At-Large
G. C. McKenzie	Ashburn	At-Large
Homer Ranking	Tifton	At-Large
James R. Blair	Americus	At-Large
Leo Leader	Albany	Doughtery – Lee Chairman
C. W. Harwell	Mitchell County	Mitchell Chairman
Cecil Pate	Cordele	Crisp Chairman
Roy Parrish	Americus	Sumter Chairman
Walker Camp	Sylvester	Worth Chairman
John Payne	Dawson	Terrell Chairman
Phillip Sheffield	Blakley	DeSoto Chairman
W. E. Griffin	Vienna	Dooly Chairman
John H. Peterson	Tifton	Tift Chairman
R. E. Blue	Ashburn	Turner Chairman

Table 24

Chehaw Council
1953 Executive Board Members

John T. Phillips, Sr.	Albany	Council President

Table 25

Chehaw Council
1954 Executive Board Members

R. E. McTigue	Albany	Council President
H. B. Durham	Tifton	Council Commissioner
J. Ray Pinkson	Albany	Council Treasurer
Stephen Pace	Americus	Vice-President
R. C. Singletary	Blakley	Vice-President
John T. Phillips, Sr.	Albany	National Council Representative
Frank Joiner	Leary	National Council Representative
Horace Odom	Americus	District Chairman
E. J. Vann, Jr.	Camilla	District Chairman
A. E. Dubber	Albany	District Chairman
Phillip Sheffield	Blakley	District Chairman
R. M. Kinnon	Tifton	District Chairman
E. C. Coleman	Cordele	District Chairman
William Crosland	Mithell	District Chairman
Jim Hill	Early	District Chairman
Earl L. Speer		At-Large
R. H. Dickinson	Albany	At-Large
B. Frank Cook		At-Large
Frank Fault, Sr.		At-Large
C. D. McKnight	Albany	At-Large
Leo Leader	Albany	At-Large

Table 26

Chehaw Council
1955 Executive Board Members

R. E. McTigue	Albany	Council President
H. B. Durham		Council Commissioner
Olin F. Fulmer, Jr.		Council Treasurer
Leo Leader	Albany	Vice-President
R. C. Singletary	Blakley	Vice-President
H. Phil Jones	Americus	Vice-President
Unknown		National Council Representative
C. D. McKnight	Albany	Camping Chairman
Lloyd A. Moll	Americus	Advancement Chairman
Tom Cordell		Training Chairman
R. L. Singletary		Finance Chairman
W. M. Harris		Organization Chairman

Table 27

Chehaw Council
1956 Executive Board Members

Leo Leader	Albany	Council President
Ben M. Turner	Cordele	Council Commissioner
Olin F. Fulmer, Jr.	Albany	Council Treasurer
L. D. Hand	Pelham	Vice-President
R. C. Singletary	Blakely	Vice-President
R. E. McTigue	Albany	Vice-President
Frank J. Lunsford	Leary	National Council Representative
W. R. Turner	Cordele	National Council Representative
R. M. Kinnon	Tifton	National Council Representative
R. H. Dickinson	Albany	At-Large
Earl L. Speer	Albany	At-Large
A C. Knight, Jr.	Albany	At-Large
J. Ray Pinkson		At-Large
John T. Phillips, Sr.	Albany	At-Large
George Teaford	Americus	At-Large
Allen Brunson	*Unknown*	At-Large
C. E. Childs	*Unknown*	At-Large
W. E. Griffin	Vienna	At-Large
George B. Hawthorne	Sylvester	At-Large
H. E. Camp		At-Large
R. E. Blue	Ashburn	At-Large
C. D. McKnight	Albany	At-Large
Lloyd A. Moll	Americus	At-Large
C. W. Hartwell		At-Large
Frank C. Vann		At-Large

Table 28

Chehaw Council
1957 Executive Board Members

Leo Leader	Albany	Council President
Ben M. Turner	Cordele	Council Commissioner
Olin F. Fulmer, Jr.	Albany	Council Treasurer
L. D. Hand	Pelham	Vice-President
R. C. Singletary	Blakely	Vice-President
R. E. McTigue	Albany	Vice-President
Frank J. Lunsford	Leary	National Council Representative
W. R. Turner	Cordele	National Council Representative
John T. Phillips, Sr.	Albany	National Council Representative
Chester O. Lee	Albany	At-Large
R. H. Dickinson	Albany	At-Large
Al Holloway	Albany	At-Large
Earl L. Speer	Albany	At-Large
A C. Knight, Jr.	Albany	At-Large
Jerry White	Ft. Gaines	At-Large
Billy Peters	Blakley	At-Large
Paul J. Fullford	Tifton	At-Large

Table 29

Chehaw Council
1958 Executive Board Members

Elston Johnston	Tifton	Council President

Table 30

Chehaw Council
1959 Executive Board Members

Elston Johnston	Tifton	Council President
Ben M. Turner	Cordele	Council Commissioner
Charles M.Shackleford	Albany	Council Treasurer
L. D. Hand	Pelham	Vice-President
Leo Leader	Albany	Vice-President
Steve Pace, Jr.	Americus	Vice-President
Leo Leader	Albany	National Council Representative
C. D. McKnight	Albany	National Council Representative
R. M. Kennon	Tifton	National Council Representative
Chester O. Lee	Albany	At-Large
Louis Landau	Albany	At-Large
R. H. Dickinson	Albany	At-Large
Earl L. Speer	Albany	At-Large
William E. Ruark	Albany	At-Large
James C. Fetters	Albany	At-Large
William H. Harris	Albany	At-Large
James H. Jordan	Albany	At-Large
William J. Boswell	Albany	At-Large
George Mixon	Cordele	At-Large
Lamar Perlis	Cordele	At-Large
W. R. Turner	Cordele	At-Large
W. H. McCall	Americus	At-Large
Lloyd A. Moll	Americus	At-Large
W. E. Griffin	Vienna	At-Large
W. T. Smith, Jr	Tifton	At-Large
R. M. Kennon	Tifton	At-Large
Thomas Sutton	Sylvester	At-Large
H. C. Camp	Sylvester	At-Large
Dunbar Grist	Blakley	At-Large
Alfred Felder	Blakley	At-Large
Matthew Williams	Dawson	At-Large
C. H. Harwell	Mitchell County	At-Large

Table 31

Chehaw Council
1960 Executive Board Members

Chester O. Lee	Albany	Council President
Ben M. Turner	Cordele	Council Commissioner
Leo Leader	Albany	Council Treasurer
L. D. Hand	Pelham	Vice-President
Leo Leader	Albany	Vice-President
Steve Pace, Jr.	Americus	Vice-President
Unknown		National Council Representative
C. D. McKnight	Albany	Camping Chairman
William J. Boswell	Albany	Organization Chairman
Lloyd A. Moll	Americus	Advancement Chairman
Gordon Hanson	Albany	Finance Chairman
R. M. Kennon	Tifton	Health & Safety Chairman
Louis Landau	Albany	Central District Chairman
More – Need rest of article		

Table 32

Chehaw Council
1961 Executive Board Members

Chester O. Lee	Albany	Council President
Ben M. Turner	Cordele	Council Commissioner
James Sartor, Jr.	Albany	Council Treasurer
L. D. Hand	Pelham	Vice-President
C. D. McKnight	Albany	Vice-President
Steve Pace, Jr.	Americus	Vice-President
Frank J. Lunsford	Leary	National Council Representative
W. R. Turner	Cordele	National Council Representative
John T. Philliips, Jr.	Albany	National Council Representative
C. D. McKnght	Albany	At-Large
E. Clifton Lancaster	Albany	At-Large
Asa D. Kelley, Jr.	Albany	At-Large
William J. Boswell	Albany	At-Large
Gordon Boswell	Albany	At-Large
Gordon Hanson	Albany	At-Large
Louis Landau	Albany	At-Large
Hugh L. Smith	Albany	At-Large
Hugh Shackelford	Albany	At-Large
Horace Odom	Americus	Training Chairman
Lloyd A. Moll	Americus	At-Large
Henry Collier	Americus	At-Large
W. E. Blair	Americus	At-Large
R. M. Kennon	Tifton	At-Large
Harold Cannon	Tifton	At-Large
Tasker Johnson	Tifton	At-Large
Elston Johnston	Tifton	At-Large
William T. Smtih	Tifton	At-Large
John Parkinson	Tifton	At-Large
Ronald Kirk	Cordele	At-Large
M. R. Carter, Jr.	Cordele	At-Large
George Mixon	Cordele	At-Large
Lamar Perlis	Cordele	At-Large
A. J. Singletary	Blakley	At-Large
Dunbar Grist	Blakley	At-Large
Wyman Morris	Sycamore	At-Large
John Corbitt	Sycamore	At-Large
C. W. Hartweel	Miller County	At-Large
H. C. Camp	Sylvester	At-Large
Ed Faber	Edison	At-Large

Table 33

Chehaw Council
1962 Executive Board Members

William J. Boswell		Council President

Table 34

Chehaw Council
1963 Executive Board Members

Keith Reyher		Council President

Table 35

Chehaw Council
1964 Executive Board Members

Keith Reyher		Council President

Table 36

Chehaw Council
1965 Executive Board Members

Don R. Farr	Americus	Council President

Table 37

Chehaw Council
1966 Executive Board Members

Don R. Farr	Americus	Council President

Table 38

Chehaw Council
1967 Executive Board Members

Raymond A. Hudson	Dawson	Council President

Table 39

Chehaw Council
1968 Executive Board Members

Raymond A. Hudson	Dawson	Council President
Unknown		Council Commissioner
Frank C. Dozier, Jr.	Albany	Council Treasurer
Ben M. Turner	Cordele	Vice-President
H. C. Camp	Sylvester	Vice-President
Cliff Lancaster	Albany	Vice-President
Unknown		National Council Representative

Table 40

Chehaw Council
1969 Executive Board Members

B. J. Sumner		Council President

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Chehaw Council
1970 Executive Board Members

B. J. Sumner		Council President

Table 42

Chehaw Council
1971 Executive Board Members

B. J. Sumner		Council President

Table 43

Chehaw Council
1972 Executive Board Members

Ben M. Turner		Council President

Table 44

Chehaw Council
1973 Executive Board Members

Ben M. Turner		Council President

Table 45

Chehaw Council
1974 Executive Board Members

George B. Plummer		Council President

Table 46

Chehaw Council
1975 Executive Board Members

George B. Plummer		Council President

Table 47

Chehaw Council
1976 Executive Board Members

Frank Douglas Koran		Council President

Table 48

Chehaw Council
1977 Executive Board Members

Frank Douglas Koran		Council President

Table 49

Chehaw Council
1978 Executive Board Members

Milton C. Sterling, Sr.		Council President

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Chehaw Council
1979 Executive Board Members

Milton C. Sterling, Sr.		Council President

Table 51

Chehaw Council
1980 Executive Board Members

Eley Cappleman Frazier, III		Council President

Table 52

Chehaw Council
1981 Executive Board Members

Eley Cappleman Frazier, III		Council President

Table 53

Chehaw Council
1982 Executive Board Members

Eley Cappleman Frazier, III		Council President

Table 54

Chehaw Council
1983 Executive Board Members

Frank Adams Wilson, III		Council President

Table 55

Chehaw Council
1984 Executive Board Members

Maxwell S. Corner		Council President

Table 56

Southwest Georgia Council
1985 Executive Board Members

Maxwell S. Corner		Council President

Table 57

Southwest Georgia Council
1986 Executive Board Members

Clifford Mark Pirrung		Council President

Table 58

Southwest Georgia Council
1987 Executive Board Members

Clifford Mark Pirrung		Council President

Table 59

Southwest Georgia Council
1988 Executive Board Members

Bruce A. Smith		Council President

Table 60

Southwest Georgia Council
1989 Executive Board Members

Bruce A. Smith		Council President

Table 61

Southwest Georgia Council
1990 Executive Board Members

Joe Abernathy	Corner, Max	Hanks, Ray
Ashberry, William	Dent, Fred	Henry, W. T.
Atkins, Dave	Deroso, Walter M	Jordan, Ladd
Atwater, Pat	Dorminey, Len	King, Davis
Barrett, Gil	Dorough, Bill	Kirbo, Glen
Bishop, Joe	Dykes, Michael	Lanier, Jimmy
Bowen, Sonny	Dykes, William	Ledbetter, Hoy
Brashears, Mary	Fleming, William	Lever, Jim
Bush, Dell	Fullerton, Greg	Longshore, Hilton
Bush, James	Gray, Jr., Jimmy	Lovelace, Brooks
Calhoun, Clarence	Griffin, Lem	Lovelace, Mary
Cameron, Bob	Haddock, Alyce	Loyed, George
Chastain, George	Haddock, Hal	Marbury, Ritchey
Cooper, Mike	Hancock, Carl	McGarity, Kitty

McMullen, Jim	Pirrung, Mark	Teaford, George
Meagher, Mark	Plummer, George	Tucker, Thomas W.
Miles, Butch	Reyher, Keith	Wernick, Joel
Miles, Holly	Schmidtz, Hal	White, Charles
Moulton, John	Singletary, Marvin	Yarborough, Sam
Parker, Doug	Smith, Bruce	
Perkins. Ray	Smith, Chris	

Table 62

Southwest Georgia Council
1991 Executive Board Members

John L. Moulton		Council President

Table 63

Southwest Georgia Council
1992 Executive Board Members

John L. Moulton	Council President
Joe Abernathy	Council Commissioner
Mark Pirrung	Council Treasurer
Greg Fullerton ·	VP - Adminstartion
Cleve Wester	V.P. Central
Max Corner	V.P. Central
Vacant	V.P. Northesst
Pat Atwater	V.P. Southeast
Jeff Lawhorn	V.P. Southeast
Alyce Haddock	V.P. Southwest
James Bush	V.P. Membership
Joel Wernick	V.P. Exploring
Fred Dent	V.P. Camping
Doug Wren	V.P. Programs
Jimmy Lanier	Asst. Treasurer
Vic Sullivan	District Chairman Central
Vacant	District Chairman Southeast
George Loyed	District Chairman Southwest
William Ashberry	At-Large
Dave Atkins	At-Large
Ben Barrow	At-Large
Bishop, Joe	At-Large
John Bowen	At-Large
Sonny Bowen	At-Large
Mary Brashears	At-Large
Joe Bryan	At-Large
Dell Dush	At-Large

Clarence Calhoun	At-Large
Tommy Coleman	At-Large
Mike Combs	At-Large
Sorry Deriso	At-Large
Len Dorminey	At-Large
Bill Dorough	At-Large
Tom Driggers	At-Large
William Dykes,	At-Large
William S. Fleming	At-Large
Kevin Fletcher	At-Large
Earl Ford	At-Large
Bob Fowler	At-Large
Betty Frazer	At-Large
Eley C. Frazer, Ill	At-Large
Mark Goodyear	At-Large
Jimmy Gray, Jr.	At-Large
Bill Griffin	At-Large
Lem Griffin	At-Large
Hal Haddock	At-Large
Tommy Hall	At-Large
Hancock, Carl	At-Large
Bill Harris	At-Large
Ben Jackson	At-Large
Ladd Jordan	At-Large
Bill Capitan	At-Large
Cecil Myers	At-Large
Davis King	At-Large
Doug Parker	At-Large
Glen Kirbo	At-Large
Roy Parker	At-Large
Jimmy Lewis	At-Large
Ray Perkin	At-Large
Hilton Longshore	At-Large
Lamar Pervis	At-Large
Brooks Lovelace	At-Large
John Phillips, Jr.	At-Large
Mary Lovelace	At-Large
Hal Schmidtz	At-Large
Ritchey Marbury	At-Large
Jordan Short	At-Large
Dick Martin	At-Large
Marvin Singletary	At-Large
Wallace Mays	At-Large
Chris Smith	At-Large
Hank McGarity	At-Large
Earl Spurlock	At-Large

Mark Meagher	At-Large
David Swan	At-Large
Butch Miles	At-Large
George Teaford	At-Large
Holly Miles	At-Large
Ben Thornton	At-Large
Bob Monk	At-Large
F.C. Wiggins	At-Large
Morgan Murphy	At-Large
Frank A. Wilson	At-Large
Sam Yarborough ·	At-Large

Table 64

Southwest Georgia Council
1993 Executive Board Members

Gregory L. Fullerton	Council President

Table 65

Southwest Georgia Council
1994 Executive Board Members

Gregory L. Fullerton	Council President

Table 66

Southwest Georgia Council
1995 Executive Board Members

Greg Fullerton	Council President
Derby Thompson	Council Commissioner
J. Mark Albertson	Asst. Treasurer
Pat Atwater	V.P. Southeast
Max Corner	V.P. Finance
Richard Crozier	District Chairman Northesst
Ed Fox	District Chairman Central
Eley Frazer, III	V.P. Manpower
Lem Griffin	Vice-President
Alyce Haddock	V.P. Southwest
Tommy Hall	Council Treasurer
Rnbert Kelly, Jr	Chaplin

Jimmy Lanier	Asst. Treasurer
Melvin Merrill	District Chairman Southeast
Keith Pry	Asst. Commissioner
Ben Thornton	V.P. Northesst
Jim Tolbert	V.P. Camping
Cleve Wester	V.P. Central
Henry Williams	V.P. Programs
Frank Wilson, III	National Council Representative
Vacant	District Chairman Southwest
Joe Abernathy	At-Large
Marvin Allen	At-Large
William Allen	At-Large
William Asberry	At-Large
Wally Binns, Jr.	At-Large
Bishop, Joe	At-Large
Joe Bryan	At-Large
G. Buchannan	At-Large
Dell Bush	At-Large
Clarence Calhoun	At-Large
Gary Cannon	At-Large
Bill Capitan	At-Large
Robert Chester	At-Large
Harry Crozier	At-Large
Fred Dent	At-Large
Bill Dorough	At-Large
Tom Driggers	At-Large
Danny Eiland	At-Large
R. J. Farmer	At-Large
Charles Frey	At-Large
Mark Goodyear	At-Large
Johnnie Graham	At-Large
George Gray	At-Large
Bill Griffin	At-Large
Hal Haddock	At-Large
Robert Hall	At-Large
Hancock, Carl	At-Large
Bill Harris	At-Large
John Hinson	At-Large
Harold Hudgens	At-Large
Joe Jackson	At-Large
Davis King	At-Large
Hodge King	At-Large
Glenn Kirbo	At-Large
Jimmy Lewis	At-Large
Hilton Longshore	At-Large
Brooks Lovelace	At-Large

Mary Lovelace	At-Large
Ritchey Marbury	At-Large
Keith Marcks	At-Large
Robert Marshall	At-Large
Dick Martin	At-Large
Wallace Mays	At-Large
George McIntosh	At-Large
Hill McKenny	At-Large
Stan McWhorter	At-Large
Mark Meagher	At-Large
Don Monk	At-Large
Greg Olson	At-Large
Doug Parker	At-Large
Roy Parker	At-Large
Ray Perkins	At-Large
John Phillips, Jr.	At-Large
Kay Reed	At-Large
Kent Richardson	At-Large
Hal Schmitz	At-Large
Ed Shillcutt, Jr.	At-Large
Willaim Sims	At-Large
Marvin Singletary	At-Large
Bruce Smith	At-Large
Richard Spencer	At-Large
Ray Stallings	At-Large
Gordon Stanley	At-Large
William Stewart	At-Large
Vic Sullivan	At-Large
Tim O. Thompson	At-Large
Carl Ussery	At-Large
Joel Wernick	At-Large
F C, Wiggins	At-Large
Frank Wilson	At-Large
Doug Wren	At-Large

Table 67

Southwest Georgia Council
1996 Executive Board Members

Lem Griffin	Council President

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Southwest Georgia Council
1997 Executive Board Members

Lem Griffin	Council President

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Southwest Georgia Council
1998 Executive Board Members

Lem Griffin	Council President

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Southwest Georgia Council
1999 Executive Board Members

Richard Crozier	Council President

Table 71

Southwest Georgia Council
2000 Executive Board Members

Richard Crozier	Council President

Table 72

Southwest Georgia Council
2001 Executive Board Members

Richard Crozier	Council President

Table 73

Southwest Georgia Council
2002 Executive Board Members

Bruce P. Shearer	Council President

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Southwest Georgia Council
2003 Executive Board Members

Bruce P. Shearer	President
Craig Smith	Commissioner
Joe Abernathy	Nat'I Cncl Rep
Richard Bishop	Asst. Treasurer
Vicki Cirone	V. P. Membership
Richard Crozier	Past President
Eley Frazer	V. P. Manpower
Greg Fullerton	V. P. Endowment
Bennie Hall	Asst. Chaplain
Hancock, Carl	V.P. Admin
Robert Kelley	Chaplain
5teve Lunsford	V. P. Properties
Ritchey Marbury	Agujla DC
Joel McDowell	Treasurer
Joe Najjar	V. P. Training
Keith Pry	V. P. Program
John Ruberson	Achewon DC
Sam Thompson	V. P. Camping
Alan Webb	Thronateeska DC
Frank Wilson	Nat'I Cncl Rep
Jim Womack	V. P. Finance
Barbara Arnold	At-Large
Pat Atwater	At-Large
Zack Aultman	At-Large
Wally Binns, Jr.	At-Large
Bishop, Joe	At-Large
Clarence Calhoun	At-Large
Clay Chester	At-Large
Robert Chester	At-Large
John Cirone	At-Large
Jimmy Clements	At-Large
Jimmy Cooper	At-Large
Richard Crowdis	At-Large

Fred Dent	At-Large
Tom Driggers	At-Large
A.J.Gentry	At-Large
Lem.Griffin	At-Large
Joel Haley	At-Large
Michael Hanes	At-Large
Joe Jackson	At-Large
Roy Jackson	At-Large
Butch Jenkins	At-Large
Mike Johnson	At-Large
Davis King	At-Large
Glenn Kirbo	At-Large
Gerald Lawhorn	At-Large
Willie Lockett	At-Large
Hilton Longshore	At-Large
Brooks Lovelace	At-Large
Mary Lovelace	At-Large
Charles Luther	At-Large
Billy Mathis	At-Large
Wallace Mays	At-Large
Darrell McGee	At-Large
Stan McWhorter	At-Large
Mark Meagher	At-Large
Ned Newcomb	At-Large
Ray Perkins	At-Large
John Phillips, Jr	At-Large
Tom Seegmueller	At-Large
Marvin Singletary	At-Large
Chris Smith	At-Large
Vic Sullivan	At-Large
JohnTakash	At-Large
Tim Ward	At-Large
CeveWester	At-Large
GregWidman	At-Large

Table 75

Southwest Georgia Council
2004 Executive Board Members

Joe Abernathy	Nat'I Cncl Rep
Richard Bishop	Asst. Treasurer
Vicki Cirone	V. P. Membership
Richard Crozier	Past President
Eley Frazer	V. P. Manpower
Greg Fullerton	V. P. Endowment

Bennie Hall	Asst. Chaplain
Hancock, Carl	V.P. Admin
Robert Kelley	Chaplain
Steve Lunsford	V. P. Properties
Ritchey Marbury	Agujla DC
Joel McDowell	Treasurer
Joe Najjar	V. P. Training
Keith Pry	V. P. Program
John Ruberson	Achewon DC
Bruce P. Shearer	President
Craig Smith	Commissioner
Sam Thompson	V. P. Camping
Alan Webb	Thronateeska DC
Frank Wilson	Nat'I Cncl Rep
Jim Womack	V. P. Finance
Barbara Arnold	At-Large
Pat Atwater	At-Large
Zack Aultman	At-Large
Wally Binns, Jr.	At-Large
Bishop, Joe	At-Large
Clarence Calhoun	At-Large
Clay Chester	At-Large
Robert Chester	At-Large
John Cirone	At-Large
Jimmy Clements	At-Large
Jimmy Cooper	At-Large
Richard Crowdis	At-Large
Fred Dent	At-Large
Tom Driggers	At-Large
A.J.Gentry	At-Large
Lem.Griffin	At-Large
Joel Haley	At-Large
Michael Hanes	At-Large
Joe Jackson	At-Large
Roy Jackson	At-Large
Butch Jenkins	At-Large
Mike Johnson	At-Large
Davis King	At-Large
Glenn Kirbo	At-Large
Gerald Lawhorn	At-Large
Willie Lockett	At-Large
Hilton Longshore	At-Large
Brooks Lovelace	At-Large
Mary Lovelace	At-Large
Charles Luther	At-Large
Billy Mathis	At-Large

Wallace Mays	At-Large
Darrell McGee	At-Large
Stan McWhorter	At-Large
Mark Meagher	At-Large
Ned Newcomb	At-Large
Ray Perkins	At-Large
John Phillips, Jr	At-Large
Tom Seegmueller	At-Large
Marvin Singletary	At-Large
Chris Smith	At-Large
Vic Sullivan	At-Large
JohnTakash	At-Large
Tim Ward	At-Large
CeveWester	At-Large

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Chehaw Council
2005 Executive Board Members

Joe Abernathy	National Council Rep.
Atwater, Pat	Vice President Program
Foil, David	Secretary/Scout Executive
Frazer, Eley III	Vice President Manpower
Fullerton, Greg	Vice President Endowment
Griffin, Lem	VP Events & Product Sales
Hall, Bennie	Council Commissioner
Hancock, Carl	President
Kelley, Robert	Chaplain
Lunsford, Steve	Vice President Properties
Martin, Patsy	Vice President Marketing
McDowell, Joel	Treasurer
McGee, Derrell	Vice President Membership
Joe Najjar	Vice President Training
Scott, David	OA Lodge Chief
Shearer, Bruce	Past President
Thompson, Sam	Vice President Camping
Womack, Jim	Vice President Finance
Adams, Willie	
Andrews, Michelle	
Andrews, Ben	
Arnold, Barbara	
Bishop, Joe	
Boone, William	
Chastain, George	
Clay Chester	

Chester, Robert	
Cirone, Vicki	
Clark, Tommy	
Clements, Jimmy	
Corner, Max	
Crozier, Richard	
Ford, Earl	
Fore, Troy	
Garten, T. J	
Greene, Michael	
Griffin, W. F.	
Griffin, Lem	
Haley, Joel	
Hall, Jack	
Herring, James	
Hudgens, Huddy	
Jackson, Joe	
Jenkins, Butch	
Johnson, Mike	
Jones, Joseph	
Lawhorn, Gerald	
Lawhorn, Jeff	
Lovelace, Brooks	
Lovelace, Mary	
May, Wallace	
McRae, Tim	
Meager, Mark	
Meier, Matt	
Monk, Don	
Perlis, Phil	
Phillips, John, Jr.	
Reese, Ill, John	
Richter, Pam	
Riggle, Eric	
Scott, Jeff	
Shelton, Melvin	
Singletary, Marvin	
Skalla, Lan	
Smith, Bruce	
Sumner, Paul	
Takash, John	
Thomas, Richard	
Wilson, Frank III	

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Chehaw Council
2006 Executive Board Members

Joe Abernathy	National Council Representative
Pat Atwater	Vice President Program
David Foil	Secretary/Scout Executive
Eley Frazer, Ill	Vice President Manpower
Greg Fullerton	VP Endowment & Council Atty
Lem Griffin	VP Events and Product Sales
Hancock, Carl	Council President
Steve Lunsford	Vice President Properties
Derrell McGee	Vice President Membership
Joe Najjar	Vice President Training
Bruce Shearer	Past Council President
Sam Thompson	VP Camping & OA Advisor
Jim Womack	Vice President Finance
Bennie Hall	Council Commissioner
Robert Kelley	Chaplain
Melvin Shelton	District Chairman/Aguila
Michael Greene	District Chairman/Thronateeska
Paul Sumner	District Chairman/Achewon
Patrick Johnson	OA Lodge Chief
Ben Andrews	
Bishop, Joe	
John Carroll	
Clay Chester	
Tommy Clark	
Richard Crozier	
Everett Freeman	
W.F. Griffin	
Joel Haley	
Cliff Harpe	
Huddy Hudgens	
Joseph Jones	
Mark Lane	
Jeff Lawhorn	
Mary Lovelace	
Tim McRae	
Matt Meier	
Phil Perlis	
John Reese, III	
John Ruberson	
Bruce Smith	
Richard Thomas	
Bill Yearta	

John Argo	
William Boone	
George Chastain	
Vicki Cirone	
Jimmy Clements	
Earl Ford	
T.J. Garten	
Lem Griffin	
Jack Hall	
James Herring	
Joe Jackson	
Mike Johnson	
Gerald Lawhorn	
Brooks Lovelace	
Wallace Mays	
Mark Meager	
Don Monk	
John Phillips, Jr	
Eric Riggle	
Marvin Singletary	
John Takash	
Frank Wilson, III	

Table 78

Chehaw Council
2007 Executive Board Members

Joe Najjar	President

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Chehaw Council
2008 Executive Board Members

Joe Najjar	President
Ray Allen	Secretary/Scout Executive
Bennie Hall	Council Commissioner
Barbara Arnold	Advancement Chairman
Alan Braswell	District Chairman/ SW
Hancock, Carl	Past President
Bo Carroll	OA Lodge Chief
John Carroll	Vice President Membership
Roaer Cherry	District Chairman/Achewon
Clay Chester	VP Endowment
Tommy Clark	Vice President Finance
Earl Ford	VP Manpower
Greg Fullerton	VP Legal Council
J. Michael Greene	Council Historian
Lem Griffin	VP Events & Product Sales
Robert Kelley	Chaplain
Steve Lunsford	Vice President Properties
Brian Maw	International Representative
Michael McKinnon	Marketing Chair
Tim McRae	Training Chairman
Melvin Shelton	District Chairman/Aquila
Paul Sumner	VP Programs
Sam Thomason	Vice President Camping
Shearer Turton	DC Thronateeska
Joe Abernathy	At-Large
Andrews Ben	At-Large
Arnold Barbara	At-Large
Bishop Joe	At-Large
Carroll John	At-Large
Cherrv Roqer	At-Large
Clay Chester	At-Large
Clark Tommy	At-Large
Crozier Richard	At-Large
Ford Earl	At-Large
Frazier, Eley Ill	At-Large

Everett Freeman	At-Large
Greq Fullerton	At-Large
T.J. Garten	At-Large
Stuart Geriner	At-Large
Michael Greene	At-Large
Lem Griffin	At-Large
W. F. Griffin	At-Large
Joel Haley	At-Large
Bennie Hall	At-Large
Jack Hall	At-Large
Carl Hancock	At-Large
Huddy Hudqens	At-Large
Joe Jackson	At-Large
Butch Jenkins	At-Large
Mike Johnson	At-Large
Robert Kelley	At-Large
Mark Lane	At-Large
Gerald Lawhorn	At-Large
Jeff Lawhorn	At-Large
Steve Lunsford	At-Large
Brian Maw	At-Large
Wallace May	At-Large
Derrell McGee	At-Large
Mike McKinnon	At-Large
Tim McRae	At-Large
Mark Meaqher	At-Large
Matt Meier	At-Large
Don Monk	At-Large
Phil Perlis	At-Large
John Reese, III	At-Large
Eric Riaale	At-Large
Jeff Scott	At-Large
Bruce Shearer	At-Large
Melvin Shelton	At-Large
Marvin Singletary	At-Large
Dr. Bruce Smith	At-Large
Paul Sumner	At-Large
John Takash	At-Large
Richard Thomas	At-Large
Sam Thompson	At-Large
Shearer Turton	At-Large
Frank Wilson	At-Large
Jim Womack	At-Large
Bill Yearta	At-Large

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Chehaw Council
2009 Executive Board Members

Joe Najjar	President
Ray Allen	Secretary/Scout Executive
Bennie Hall	Commissioner
Wade Barr	DC/Thronateeska
John Carroll	Vice President Membership
Roger Cherry	DC/Achewon
Clay Chester	VP Endowment
Tommy Clark	Vice Pres ident Finance
Bill Davis	District Chairman/ Choc-Taw
William Davis	Distr Chair/Choc-taw
Greg Fullerton	VP Legal Council
S. Geriner	Treasurer
J. Michael Greene	Council Historian
Lem Griffin	VP Events & Product Sales
W. F. Griffin	VP Events
Hancock, Carl	Past President
Andrew Horne	OA Lodge Chief
Steve Lunsford	Vice President Properties
Brian Maw	International Representative
Michael McKinnon	Marketing Chair
Tim McRae	Training Chairman
Julian Price	VP Manpower & Operations
Paul Sumner	VP Program/Activities
Sam Thompson	Vice President Camping
Vacant	District Chairman/Aguila
Joe Abernathy	At-Large
Ben Andrews	At-Large
Pat Atwater	At-Large
Bishop, Joe	At-Large
Alan Braswell	At-Large
Richard Crozier	At-Large
Earl Ford	At-Large
Eley Frazier, III	At-Large
Everett Freeman	At-Large
Stuart Geriner	At-Large
Jack Hall	At-Large
James Herrina	At-Large
Huddy Hudgens	At-Large
Joe Jackson	At-Large
Butch Jenkins	At-Large

Mike Johnson	At-Large
Ladd Jordan	At-Large
Mark Lane	At-Large
Jeff Lawhorn	At-Large
Brian Maw	At-Large
Wallace May	At-Large
Derrell McGee	At-Large
Matt Meier	At-Large
Don Monk	At-Large
Phil Perlis	At-Large
John Reese, III	At-Large
Eric Riqqle	At-Large
Jeff Scott	At-Large
Bruce Shearer	At-Large
Marvin Singletary	At-Large
Bruce Smith	At-Large
Paul Sumner	At-Large
John Takash	At-Large
Frank Wilson , III	At-Large
Jim Womack	At-Large
Bill Yearta	At-Large

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Chehaw Council
2010 Executive Board Members

Pat Atwater	
Bishop, Joe	
Roger Cherry	
Clay Chester	Council President
Mike Clements	
Richard Crozier	
Earl Ford	
Evertte Freeman	
Carol Fullerton	
Greg Fullerton	
Schley Gatewood	
Stuart Geriner	
Lem Griffin	
Bennie Hall	
Jack Hall	
Carl Hancock	
Huddy Hudgens	
Brian Maw	
Derrell McGee	
Mike McKinnon	
Tim McRae	
Craig Moye	
____ Murfree	
Joe Najjar	
Julian Price	
Bruce Shearer	
Bruce Smith	
Paul Sumner	
John Takash	
Sam Thompson	
Ed Vaughn.	
Lavarn Watson	
Terry Williams	
Dale Wilson	
Jim Womack	

Table 82

Chehaw Council
2011 Executive Board Members

Joe Abernathy	
Ben Andrews	
Pat Atwater	
Bishop, Joe	
Alan Braswell	
Warren Britton	
Cheryl Buford	
John Carroll	
Clay Chester	President
Tommy Clark	
Richard Crozier	
Earl Ford	
Everett Freeman	
Carol Fullerton	
Greg Fullerton	
Stuart Geriner	
Lem Griffin	
Bennie Hall	
Jack Hall	
Carl Hancock	
Huddy Hudgens	
Mike Johnson	
Robert Krywicki	
Steve Lunsford	
Patrick Madden	
Wallace May	
Derrell McGee	
J. Michael	
Craig Moye	
Joshua Murfree	
Joe Najjar	
David Orlowski	
Julian Price	
John Reese	
Eric Riggle	
Bruce Shearer	
Melvin Shelton	
Paul Sumner	
John Takash	

Richard Thom	
Sam Thompson	
Ed Vaughn	
Burt Walters	
Jay Williams	
Terry Williams	
Dale Wilson	
Jim Womack	

Table 83

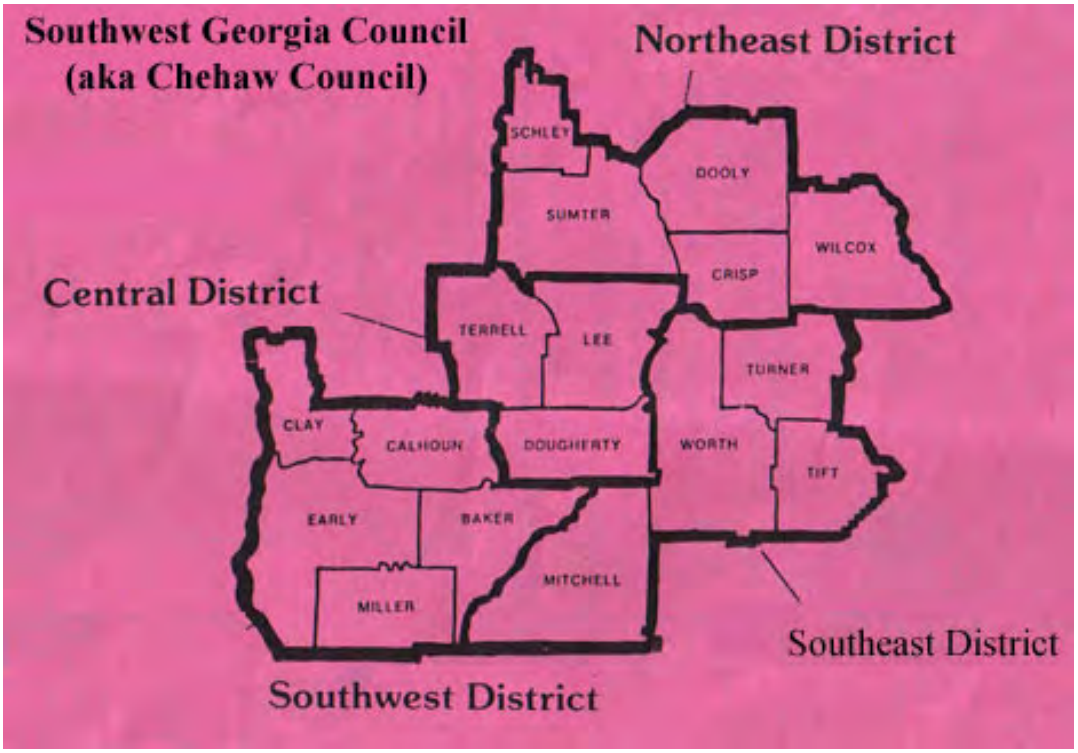
Chehaw Council
2012 Executive Board Members

Joe Abernathy	
Ray Allen	
Ben Andrews	
Pat Atwater	
Joe Bishop	
Tom Bozzuto	
Alan Braswell	
Britt Brinson	
John Carroll	
Clay Chester	Council President
Tommy Clark	
Mike Clements	
Richard Crozier	
Everett Freeman	
Carol Fullerton	
Greg Fullerton	
Crisp Gatewood	
Stuart Geriner	
J. Michael Greene	
Lem Griffin	
Bennie Hall	
Jack Hall	
Carl Hancock	
Huddy Hudgens	
Scott Ivey	
Mike Johnson	
Robert Krywicki	
Dale Lackey	
Steve Lunsford	
Brian Maw	
Derrell McGee	
Mike McKinnon	
Tim McRae	
Craig Moye	
Joe Najjar	
David Orlowski	
Julian Price	
Eric Riggle	
Bruce Shearer	
Melvin Shelton	
Paul Sumner	

John Takash	
Richard Thomas	
Sam Thompson	
Ed Vaughn	
Burt Walters	
Jay Williams	
Dale Wilson	
Jim Womaack	

Map 1
Map of Chehaw Council

The map of Georgia shows the seventeen counties of Chehaw Council. They are Baker, Calhoun, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Dougherty, Early, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Schley, Sumter, Terrell, Tift, Turner, Wilcox, and Worth.



CHAPTER 3
ALAPAHA AREA COUNCIL
BECOMES THE LOCAL BOY SCOUT ORGANIZATION

Alapaha Area Council was formed effective January 1, 1960 from the western twelve counties of the Okefenokee Area Council. The counties were Atkinson, Ben Hill, Berrin, Brooks, Clinch, Coffee, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Jeff Davis, Lanier, and Lowndes. At its formation, Alapaha Area Council has 903 scouts consisting of 418 Cubs Scouts, 414 Boy Scouts, and 71 Explorer Scouts. The first officers were Don Nichols, President; W. C (Jake) Hayes and Milton Paulk, Vice-Presidents; Robert Symonette, Council Commissioner; Samuel Allen, Treasurer; William Mann, National Representative; Michael Kippenbrock, Advancement Chairman; Neal Boddiford, Organization Chairman; Winston Purvis, Training Chairman; Malcolm Rease, Finance Chairman; J. C. Woodard, Jr.. Camping Chairman. R. John Holland was the first Council Executive.[1047] The first temporary office was at Suite 226 of the Daniel Ashley Hotel.[1048]

In July of 1961, Alapaha Area Council held its summer camp at Camp Osborn in Chehaw Council.[1049]

Don E. Nichols was elected as the first president of Alapaha Area Council to be followed by Milton Paulk, Col. Vincent Miles, I. H. Boyette, Dr. Richard K. Winston, Dr. Lewis F. Chisholm, J. Edward Willis, Louis Kafoure and W. P. Langdale, Sr.

I. H. Boyette was re-elected President of Alapaha Council at the December 1967 council meeting in Valdosta.[1050]

At the beginning of 1991 Alaphah Area Council had 2292 total scouts registered.

At the beginning of 1992 Alaphah Area Council had 2407 total scouts registered.

At the beginning of 1993 Alaphah Area Council had 2531 total scouts registered.

In 1999 Alapaha Area Council had 2945 total scouts registered.[1051]

In 2000 Alapaha Area Council had 3100 total scouts registered.[1052]

1047 "Boy Scout Council Is Born Here", *Valdosta Times*, January 1960.
1048 "Get Awards at Honor Court, January, *Valdosta Times*, 1960.
1049 "Area Scout Troops Grow," *The Macon Telegraph*, July 17, 1961.
1050 "Donald Lee On Scout Council:, *The Clinch County News*, December 15, 1967.
1051 Alapaha Area Council – A Look Back, Circa 2001
1052 Alapaha Area Council – A Look Back, Circa 2001

Alapaha Council Firsts

Boyette, Ike (Issack Harmon) of Valdosta was the first Lodge Chief of Alapaha Lodge in 1960. He had been the Lodge Chief of Pilthlako Lodge in 1959. It is not known if he was elected or appointed. Ike died at 41 years of age in Alpharetta.

Kippenbrock, Michael of Valdosta was one of the first two Silver Beavers from Alapaha Council.

Nichols, Donald Eugene Sr. of Valdosta was the first Council President in 1960. He was the owner of Valosta Plywood with his brother a business they sold in 1966.

Paulk, Milton Lane of Ocilla was one of the first two Silver Beavers from Alapaha Council.

Wood Badge in Alapaha Council

There were four Wood Badge courses held by the Alapaha Area Council. George Burke was the scoutmaster for the first one. Rick Green was scoutmaster for the second course. Bob DeLong was the scoutmaster for the third (SR 944). James Turk was the scoutmaster for the forth.

Map 1
Map of Alapaha Area Council

The map shows the twelve counties of the old Alapaha Area Council in yellow. The counties were Atkinson, Ben Hill, Berrin, Brooks, Clinch, Coffee, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Jeff Davis, Lanier, and Lowndes.

CHAPTER 4
SOUTH GEORGIA COUNCIL

The 2012 Merger of Chehaw Council and Alapaha Area Council

Despite outstanding efforts by both the professional and volunteer members of the Council, by the beginning of 2012 Chehaw Council was again in financial trouble. On October 9, 2012, the Chehaw Council Board and Charter Representatives voted 27 to 1 in favor of merging with Alapaha Area Council and forming South Georgia Council. Two days later the Alapaha Area Council Board and Charter Representatives voted unanimously for the merger.

The merger became effective on the date of the filing of the merger documents with the Secretary of State.[1053] The filing occurred on October 24th, 2012 at 9:02 AM. However, the operational effective date of the merger was November 1, 2012. Matt Hart, Council Executive of Alapaha Area Council, became the Council Executive of the new South Georgia Council. The Council retained the Alapaha Area Council number of 98 and its headquarters in Valdosta. The office in Albany remanded open as the service center and office for the District Executive. The new Council was divided into three geographically large districts, which were based in Albany, Tifton, and Valdosta. Only the Tifton based District was formed from counties of both former Councils. The Articles of Merger named the following as temporary officers to serve until the new Council elected officers: Jaime Gibbons - President, Clay Chester - Vice President, Rick Green - Treasurer, Tommy Clark – Finance Chairman, Bob DeLong and Bennie Hall- Co-Council Commissioners. An initial board was authorized to be formed with 20 people from each of the two councils. The temporary name of "South Georgia Council" was selected by the attorney who handled the legal paperwork.[1054]

On January 12, 2013, the first meeting of new Council was held at the Lake Blackshear conference center. The morning was devoted to training sessions for the members of the Executive Board. After lunch, the first annual business meeting was held. The officers and Executive Board was nominated and approved. Julian Price was elected Council President. John Meeks, Area Director, swore in the officers and Executive Board. The other officers elected were: Clay Chester (National Council Rep); Robert (Bob) A. Delong (Council Commissioner); Johnny Dukes (VP of Administration); Rick Green (Council Treasurer)' Bennie Hall (VP of District Operations), Mike Johnson (VP of Programs); Steve Lunsford (VP of Properties); Clay Moseley (VP of Endowment); Bruce Shearer (VP of Fund Development); Andy Smith (VP of Finance) and, William Whitesell (VP of Membership).Immediately following the business meeting, the Executive Board held its first meeting. The first order of business was to select a permanent name. Council Executive Matt Hart announced that 40% of the votes cast for the council name were in favor of continuing to use the temporary name of South Georgia Council. Second place was Pine Tree Council; however, a council already existed with that name. The Executive Board unanimously approved the name South Georgia Council as the permanent name of the new Council.

[1053] Artivle IV, Paragraph 1 of the Plan of Merger of Alapaha Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Inc. and Chehaw Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Inc.and South Georgia Council of the Boy Scouts of Amerca, Inc.
[1054] From Matt Hart, Council Executive, on November 7, 2012.

South Georgia Council in Operation

The Year Zero (2012)

The merger of the Alapaha Area Council and Chehaw Council was effective November 1, 2012 and at that time scout James McMickin of Poulan, Georgia (Chehaw Council) had completed his Board of Review but his certificate had been delayed. His certificate was issued on November 14, 2012 and he is considered the first Eagle Scout from South Georgia Council.[1055] The first patch to have South Georgia Council on it was the 2012 Immokalee Lodge Vigil Reunion patch, which was held December 8, 2012.[1056] The patch was issued during the time the council name was temporary.

The First Year (2013)

At the beginning of 2013, South Georgia Council had 3,347 registered youth in 122 units.[1057] The Chehaw District had 19 packs, 17 troops, 3 crews, and 2 posts. The council had 59 scouts earn the rank of Eagle Scout during 2013. Total operating expense for 2013 was $859,617 and revenue was $926,723.[1058]

The 21st annual Wild Game Dinner (2013) was the first held by South Georgia Council. It was held at the Potter Community Center. Vendors displaying their equipment was added in a midway format.

The first annual Council Camporee was held at Camp Patten from November 8 to 10, 2013. Saturday moring was unusually cold, with the temperature dipping to 44° during the night. Over 200 scouts attended.

Fifty-three young men attainted the rank of Eagle Scout during 2013.

The Second Year (2014)

At the beginning of 2014, South Georgia Council had 2,935 youth consisting of 1,981 Cub Scouts, 893 Boy Scouts, 38 Explorers and 23 Venture Scouts in 114 units which were 55 Cub Scout Packs, 49 Boy Scout Troops, 6 Venturing Crews and 4 Exploring Posts.[1059] South Georgia Council transferred Jeff Davis County to the newly formed Coastal Georgia Council of Savannah. Reducing the number of counties in South Georgia Council from the original twenty-nine to twenty-eight counties. The transfer was approved at the Executive Board meeting on July 22, 2014. For 2014 South Georgia Council received the Silver Level Status of the Journey to Excellence; 95% of Cub Scouts participated in a council camping activity; and South Georgia Council ranked first in the nation in scout customer satisfaction.[1060]

[1055] From Matt Hart, South Georgia Council Executive.
[1056] The 2012 South Georgia Council Winter Camp at Camp Patten was held starting December 27, 2012 and would be the second patch.
[1057] *Boy Scouts of America South Georgia Council 2012 Annual Report*, page 8.
[1058] *South Georgia Council 2013 Annual Report.*
[1059] *South Georgia Council 2013 Annual Report.*
[1060] *South Georgia Council 2014 Annual Report.*

The second annual Council Camporee was held in September 26 to 28, 2014 at the Marine Base in Albany. A total of 365 scouts from 26 troops were present. Base commander Col. Donald J. Davis wrote an editorial for the Albany paper praising the event.

The 22nd annual Wild Game Dinner (2014) was the first in its 22 year history to contend with rain. Very heavy rain ended in the early afternoon of October 14th, but the event was still a success made even more memorable by the wet and muddy parking area.

Fifty young men earned their Eagle rank during 2014.

The Third Year (2015)

For 2015, the Council had a budget of $689,699 and actual expenses of $669,068 with revenue of $645,888.

Allison Flory, Development Director, retired after many years of service to scouting.

The Council held two Cub Family Weekends (one at Camp Osborn and one Camp Patten), Webelos Rendezvous, National Youth Leader Training, Merit Badge Weekend, University Of Scouting, Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, Cub Fun Day, Wilderness First Aid, and the third annual Council Camporee was held September 25-27, 2015 at Reed Bingham State Park.

The 23rd annual Wild Game Dinner (2015) was held at the Potter Community Center.

Fifty-three young men earned their Eagle rank during 2015.

The Fourth Year (2016)

The year 2016 started with a budget of $700,721 and ended with a buidget of $721,812. The year ended with total revenue of $719,375

In early 2016, Sam McCord joined South Gerogia Council as Program Director replace Allison Flory who had retired.

Preston Parker, District Executive for Chehaw Distrrict resigned in April. Ralph Jackson from Valdosta was hired to replace him in Augus; but, he resigned in September prior to moving to Albany. Roland McCarthy, the former District Executive of Eight Rivers Distrrict was hired to return to scouting as Chehaw District District Executive Executive beginning in November, but prior to staring he decided to remain at this job with the City of Sylvester.

The fourth annual Council Camporee was held September 23-25, 2016 at Camp Patten. The weather was warm with highs in the 90s both days. A total of 178 youth and 59 adults from 19 units attended.

The 24th annual Wild Game Dinner (2016) was held October 18, 2016 at the Potter Community Center.

In November, Linda Miller, the long-time District Director and District Executive from Valdosta died suddenly. This left the Council with no Distrct Executives.

The Council held two Cub Family Weekends (one at Camp Osborn and one Camp Patten), Webelos Rendezvous, Merit Badge Weekend, University Of Scouting, Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, Cub Fun Day, and the Council Camporee was held ad Camp Patten.

Forty-four young men earned their Eagle rank in 2016 and were recognized at the February, 2017 banquet. The year 2016 ended with South Georgia Council having 1,438 Cub Scouts in 48 units, 649 Boy Scouts in 48 units, 36 Venture Scouts in 6 units and 78 Explorers in 4 units for a total of 2,196 Scouts in 105 units.

The Fifth Year (2017)

The year 2017 started with a budget of $872,292. The year ended with and adjusted budget of $889,100 and total revenue of $995,555 which was up over $250,000 over 2016.

In January, Camp Osborn was hit by two tornados and was closed for the rest of the year. The council camporee which was supposed to be held at Camp Osborn was instead held at Camp Okit the former Girl Scout Camp near Shellman, Georgia the weekend of September 22 – 24th, 2017.

Chris Thigpin joined the council as District Executive for the Alapaha District in Janaury. Kelli Sterling was promoted to District Adminstrator for the Chehaw Distirct in February and to District Executive in November. Stacey Hill joined the council as 8 Rivers District Executive. Jennifer Bevis joined the council as Administration Director.

Sixty young men earned their Eagle rank in 2017. The year 2017 ended with a total of 2,326 youth in 96 Units including: 1,578 Cub Scouts in 43 Packs, 660 Boy Scouts in 43 Troops, 26 Venturers in 5 Crews and 62 Explorers in 5 Posts.

The Sixth Year (2018)

The year 2018 started with a budget of $859,414. Kevin King was elected Council President succeeding Bob Roquemore.

In June of 2018, Cub Scouting officially accepted girls into its ranks. Two units signed up to accept girls on the first day which was June 10th, 2018, they were: Pack 3 of Chehaw District and Pack 454 of Alapaha District. Caroline **C**ummings of Pack 3 in Albany is credited with being the first young lady to sign-up for Cub Scouts in the South Georgia Council. By September the council had over 190 young ladies officially in Cub Scouts.

In September, Camp Osborn was reopened after almost two years of repair work. Two weeks later Hurricane Michael hit camp and took down the sign and damages many of the roof on the remaining buildings.

The Cub Family Weekends were the first major events for the council to include yoku

ladies. The first was held the weekend of October 19-21 at Camp Patten and the second was held the weekend of November 2 to 4 at Camp Osborn. Both had a noticeably larger and more enthusiastic turnout in part due to the inclusion of girls in the ranks of Cub Scouts.

Year 2018 ended with 2,333 youth registered in 95 units which consisted of 1,646 in 44 Cub Scout units, 617 in 44 Boy Scout units, 28 in 5 Venturing units, and 42 in 6 LFL units. Total registered scouts was up 1 scout from 2017.

For 2018, the council had $785,887 in income and $882,717 in expenses for a deficit of $96,829.

The Seventh Year (2019)

The budget 2019 as approved at the December, 2018 Executive Board Meeting was $804,750.00.

On February 1st, 2019, the first day of Scouts, BSA, Troop 13, chartered by St. Teresa's Church in Albany, has 13 young ladies and are the first Scouts, BSA Troop in the Council to receive their charter. They received there charter at the Council Banquet on February 2nd, 2019. Jennifer Davis was the charter Scoutmaster and Savine Patton was the charter Assistant Scoutmater.

In March, the council held a Merit Badge University at Camp Patten for over 400 scouts.

At the March Executive Board meeting, the Board voted to close the Albany Scout office. The Albany Scout office closed on April 11, 2019.

For 2019 the council had $856,701 in income and $860,340 in expenses for a deficit of $3,639.

Year 2019 ended with 1,889 youth registered in 90 units which consisted of 1,266 in 39 Cub Scout units, 554 in 41 Boy Scout units, 24 in 4 Venturing units, 44 in 6 LFL units, and 1 Long Cub and 1 Long Scout. Total registered scouts was down 444 scout from 2018.

Total Council expenses for 2019 were $860,340 with total revenue of $844,875.

The Eight Year (2020)

The budget for 2020 was $787,625.

In February, Matt Hart announced he would be leaving effective February 28th to take the job as Council Executive in the Northwest Gerogia Council. Kelli Sterling, Chehaw District Executive, announced she would also be leaving at the same time to go to the Northwest Gerorgia Council.

In February, ground was broken on a new shower complex at Camp Patten which is to be ready in time for the Section Conclave in April. However, due to the Covid-19 eipdemic the Conclave was concelled.

On July 1st, 2020, Mark Manchester from Crater Lake Council in Medford, Oregon became the second Council Executive for the South Georgia Council.

In September, both camp service days had excellent turnout with Camp Patten exceeding 150 volunteers.

In October, the Council Camporee was held in Camp Osborn with 18 of the 36 units in the Council attending, including all three girls units, with about 150 scouts and adults. Troop 13, the girls unit from St. Teresa's Church, took first place.

Thirty young men earned their Eagle Rank in 2020 from South Georgia Council. 2020 ended with a total of 1,091 registerd scouts in 61 units.

Total Council expenses for 2020 were $704,572 with total revenue of $620,768.

The Nine Year (2021)

The Annual Council Banquet was postponed due to Covid and held in April.

On February 1st, Chris Thigpen moved from Alapaha District DE to an Administrative position and John "Alf" Alford became the Alapaha DE.

In March, the council sold the office at 1841 Norman Drive in Valdosta and temporaily moved to 123 North Patterson Drive and started using PO Box 3741. In September the office moved to 123 US-41-BR in Valdosta.

The annual Council Camporee was held in October 8 to 10 at Camp Patten with about 100 scouts attending. For the second year in a row an all-girl troop, Troop 2020 of Valdosta, took top honors.

Total Council expenses for 2021 were $551,001 with total revenue of $655,247.

Thirty-one scouts earned their Eagle Rank in 2021 in South Georgia Council. At the end of 2021 we had exactly 1000 youth registered in 66 units.

The Tenth Year (2022)

The 2022 budget was set at $798,349.00.

In January, Rhotarus (Tara) Franklin of Leesburg was hired as the Chehaw District Executive.

In May, Eli Lapeza formerly for troop 270 of Cordele was selected as the 2022-2023 Territory 14 Venturing Officers' Association President. He is now in college in Atlanta.

On June 7th, the Service Center in Valdosta moved from its temporary location to 498 Barfield Dr, Valdosta, Georgia.

On September 18th, 2022, Reece Anne Ellion of Troop 13 in Albany became the first young lady to earn the Eagle Rank in South Georgia Council.

Council President Tony Blakey moved to Missouri at the end of 2022 and at the December 13, 2022 Board Meeting William Whitesell was elected to replace him as President.

Thirty-three scouts earned their Eagle Rank in 2022 in South Georgia Council. At the end of 2022 we had 1083 scouts in 56 units.

Calendar year 2022 finished with revenue of $798,840.00 and expenses of $788,704.00.

The Eleventh Year (2023)

The 2023 budget was set at $802.071.00. We ended the year with 1092 scout consisting of 756 Cubs, 271 Scouts, 30 Crew members and 35 Explorers.`

The Twelveth Year (2024)

We ended 2024 with a total of 933 Scouts consisting of 633 Cubs, 277 Scouts, 8 Crew members and 36 Explorers.`

The 2024 budget was $673,300 and total 2024 revenue was $586,460.

The Thirteenth Year (2025)

The budget for 2025 was $685,700.

In June the council reduced the number of districts from three to two by elimating the 8-Rivers District. Dooly, Crisp, Wilcox, Turner and Worth Counties were assigned to Chehaw District and Ben Hill, Irwin, Tift, Coffee, and Atkinson counties where assigned to Alapaha District.

In June, Council Executive Mark Manchester left the council.

We ended 2025 with a total of 742 Scouts consisting of 482 Cubs, 282 Scouts, 4 Crew members and 24 Explorers.`

The Fourteenth Year (2026)

Map 1
Map of BSA Councils in Georgia before South Georgia Council

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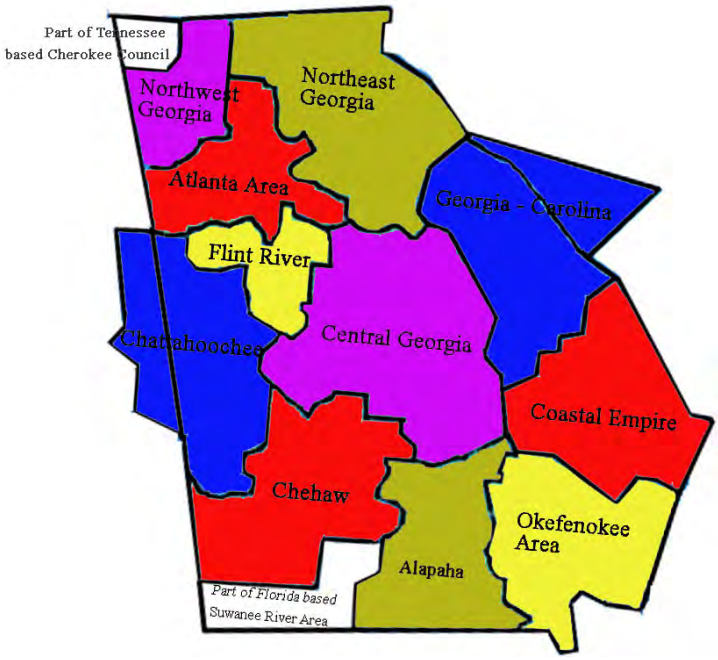

The Northwest corner of the state is part of Cherokee Council which is based in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The Southwest corner of the state is part of Suwannee River Area Council which is based in Tallahassee, Florida. The Georgia-Carolina Council which is based in Augusta, Georgia, extends into South Carolina. The Chattahoochee Council, which is based in Columbus, Georgia, extends into Alabama.

Map 2

Map of South Georgia Council Districts

SOUTH GEORGIA COUNCIL

THE INITIAL THREE DISTRICTS

ALAPAHA DISTRICT (FNA DISTRICT 1): Atkinson, Berrien, Brooks, Clinch, Cook, Echols, Lanier and Lowndes Counties

District Chairman: Dan Deaver; District Commissioner: Dave Patterson; Senior District Executive: Linda Miller.

EIGHT RIVERS DISTRICT (FNA DISTRICT 2): Ben Hill, Coffee, Crisp, Dooly, Irwin, Tift, Turner, Jeff Davis,[1061] Wilcox and Worth Counties

District Chairman: Carl Hutchinson; District Commissioner: Tim McRae; District Executive: Roland McCarthy

CHEHAW DISTRICT (FNA DISTRICT 3): Baker, Calhoun, Clay, Dougherty, Early, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Schley, Sumter, and Terrell Counties

District Chairman: Mike Greene; District Commissioner: Melissa Kirkland; District Executive: Preston Parker

[1061] Jeff Davis County was tansferred to Coasteral Georgia Council in July of 2014.

Map 3

Map of South Georgia Council Districts in 2025

SOUTH GEORGIA COUNCIL

AFTER 2025 REDUCTION TO TWO DISTRICTS

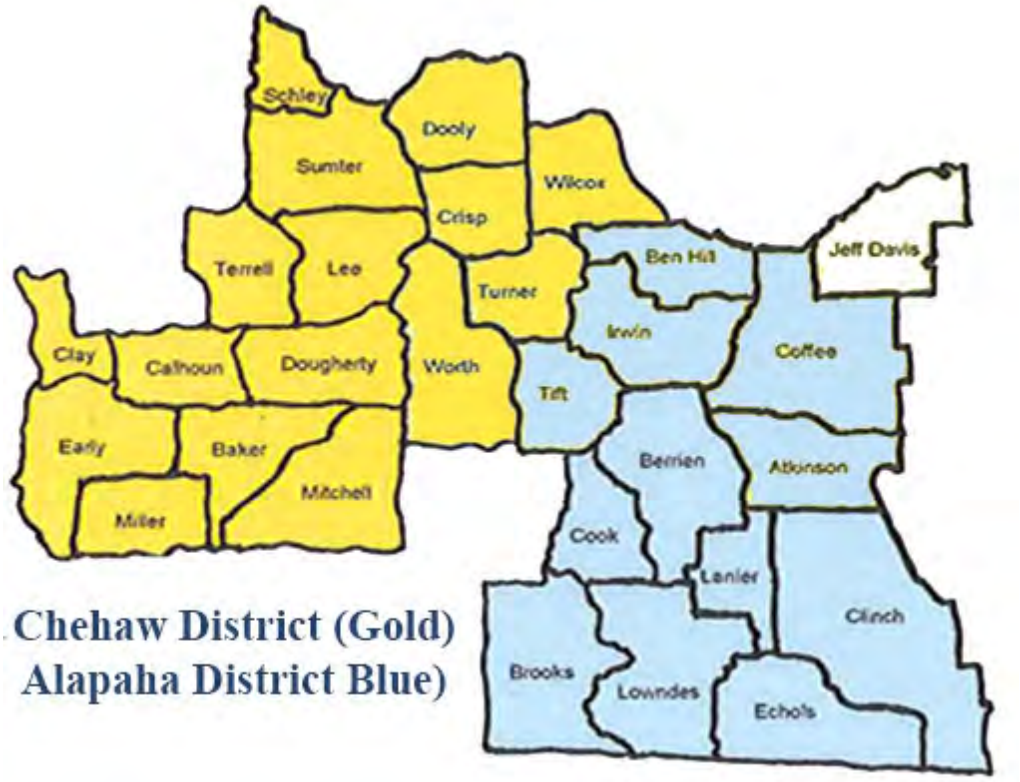

Table 2

South Georgia Council
Initial Executive Board (January 12, 2013)

1. Sam Allen
2. Pat Atwater
3. Marshall Bennett
4. Joe C. Bishop
S. Steve Brooks
6. Wil Campbell
7. Clay Chester (National Council Rep)
8. Ben Copeland
9. Joseph Davis
10. Dan Deaver
11. Bob Delong (Council Commissioner)
12. Johnny Dukes (VP of Administration)
13. Greg Fullerton
14. Jaime Gibbons
15. Mike Greene
16. Rick Green (Council Treasurer)
17. Lem Griffin
18. Bennie Hall (VP of District Operations)
19. Jim Halter
20. Cathy Helms
21. Huddy Hudgens
22. Carl Hutchinson
23. Rusty Ingram
24. Jerry Jennett
2S. Mike Johnson (VP of Programs)
26. Steve Lunsford (VP of Properties)
27. Kevin King
28. Patsy Martin
29. Tim McCrae
30. Kent Morrison
31. Clay Moseley (VP of Endowment)
32. Joe Najjar
33. Bill Peeples
34. Garland Pendergraph
35. Julian Price (Council President)
36. Ken Ricket
37. Bob Roquemore
38. Bruce Shearer (VP of Fund Development)
39. Andy Smith (VP of Finance)
40. Sam Thompson
4l. William Whitesell (VP of Membership)
42. Ed Vaughn
43. Jim Vaughn

Table 3

South Georgia Council
Initial Advisory Board (January 12, 2013)

1. Joe Abernathy
2. Ben Andrews Ben Andrews
3. Bob Ator
4. Wade Barr
5. Jimmy Benefield
6. Rom Bozzuto
7. Norman Brantley
8. Alan Braswell
9. Don Brooks
10. George Burke
11. Raymond Burkett
12. John Carroll
13. Rod Casey
14. Ray Chitty
15. Tommy Clark
16. Mike Clements
17. Richard Crozier
18. Ed Crane
19. Rob Evans
20. Mickey Findley
21. Everett Freeman
22. Carol Fullerton
23. Jack Hall
24. Carl Hancock
25. Dan Hoffman
26. Crisp Gatewood
27. Bradley Winn
28. Scott Ivey
29. Robert Krywicki
30. John Wesley Langdale III
31. Larry Lee
32. Wayne Maris
33. Darrell McGee
34. Mike McKinnon
35. Jim Micklon
36. Bill Murray
37. David Orlowski
38. Bennie Overstreet
39. Clarence Parker
40. Gerald Pryor
41. Eric Riggle
42. Jay Shaw
43. Melvin Shelton
44. Tom Smith
45. Paul Sumner
46. John Takash
47. Richard Thomas
48. Bennett Threlkeld
49. Burke Walters
50. Bill Ward
51. Jay Williams
52. Ed Willis
53. Jim Womack

Table 4

South Georgia Council
Initial Staff (January 12, 2013)

Matt Hart	Council Executive
Allison Flory	Development Director
Linda Miller	Sr. District Executive
Preston Parker	District Executive
Roland McCarthy	District Executive
Juanelle King	Office Manager
Jennifer McNeil	Accounting Specialist
Eric Ginter	Camp Ranger
Simone Thompson	Albany Scout Shop
Lauren Jacobs	Albany Scout Shop

Table 5

South Georgia Council
Chehaw District Initial Units

(January, 2013)

Packs	Chartering Organization	Unit Leader
1	First Baptist Church Albany	Geoffrey Shipley
2	Beulah Mission	Joe White
3	St. Teresa's Catholic	Dick Erickson
7	First Baptist Church Leesburg	Matt Hoover
8	Institutional First Baptist Church	Bennie Hall
11	Avalon United Methodist Church	Colleen Slaughter
21	Americus Kiwanis Club	Tommy McCurley
23	Southwest Georgia Homeschool Assoc.	Lisa McMillan
24	Schley County Methodist Mens	Duane Montgomery
26	First Baptist Church Americus	Scott Ivey
53	First Baptist Church Pelham	Sirrena Hynote
64	United Methodist Church Americus	Bill Waller
82	Ft. Gaines United Methodist Church	Martin Lolly
92	Blakley United Methodist Church	Michael Miller
99	Mt Zion Baptist Church	Derrick Jackson
210	Methodist Men's Club	Gus Tisdale
226	Mt Olive Baptist Church	Clay Jones
316	Colquitt United Methodist Church	Erik Culver
411	Friendship Missionary	Brian Terry Sr.

Troops	Chartering Organization	Unit Leader
1	First Baptist Church Albany	Bill Waller
3	St .Teresa's Catholic	Mike Johnson
7	First Baptist Church Leesburg	Amy Bacon
8	Institutional First Baptist Church	Clifford Williams
11	Avalon United Methodist Church	Bobby Bruner
15	St Paul's Episcopal Church	Ned Newcomb
21	Americus Kiwanis Club	Tommy McCurley
23	Southwest Georgia Homeschool Assoc	Michael May
24	Schley County Methodist Men’s	Doug Jamieson
26	First Baptist Church Americus	Mike Ellis
99	Mt Zion Baptist Church	Carvin Davis
149	Camilla United Methodist Church	Justin Redding
210	Methodist Men's Club	Wes Stone
226	Mt Olive Baptist Church	Mike Harris
260	Good News Ministries	Stephen Woodson
316	The Lions Club	Glen Sheffield
873	First Baptist Church Putney	Al Bell

Crews	Chartering Organization	Unit Leader
1	First Baptist Church Albany	Mark Halbrook
23	Southwest Georgia Homeschool Assoc	Phillip Millerd
97	Paragon Foods, Inc	Melissa Kirkland

Posts	Chartering Organization	Unit Leader
47	Albany Dougherty	Joe Luke
432	Leesburg Police Dept	James Vick

Table 6

South Georgia Council
District Chairmen/Commissioners

Year	District	Chairman	Commissioner	Executive
2013	Alapaha	Dan Deaver	Dave Patterson	Linda Miller
	Chehaw	J. Michael Greene	Melissa Kirkland	Preston Parker
	Eight Rivers	Carl Hutchinson	Cindy Bookout	Roland McCarthy
2014	Alapaha	Dan Deaver	Dave Patterson	Linda Miller
	Chehaw	J. Michael Greene	Melissa Ginter	Preston Parker
	Eight Rivers	Carl Hutchinson	Tim McRae	Roland McCarthy
2015	Alapaha	Jeff Creamer	Dave Patterson	Linda Miller
	Chehaw	Brad Winn[1062]/ J. Michael Greene	Melissa Ginter	Preston Parker
	Eight Rivers	Carl Hutchinson	Jeff Scott	Unfilled
2016	Alapaha	Jeff Creamer	Helen Chaney	Linda Miller
	Chehaw	J. Michael Greene	Melissa Ginter	Preston Parker [1063]/ Ralph Jackson
	Eight Rivers	Unfilled	Jeff Scott	Unfilled
2017	Alapaha	Jeff Creamer	Helen Chaney	Chris Thigpin
	Chehaw	J. Michael Greene	Melissa Ginter	Kelli Sterling
	Eight Rivers	Open	Jeff Scott	Stacey Hill
2018	Alapaha	Bill Tillman	Darren Williams	Chris Thigpin
	Chehaw	J. Michael Greene / Tony Blakey[1064]	Melissa Ginter	Kelli Sterling
	Eight Rivers	Carl Hutchinson	Robert Sears	Stacey Hill

[1062] Brad Winn resigned in June of 2015 due to move to Ohio for work.
[1063] Preston Parker left to take a non-scouting job in April 2016. Ralph Jackson was hired Chehaw District DE in August, 2016 and resigned in September, 2016.
[1064] In September, 2018, J. Michael Greene took over the Eagle Advancement Board and Tony Blakey became Chairman.

Table 7

South Georgia Council
2013 Executive Board Members

Julian Price	Council President
Robert (Bob) A. Delong	Council Commissioner
Rick Green	Council Treasurer
Johnny Dukes	Vice President of Administration
Bennie Hall	Vice President of Operations
Mike Johnson	Vice President of Program
Steve Lunsford	Vice President of Properties
Clay Moseley	Vice President of Endowment
Bruce Shearer	Vice President of Fund Development
Andy Smith	Vice President of Finance
William Whitesell	Vice President of Membership
Clay Chester	National Council Representative

Sam Allen
Pat Atwater
Marshall Bennett
Joe C. Bishop
Steve Brooks
Will Campbell
Ben Copeland
Joseph Davis
Dan Deaver
Greg Fullerton
Jaime Gibbons
J. Michael Greene
Lemuel Griffin
Jim Halter
Cathy Helms
Harold Hudgens
Carl Hutchinson
Rusty Ingram
Jerry Jennett
Kevin King
Patsy Martin
Tim McRae
Kent Morrison
Joe Najjar
Bill Peeples
Garland Pendergraph
Ken Ricket

William (Bob) A. Roquemore
Sam Thompson
Ed Vaughn
Jim Vaughn

Table 8

South Georgia Council
2014 Executive Board Members

Julian Price	Council President
Robert (Bob) A. Delong	Council Commissioner
Rick Green	Council Treasurer
Johnny Dukes	Vice President of Administration
Joe Najjar	Vice President of District Operations
Bennie Hall	Vice President of Program
Mike Johnson	Vice President of Properties
Clay Moseley	Vice President of Endowment
Clay Chester	Vice President of Fund Development
Andy Smith	Vice President of Finance
William Whitesell	Vice President of Membership
Sam Thompson	National Council Representative

Sam Allen
Pat Atwater
Marshall Bennett
Joe C. Bishop
Tom Bozzuto
Steve Brooks
Will Campbell
Tim Coombs
Ben Copeland
Joseph Davis
Dan Deaver
Michael Drahush
Greg Fullerton
J. Michael Greene
Lemuel Griffin
Jim Halter

Cathy Helms
Harold Hudgens
Carl Hutchinson
Rusty Ingram
Jerry Jennett
Kevin King
Robert Lagesse
Steve Lunsford
Mike Madden
Patsy Martin
Tim McRae
Bill Peeples
Garland Pendergraph
Ken Ricket
William (Bob) A. Roquemore
Jim Tunison t

Table 9

South Georgia Council
2015 Executive Board Members[1065]

William (Bob) A. Roquemore	Council President
Robert (Bob) A. Delong	Council Commissioner
Rick Green	Council Treasurer
Johnny Dukes	Vice President of Administration
Joe Najjar	Vice President of District Operations
Bennie Hall	Vice President of Program
Mike Johnson	Vice President of Properties
Clay Moseley	Vice President of Endowment
Clay Chester	Vice President of Fund Development
Andy Smith	Vice President of Finance
William Whitesell	Vice President of Membership
Julian Price	National Council Representative

Pat Atwater
Joe C. Bishop
Steve Brooks
Freddie Broome
Tim Coombs
Ben Copeland
Jeff Creamer
Greg Fullerton
J. Michael Greene
Lemuel Griffin
Jim Halter
Cathy Helms
Carl Hutchinson

Rusty Ingram
Jerry Jennett
Kevin King
Robert Lagesse
Chester Lapeza
Mike Madden
Tim McRae
Bill Peeples
Ken Ricket
Sam Thompson
Jim Tunison
Brad Winn

[1065] South Georgia Council, BSA, Minutes, Annual Business Meeting, January 31, 2015

Table 10

South Georgia Council
2018 Executive Board Members

King Kevin	Council President
Dickinson Merrill	Council Commissioner
Green Rick	Assistant Council Treasurer
Brooks Steve	Council Treasurer
Dukes Johnny	VP of Administration
Najjar Joe	VP of District Operations
Moseley Clay	VP of Endowment
Smith Andy	VP of Finance
Zimmer Karl	VP of Fund Development
Whitesell William	VP of Membership
Hall Bennie	VP of Program Bennie Hall
Johnson Mike	VP of Properties
Hutchinson Carl	8 Rivers District Chairman
Tillman Bill	Alapaha District Chairman
Blakey Tony	Chehaw Chairman[1066]
McRae Tim	Council Advancement Chairman
Fullerton Greg	Council Attorney
Chester Clay	National Council Representative
Greene Mike	NESA Chairman/Chehaw Chairman
Helms Cathy	Youth Protection Chairperson

Atwater	Pat
Bishop	Joe
Copeland	Ben
Deaver	Dan
Drahush	Michael
Griffin	Lem
Halbrook	Margaret
Halter	Jim
Hawthorne	Keith
Hooper	Eric
Hunt	Joel

Jennett	Jerry
Lapeza	Chester
Murray	Bill
Richards	Frank
Roquemore	William (Bob) A.
Sauls	Randy
Sumner	J. D.
Tunison	Jim
Tuten	Chris
Walker	Ed

[1066] Joined Executive Board in September, 2018 when he became Chehaw District Chairman.

Table 11

South Georgia Council
2019 Executive Board Members

King Kevin	Council President
Dickinson Merrill	Council Commissioner
Green Rick	Assistant Council Treasurer
Brooks Steve	Council Treasurer
Dukes Johnny	VP of Administration
Najjar Joe	VP of District Operations
Moseley Clay	VP of Endowment
Smith Andy	VP of Finance
Zimmer Karl	VP of Fund Development
Whitesell William	VP of Membership
Hall Bennie	VP of Program Bennie Hall
Johnson Mike	VP of Properties
Hutchinson Carl	Eight Rivers District Chairman
Tillman Bill	Alapaha District Chairman
Blakey Tony	Chehaw Chairman
McRae Tim	Council Advancement Chairman
Fullerton Greg	Council Attorney
Chester Clay	National Council Representative
Greene Mike	NESA Chairman
Helms Cathy	Youth Protection Chairperson

Atwater	Pat
Copeland	Ben
Deaver	Dan
DeMerssserman	Danny
Griffin	Lem
Hagaman	Zackery
Halbrook	Margaret
Halter	Jim
Hawthorne	Keith
Hooper	Eric
Hunt	Joel

Jennett	Jerry
Lapeza	Chester
Palazzolo	Rose
Richards	Frank
Roquemore	William (Bob) A.
Rose	David
Sauls	Randy
Sumner	J. D.
Tunison	Jim
Tuten	Chris
Walker	Ed

Table 12

South Georgia Council
2020 Executive Board Members

Blakey Tony	Chehaw Chairman
Brooks Steve	Council Treasurer
	National Council Representative
Dickinson Merrill	Council Commissioner
Dukes Johnny	VP of Administration
Fullerton Greg	Council Attorney
Green Rick	Assistant Council Treasurer
Greene Mike	NESA Chairman
Hall Bennie	VP of Program Bennie Hall
Helms Cathy	Youth Protection Chairperson
	Eight Rivers District Chairman
Johnson Mike	VP of Properties
King Kevin	Council President
McRae Tim	Council Advancement Chairman
Moseley Clay	VP of Endowment
Najjar Joe	VP of District Operations
Smith Andy	VP of Finance
Tillman Bill	Alapaha District Chairman
Whitesell William	VP of Membership
Zimmer Karl	VP of Fund Development

Adams	Jason[1067]
Atwater	Pat
Andrews	Ben
Chester	Clay
Copeland	Ben
Deaver	Dan
DeMerssserman	Danny
Griffin	Lem
Hagaman	Zackery
Halter	Jim
Hawthorne	Keith

Hooper	Eric
Jennett	Jerry
Palazzolo	Rose
Roquemore	William (Bob) A.
Rose	David
Sauls	Randy
Sumner	J. D.
Tunison	Jim
Tuten	Chris
Walker	Ed
Whatley	Stacy

[1067] Added in April, 2020.

Table 13

South Georgia Council
2021 Executive Board Members

President	Kevin King
Council Commissioner	Merrill Dickinson
Treasurer	Steve Brooks
Assistant Treasurer	Rick Greene
Vice Presidents	Britt Brinson-Training
Vice Presidents	Karl Zimmer-Administration
Vice Presidents	Mike Greene- Marketing
Vice Presidents	Stacey Whatley- Diversity
Vice Presidents	Greg Fullerton- Attorney
Vice Presidents	Eric Hooper- Finance
Vice Presidents	William Whitesell - Membership Jason Adams - Asst VP Membership
Vice Presidents	Andrew Blackwell-Advancement
Vice Presidents	Clay Mosley-Endowment
Vice Presidents	Bennie Hall-Programs
Vice Presidents	Mike Johnson-Properties
Vice Presidents	Andy Smith
Vice Presidents	Joe Najar - Operations
Vice Presidents	Britt Brinson-Training
District Chair 8 Rivers	Joe Najar
District Chair Alapaha	Bill Tillman
District Chair Chehaw	Tony Blakey

Member at Large	Jason Adams
Member at Large	Ben Andrews
Member at Large	James Atwater
Member at Large	Warren Brinson
Member at Large	Clay Chester
Member at Large	Ben Copeland
Member at Large	Daniel Deaver
Member at Large	John Dukes
Member at Large	Richard Green
Member at Large	Zachary Hageman
Member at Large	Jim Halter
Member at Large	Keith Hawthorne

Member at Large	Jerry Jennett
Member at Large	Tommy McCurley
Member at Large	Tim McRae
Member at Large	Franklin Richards
Member at Large	Robert Roquemore
Member at Large	David Rose
Member at Large	Jack Sauls
Member at Large	Jeffrey Scott
Member at Large	James Tunison
Member at Large	John Tuten
Member at Large	Edward Walker
Member at Large	Rose Palazzolo

Table 14

South Georgia Council
2022 Executive Board Members

Andrew Blackwell	VP Advancement
Tony Blakey	Council President
Britt Brinson	VP Training
Steve Brooks	Council Tresurer
Clay Chester	National Council Member
Daniel Deaver	Council Commissioner
Greg Fullerton	Council Attorney
Richard Green	Asst. Council Tresurer
Mike Greene	VP Marketing
Bennie Hall	VP Program
Eric Hooper	VP Finance
Mike Johnons	VP Properties
Kevin King	Past Council President
Clay Moseley	VP Endowment
Joe Najjar	VP District Ops
Andy Smith	Council Attorney
Bill Tillman	Alapaha District Chairman
Stacey Whatley	VP Diversity
William Whitesell	VP Membership
Karl Zimmer	VP Administration

Jason Adams
Ben Andrews
James Atwater
Ben Copelend
Merrill Dickinson
John Dukes
Zachary Hageman
Jim Halter
Keith Hawthorne
Jerry Jennett
Tommy Mccurley

Tim McRae
Rose Palazzolo
Robert roquemore
David Rose
Jack "Randy" Sauls
Jeffrey Scott
Tanya Thomas
James Tunison
John Tuten
Edward Walker

Table 15

South Georgia Council
2023 Executive Board Members

Andrew Blackwell	VP Advancement
Britt Brinson	VP Training
Steve Brooks	Council Tresurer
Clay Chester	National Council Member
Daniel Deaver	Council Commissioner
Greg Fullerton	Council Attorney
Richard Green	Asst. Council Tresurer
Mike Greene	VP Marketing
Bennie Hall	VP Program
Eric Hooper	VP Finance
Mike Johnons	VP Properties
Jason Moon	VP Membership
Clay Moseley	VP Endowment
Joe Najjar	VP District Ops
Andy Smith	Council Attorney
Bill Tillman	Alapaha District Chairman
Stacey Whatley	VP Diversity
William Whitesell	Council President
Karl Zimmer	VP Administration

Table 16

South Georgia Council
2024 Executive Board Members

President: William Whitesell
Vice Presidents:
Vacant – Administration
Merrill Dickinson – Risk Management
Mike Greene- Marketing
Vacant - Diversity
Greg Fullerton- Attorney
Eric Hooper- Finance
Jason Moon - Membership
Andrew Blackwell-Advancement
Clay Mosley-Endowment
Bennie Hall-Programs
Mike Johnson-Properties
Andy Smith - Attorney
Britt Brinson-Training
Treasurer: Steve Brooks
Rick Greene-assistant treasurer
Council Commissioner: Dan Deaver
District Chairs: Joe Najjar- 8 Rivers District and VP Operations
Bill Tillman – Alapaha District
Jon Woodcock – Chehaw District
National Council Members
Clay Chester

Other Executive Board Members:
Ben Andrews
James Atwater
Clay Chester
Ben Copeland
Merrill Dickinson
John Dukes
Richard Green
Zachary Hageman
Jim Halter
Keith Hawthorne
Jerry Jennett

Kevin King
Broc McDowell
Jason Moon
Robert Moorefield
Robert Roquemore
Jack “Randy” Sauls
Jeffrey Scott
Tanya Thomas
James Tunison
John Tuten
Rose Palazzolo

Table 17

South Georgia Council
2025 Executive Board Members

Ben	Andrews	
Andrew	Blackwell	VP Advancement
Britt	Brinson	
Steve	Brooks	Council Tresurer
Max	Carter	VP Marketing
Steven	Chammoun	
Clay	Chester	National Council Member
Ben	Copelend	
Wade	Crozier	
Daniel	Deaver	Council Commissioner
Merrill	Dickinson	VP Risk Management
John	Dukes	
Rob	Frock	Council Training Chair
Greg	Fullerton	Council Attorney
Richard	Green	NESA Chairman
Mike	Greene	
Bennie	Hall	VP Membership
Jim	Halter	
Eric	Hooper	
Jerry	Jennett	
Mike	Johnson	Council President
Kevin	King	VP Strategic Development
Tommy	McCurley	VP Properties
Broc	McDowell	
John	Miller	8-Rivers District Chair
Jason	Moon	VP Program
Robbie	Moorefield	
Clay	Moseley	VP Endowment
Joe	Najjar	VP Council Ops
Rose	Palazzolo	
Robert	Roquemore	
Jack "Randy"	Sauls	
Jeffrey	Scott	
Andy	Smith	Council Attorney
Bill	Tillman	Alapaha District Chairman
James	Tunison	Nominating Committee Chair
John	tuten	
William	Whitesell	Past Council President

CHAPTER 5
OUTSTANDING SCOUTS AND LEADERS FROM SOUTH CENTRAL AND SOUTHWEST GEORGIA

The First Eagle Scout from the area of Alapaha Area Council

The first Eagle Scout in the Okefenokee Council was John Wilson of Troop 2 in Valdosta who Eagle Rank date was August 16th, 1921.

The first Eagle Scout in the Okefenokee Area Council was J. Davis of Troop 1 in Valdosta whose Eagle Rank date was March 10th, 1932.

The first Eagle Scout from Alapaha Area Council was Lee Falk of Troop 2403 in Valdosta whose Eagle Rank date was January 8th, 1960.

The First Eagle Scouts from the area of Chehaw Council

The first Eagle Scout of the Chehaw area when it was run by the National Council was John Ewing Kiker, Jr.[1068] of Troop 1 in Americus whose Eagle rank was 1920. He is the earliest known Eagle Scout from South Georgia.[1069]

The first Eagle Scout of Aumuckalee Council was David John Broadhurst of Troop 1 in Americus whose Eagle Rank date was March 15, 1921.[1070] David John Broadhurst earned his Eagle rank after the first meeting of Third Congressional District Committee, which occurred on January 26, 1921, but before the official chartering of Aumuckalee Council which is believed to have been in the late summer of that year.[1071] However, at the January 1921 meeting a Council was formed, a President was elected, and Committees were assigned. Since the January meeting was the actual organizational meeting, Broadhurst is considered the first (and only) Eagle Scout from Aumuckalee Council even though the charter did not arrive until later.

The first Eagle Scout from Nochaway Council was George Johnson of Troop 3 in Albany whose Eagle Rank date was February 8, 1922. This was within one year of his registration as a scout.[1072]

The first Eagle Scout from Chehaw Council was J. W. Starr, Jr. of Troop 15 in Albany whose Eagle Rank date was August 29, 1939.[1073]

The first Eagle Scout from Southwest Georgia Council was Graham Stacy of Troop 33 in Sylvester whose Eagle Rank date was December 20, 1984.

1068 John Ewing Kiker, Jr. was identified by Carol Townsend, his daughter, and Gay Kiker Smith, his niece. Gay Kiker Smith also provided his name and date of birth of April 26, 1906.

1069 The official advancement records of Chehaw Council only give a year for John Kiker's Eagle rank.

1070 The official records of Chehaw Council, which include prior Councils and direct family information.

1071 "Georgia Plan Meeting Few Days Ago," *Americus Times-Recorder*, January 28, 1921.

1072 The official records of Chehaw Council, which include prior Councils.

1073 The official records of Chehaw Council, which include prior Councils.

The Last Eagle Scouts from Alapaha Area Council and Chehaw Council

The last Eagle Scout from Alapaha Area Council was Christopher Hanson of Valdosta whose certificate was dated October 17, 2012. The last Eagle Scout from Chehaw Council was Joshua Chappell of Cordele whose certificate was dated October 31, 2012

The First Eagle Scout from South Georgia Council

The merger of the Alapaha Area Council and Chehaw Council was effective November 1, 2012 and at that time scout James McMickin of Poulan, Georgia (Chehaw Council) had completed his Board of Review but his certificate had been delayed. His certificate was issued on November 14, 2012 and he is considered the first Eagle Scout from South Georgia Council.[1074]

The First Female Eagle Scout from South Georgia Council

On February 1, 2019, the National Council opened Scouting to young ladies, including earning the Eagle Rank. On September 18th, 2022, Reece Anne Ellion of Troop 13 in Albany because the first female to earn the Eagle Rank in South Georgia Council.

National Lifesaving and Meritorious Action Award Recipients

The national awards for lifesaving and meritorious action are made by the National Court of Honor only for outstanding and unusual acts that demonstrate unusual heroism, skill, or bravery and reflect Scouting ideals, based on the following criteria:

1. **Honor Medal with Crossed Palms**. Has demonstrated unusual heroism and extraordinary skill or resourcefulness in saving or attempting to save life at extreme risk to self.
2. **Honor Medal**. Has demonstrated unusual heroism and skill or resourcefulness in saving or attempting to save life at considerable risk to self.
3. **Heroism Award**. Has demonstrated heroism and skill in averting serious injury or saving or attempting to save life at minimum risk to self.
4. **Medal of Merit**. Has performed an act of service of a rare or exceptional character that reflects an uncommon degree of concern for the well-being of others.
5. **National Certificate of Merit**. Has performed a significant act of service that is deserving of special national recognition.

Heroism Award - John Burns Holton
South Georgia Council
Ceremony June 8th, 2021 at the South Georgia Council Executive Board Dinner

On June 14th, 2020 while canoeing on the Kinchafoonee River in Lee County John Burns Holton of Albany and other scouts were swimming and diving into the water. After one such dive, a fellow scout surfaced in distress and quickly sank. John swam to the spot but could not locate the sunken scout either above or below the water. After resurfacing, John saw bubbles and dove

[1074] From Matt Hart, South Georgia Council Executive.

on that spot, located the scout who was having a seizure, and pulled him to the surface. By this time other scouts had arrived in canoes and kayaks and the disabled scout was stabilized and taken to shore to await help.

Medal of Merit - Matthew G. Collins
South Georgia Council
Ceremony February 8, 2014 at the annual South Georgia Council banquet

On April 27, 2013, Matthew Collins, of Tifton, was visiting the Battle of Selma Reenactment as a guest of one of the vendors. At approximately 10:30 AM he and his father were retrieving supplies for the host's store from her van when a driverless two horse carriage trotted by on the road which was approximately 30 feet away. Matthew dropped what he was doing, ran after and caught up with the carriage, jumped in the driver's seat while it was still moving, and pulled the reigns stopping the carriage. The carriage stopped approximately 30 yards from a crowded food vendor/dining area. Matthew held the reigns and kept the horses stopped until its owner could catch up. Matthew G. Collins was the first Meritorious or Lifesaving award recipient form South Georgia Council.[1075]

Heroism Award - Jon Kevin "Jack" Wisham.
Chehaw Council
Ceremony June 26, 2006

Jack performed an act of unselfish bravery on December 29, 2004, when he pulled his 3-year-old brother, Joshua, from a pond when his toy jeep turned over and threw him into the pond. Joshua suffers from an immune deficiency that makes him highly susceptible to bacteria. Jack acted quickly to get him the attention he needed due to this deficiency.[1076]

Heroism Award - Stephen Scott and David Drawdy
Chehaw Council
Ceremony June 26, 2006

On a scouting trip March 12, 2004, these two adult Scouters witnessed a traffic accident. One SUV with 2 women flipped and the women were trapped inside with gas flowing into the vehicle. The men helped direct traffic and when the women could not escape, they helped remove the rear window for access. One woman was trapped and had to wait for a patrolman to cut her seat belt. The women were treated by the Scouters until the EMT arrived. This act showed true bravery as the men worked with explosive fumes and speeding traffic to save the two women.[1077]

Heroism Award - Dale Wilson
Chehaw Council
Ceremony June 26, 2006

On July 31, 2004, Dale was on his way to work. Dale arrived on the scene of an accident. Another person was calling authorities as Dale reassured the driver and asked about other

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1075 Form the application of Matthew G. Collins.
1076 *Square Knot*, July-August, 2006, Southwest Georgia Council.
1077 *Square Knot*, July-August, 2006, Southwest Georgia Council.

passengers. At this time, smoke was coming from the vehicle and fire was seen on the steering column. The driver's door was stuck and Dale reached and pulled the victim through the driver's window by the armpits. Dale performed treatment for shock as they waited for the EMT and police. The vehicle and several trees did catch fire. Dale showed many aspects of his scouting training in assisting at the accident.[1078]

Heroism Award – Feddie M. Hill
Chehaw Council
Ceremony 1984

On June 28, 1983, 14 year old Freddie M. Hill Jr. of Albany, Georgia and his troop were swimming in Albany's Kinchafoonee Creek at its confluence with the Flint River when flood gates were unexpectedly opened at the Lake Worth Dam. The surge of water caused other boys to be swept downstream in the rushing water. Scoutmaster Howard Unruh and Hill dove into the swollen stream and Hill rescued a fellow Boy Scout, Johnnie Bryant, Jr.[1079] After Hill had towed Bryant to safety he then obtained a rope to assist his Scoutmaster and a second boy who had reached shore but were trapped by an overhanging cliff. Freddie was a scout in Troop 101 which was charted to the Marine Base in Albany.

Honor Medal – Charles Howell Dayhuff, IV
Chehaw Council
Ceremony February 1982, Chehaw Awards Banquet

Charles Dayhuff rescued a member of his rafting party in swift water just before they were swept over a waterfall.[1080]

Honor Medal – Joseph B. Cox
Chehaw Council
Ceremony March 1, 1980

Joseph B. Cox, an adult leader with Troop 53, was awarded the Honor Medal in 1980 for saving the life of Bobby Cox.

Meritorious Action Award – Phil Richards
Chehaw Council
Ceremony February, 1971, at Council Awards Banquet

Presented to Scout Phil Richards of Tifton at the annual banquet by Council President B. J. Sumner on behalf of the National Council.[1081]

Medal of Merit – Greg Frederick
Chehaw Council
Ceremony May, 1966

1078 *Square Knot*, July-August, 2006, Southwest Georgia Council.
1079 *Freddie Hill*, The Atlanta Voice, February 2, 1984; Drumbeat, January 21 1985.
1080 "Chehaw Council Expects Big Year," *The Albany Herald*, February 8, 1982.
1081 "Three Get Silver Beaver Awards," *The Albany Herald*, February 12, 1971.

On December 7,1965, while ,the Frederick family of Tifton slept, fire spread through their residence Ten year old Cub Scout Greg was the first to awaken and discover the fire; he made his way through the flames, smoke and fumes to his parent's bed room His parents put Greg through the window and handed bis brother to him. Greg then ran to a neighbor's house, awakened the neighbors, and telephoned the fire department.[1082]

Heroism Certificate – John Pope
Sumter County (Then run by the National Council)
Troop 1 (now Troop 21), Americus
Ceremony October, 1936

On August 14, 1933, the Boy Scouts were swimming near Americus at Mitchell's Mill. Nine-year-old Helen Thomas of Americus, an excellent swimmer, began to drown from exhaustion and John Pope rescued her.[1083] The award was approved by the National Council in 1936 and was presented to Pope at a Court of Honor in October 1936.[1084] The actual certificate has Pope as being in Troop 5. However, Troop 5 did not form until 1935 and Pope along with several other older scouts had transferred from Troop 1 into the new troop to provide it leadership.[1085] According to Ms. Betty Pope, the two only met once after that, which was shortly before John Pope's death and by chance in the waiting room of Dr. Frank Wilson in Leslie. Georgia.[1086]

Honor Medal - Joe Johnson Jones
Chehaw Council
Unknown Ceremony Date

Joe Johnson Jones was an Eagle Scout from Albany who received the Honor Medal for saving a life at the risk of his own.[1087] He died a resident of Worth County in 2006 at the age of 43.

Distinguished Eagle Scout Recipients

The Distinguished Eagle Scout Award was established in 1969 by the National Eagle Scout Association to acknowledge Eagle Scouts who have received extraordinary national-level recognition, fame, or eminence within their field, and have a strong record of voluntary service to their community. Only Eagle Scouts who earned the Eagle Scout rank a minimum of 25 years previously are eligible for nomination. The award is given by the National Eagle Scout Association upon the recommendation of a committee of Distinguished Eagle Scouts.

George Hooks (Chehaw Council) received the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award in 2007. He is an Eagle Scout from Troop 21 in Americus. George was a Georgia State Senator and lifelong supporter of Scouting.

1082 "Cub Scout," *Sylvester Local*, June 2, 1966.
1083 "Pope Honored for Heroism," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 29, 1936.
1084 "Heroic Scouts Given Honors," *Americus Times-Recorder*, October 31, 1936.
1085 "Scout Troop Registered," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 14, 1936.
1086 From information given by Ms. Betty Pope to J. Michael Greene in 2009.
1087 Obituary of Joe Johnson Jones, *The Albany Herald*, January 10, 2006.

Richard C. Looney (Chehaw Council) received the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award in 1995. Bishop Looney was Methodist Bishop for South Georgia and a 1949 Eagle Scout.

Joe Thomas Brashears (Chehaw Council) received the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award in 1982 at the annual Chehaw Council awards banquet held in February.[1088] He was a 1928 Eagle Scout and a founder of the Southwest Georgia Youth Home. He was the 561 recipient of the award nationwide. Joe died on July 9th, 1986 in Albany, Georgia.

John Temple Phillips (BoB 1915 – BoD 2007) (Chehaw Council) of Albany received the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award for achievement and outstanding service to the community at the annual awards banquet in February of 1973.[1089] He was on board of the Lilliston Corporation. John died on December 2, 2007 in Albany, Georgia.

Outstanding Eagle Scout Recipients

The National Eagle Scout Association's Outstanding Eagle Scout Award is a recognition granted by the local council's NESA committee to Eagle Scouts who have demonstrated outstanding achievement at the local, state, or regional level.

Joe C. Bishop (South Georgia Council) – Awarded February 25th, 2014 at Albany FOS breakfast. The first Outstanding Eagle Scout award as the award given South Georgia Council or its processor councils as the award was started in 2011 by the National Eagle Scout Association. Joe was a Superior Court judge and from a long-time scout family.

John Bert Prince, III (South Georgia Council) – Awarded February 22nd, 2018 at a Tifton, Georgia dinner. John is a 1955 Eagle Scout from Pee Dee Area Council. He moved to Tifton in the 1960s and started the Prince Auto Dealerships.

Benjamin Charles Andrews, Jr. (South Georgia Council) – Awarded August 30th, 2018 at an Americus, Georgia dinner. A 1974 Eagle Scout from Troop 20 in Americus and a physician in Americus, Georgia.

Gary Lamar "Sparky" Reeves (South Georgia Council) – Awarded Awarded on May 7th, 2019 at an Americus, Georgia dinner. A 1964 Eagle Scout from of the Troop 21 in Thomaston, Georgia. He was President of South Georgia Techincal School in Americus.

Michael Anthony Johnson (South Georgia Council) – Awarded on February 20, 2020 at an Albany, Georgia dinner. He is a 1977 Eagle Scout from Troop 3 in Albany. He is an architect and long-time Scoutmaster of Troop 3 in Albany.

Randy Jones, Jr. (South Georgia Council) – Awarded on November 3rd, 2022 at Americus, Georgia. He ia a 1961 Eagle Scout ftrom Troop 21. Randy is an Attorney and was a bank president.

1088 "Chehaw Council Expects Big Year," *The Albany Herald*, February 8, 1982.

1089 "Scouting Crucial to American Way," *The Albany Herald*, February 23, 1973.

Robert T. Hurt, Jr. (South Georgia Council) – Awarded on April 20, 2023 at Cordele, Georgia. He is an Eagle Scout from Troop 240 in Cordele. Robert is a dentist in Cordele.

Terry Hunt (South Georgia Council) – Awarded on March 19, 2024 at Valdosta, Georgia. He is a 1963 Eagle Scout from Troop 32 in Northeast Georgia Council. Terry is a business owner in Valdosta, Georgia.

Silver Beaver Award

The Silver Beaver award was begun in 1931 by the National Council as a way for the local council to honor outstanding volunteers. A list of Chehaw Council Silver Beavers follows this chapter. *(See appendix to this chapter for a list of recipients.)*

Silver Fawn Award

Silver Fawns were given to outstanding women Cub Scouters. The awards was begun in 1971 was discontinued in 1974. Elizabeth Augustus Knight, Marjorie Merriweather Post, and Ann W. Nally were the first "Fawns" of record. In 1971, 382 Silver Fawn awards were presented. During the next 2 years, 1,634 Silver Fawn awards were presented. In 1974, BSA discontinued their use after presenting 439 awards in the first 6 months of that year. A total of 2,455 Silver Fawns were awarded. After that, women Cub Scouters received the Silver Beaver along with their male counterparts. The four Silver Fawn recipients from Chehaw Council are: Dot Coker of Sycamore in 1971, Bobbie Meyer von Bremen in 1972, Betty Ann Cassidy of Putney in 1973, and Eddie Huckaby of Albany in 1974. *(See appendix to this chapter for a list of recipients.)*

Silver Antelope Award

The Silver Antelope award, created in 1942, is granted for outstanding service to youth at the regional level. The National Court of Honor bestows the Silver Antelope award. Those persons for our territory who have received ths honor are:

Crane, William Edward - William Edward Crane of Valdosta received the Silver Antelope while active in Alapaha Area Council.

Lawhorn, Gerald – Gerald Lawhorn of Worth County received the Silver Antelope while active in Flint River Area Council.[1090]

Wilson, Frank A. III - Frank A. Wilson, III of Leslie, Georgia received the Silver Antelope while active in Chehaw Council.

James E. West Fellowship Award

The James E. West Fellowship Award is a national recognition for individuals who contribute $1,000 or more in cash or securities to the council's permanent endowment trust fund. Organizations or individuals may contribute monies toward a fellowship in honor of someone else: an Eagle Scout, a Silver Beaver recipient, Council President, or special loved ones including non-

1090 "Lawhorn," *Sylvester Local*, March 15th, 2006.

Scouters, youth or adults. Monies contributed to the Endowment Fund through the James E. West Fellowship are never spent; only the interest is used to further the programs of the council. A list of Chehaw Council James E. West Fellowship Award Recipients follows this chapter. *(See appendix to this chapter for a list of recipients.)*

Outstanding Scout Family Award

At the 1976 awards banquet, Chehaw Council presented the 1975 Outstanding Scout Family Award to the Richard Grebel family of Albany.[1091] The 1975 award was the first time such an award had been presented. The 1976 award was presented to the Troy Bishop family of Albany.[1092] After these two years, the award was not presented again.

Award of Merit

After the merger of the councils, which became effective in January 2013, the District Award of Merit became a more notable award. In early 2013, a concerted effort was made to assemble a list of recipients from Chehaw Council for the table at the end of this Chapter, which was followed by recipients from South Georgia Council being added as they were awarded by South Georgia Council's districts. *(See appendix to this chapter for a list of recipients.)*

Other Notable Alumni

Below are listed some other alumni who have shown courage, valor and/or merit, but who for various reason have not been recoginized by our council in any of the above categories.

Eason Bush's Death in 1925

Eason Bush, Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 8 of Albany died February 12, 1925, because of pneumonia.[1093] Bush had contracted pneumonia while working as part of the Boy Scout recovery team assisting the City of Albany during the flood of February 1925. Although he did not receive any National Award, his story is worth repeating here. All of the scouts of Albany participated in the funeral procession.

Ralph Puckett, Jr. – Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient

Col. Ralph Puckett, Jr. was a 1942 Eagle Scout from Troop 61 in Tifton. He died on April 8th, 2024 in Columbus, Georgia. Col. Puckett was the 12th Eagle Scout known to have received the Congressional Medal of Honor.

1091 "Chehaw Council Reaffirms Goals," *The Albany Herald*, February 15, 1976.

1092 "Membership Slump," *The Albany Herald*, February 27, 1977.

1093 "Easton Bush, Boy Scout of Troop Eight, Dies, The Albany Herald, February 13, 1925.

Table 1

Southwest Georgia Eagle Scouts from Before 1940
(from the territory of the former Alapaha Area Council and Chehaw Council)

Name	Eagle Date[1094]	Troop	Council	City
John Ewing Kiker, Jr.	1920[1095]	1	National Council[1096]	Americus
David John Broadhurst	3/15/1921	1	Aumuckalee	Americus
John Wilson	8/16/1921	2	Okefenokee Cnl[1097]	Valdosta
George Johnson	2/8/1922	3	Nochaway	Albany
Jack Breman	8/26/1922	3	Nochaway	Albany
Winston Brown[1098]	3/1/1923		Nochaway	Thomasville
Edward Faber	6/1/1923	2	Nochaway	Albany
Philip Von Weller	6/1/1923	3	Nochaway	Albany
Hugh Shackelford	8/7/1923	?	Nochaway	Albany
James Alfred Dees	12/8/1923	3	Nochaway	Albany
D. M. Searcy[1099]	1923		Nochaway	Cairo
Floyd H. Searcy[1100]	1923		Nochaway	Cairo
Norman Benson	2/27/1924	3	Nochaway	Albany
Charles Harmon	5/19/1924	2	Nochaway	Tifton
Bennett Y. Wallace[1101]	5/19/1924	2	Nochaway	Tifton
Thomas Mitchell	8/25/1925	4	Nochaway	Albany
Francis Shackelford	9/22/1925	5	Nochaway	Albany
Duke Mulles (or Mulies)	10/6/1925	2	Nochaway	Tifton
Delmont Ellwood	12/7/1926	5	Nochaway	Albany
V Smith	1/11/1927	3	Nochaway	Hopeville[1102]
Michael Doyle	5/3/1927	5	Nochaway	Albany
Zack Barnes	7/11/1927	3	Nochaway	Albany
Frank Middleton	7/24/1928	5	Nochaway	Albany
Glenn Seymour	7/24/1928	5	Nochaway	Albany

1094 Board of Review date and not Court of Honor date.

1095 Only the year is given in the Council records for John Kiker.

1096 Kiker received his Eagle before Aumuckalee Council was formed.

1097 Okefenokee Council, a predecessor council to Okefenokee Area Council.

1098 Not listed in BSA computer. *Lad 14 Youngest Eagle Scout*, Macon Telegraph, March, 1923.

1099 Floyd Hartsfield Searcy's Eagle rank is recorded in the records of Suwannee River Area Council which was formed in 1924 rather than that of Chehaw Council which absorbed Nochaway Council. The newspaper article states the date of Eagle for both Searcys was 1923. Suwannee River Area Council was formed in 1924 and at sometime Grady County joined it. If the date of Eagle is 1923 then the Searcy brothers would belong in the Nochaway list of Eagles. If they are 1924 then most likely they would not.

1100 D. M. Searcy's Eagle is not listed in either council, but is written about in the article and shown in the photo.

1101 Listed in BSA records as Y. Wallace. Name located in 1920 Census.

1102 The town of Hopeville is located in Colquitt County, which was in Nochaway Council and moved to Suwannee River Area Council at some point between 1924 and 1939. However, since Smith is listed in the Nochaway/Chehaw/.South Georgia Eagle list at Natoinal, it is assumed that Colquitt County did not join Suwannee River Area Council until after 1927.

Delmont Wood	2/1/1931	5	National Council[1103]	Albany
William Rowsey	12/6/1931	15	National Council	Albany
J. Davis	3/10/1932	1	Okefenokee Area	Valdosta
Bobby Hunter	7/15/1932	1	Okefenokee Area	Quitman
John T. Phillips, Sr.	3/31/1932	?	National Council	Albany
Herschel Argo	9/30/1932	2	National Council	Americus
Ned Kiker	9/30/1932	2	National Council	Americus
Herbert Humber	12/5/1932	1	National Council	Americus
Frank McLain	12/5/1932	1	National Council	Americus
Everette Edmundson	2/25/1935	1	National Council	Albany
Frank Butler	8/15/1936	3	National Council	Americus
John Andrews	8/17/1936	3	Okefenokee Area	
George Cain	8/24/1936	3	National Council	Americus
John Bass	3/19/1937	15	National Council	Albany
W. Harry Wilson	4/3/1937	15	National Council	Albany
Charles Schneider	6/30/1937	3	National Council	Americus
Carver Hunt	8/23/1937	1	Okefenokee Area	Valdosta
Burton Bergman	2/28/1938	12	National Council	Albany
Robert Scarano	11/14/1938	1	National Council	Albany
Roy Newham	7/8/1938	2	Okefenokee Area	Valdosta
John Howell	10/13/1938	2	Okefenokee Area	Valdosta
Ben Jenkins	10/13/1938	2	Okefenokee Area	Valdosta
Herndon Lehr	11/30/1938	10	Okefenokee Area	Valdosta
J. W. Starr, Jr.	8/29/1939	15	Chehaw	Albany
Bob Arthur	11/8/1939	21	Chehaw	Americus
Frank Easterlin	11/8/1939	21	Chehaw	Americus
Brooks Lovelace	11/8/1939	111	Chehaw	Albany
Evan Mathis	11/8/1939	23	Chehaw	Americus
Steve Pace	11/8/1939	23	Chehaw	Americus

[1103] National Council after 1931 is a result of Nochway Council closing and the territory returned to the control of the National Council (aka Direct Service at the time).

Table 2

Eagle Scouts During the 2012 Merger

Last Name	First Name	Date	Council	City
Lackey	Richard	6/11/2012	Chehaw	Poulan
Hawthorne	Thomas	7/23/2012	Alapaha	Valdosta
L'Herault	Michael	8/22/2012	Alapaha	Valdosta
Blair	William	9/19/2012	Alapaha	Quitman
Phelps	Owen	9/21/2012	Chehaw	Leesburg
Peterson	Brandon	9/25/2012	Alapaha	Douglas
Adams	John	10/2/2012	Chehaw	Tifton
Hanson	Christopher	10/17/2012	Alapaha	Valdosta
Hager	Jacob	10/23/2012	Chehaw	Leesburg
Burtle	John	10/29/2012	Chehaw	Tifton
Chappell	Joshua	10/31/2012	Chehaw	Cordele
McMickin	James	11/14/2012	SGaC	Poulan
Jones	Clay	11/27/2012	SGaC	Americus
Carter	Brandon	11/27/2012	SGaC	Americus
Johnson	Carl	11/27/2012	SGaC	Americus
McGhee	Nicholas	11/27/2012	SGaC	Americus
Greene	Woodrow	11/27/2012	SGaC	Americus
Skala	Tyerus	11/27/2012	SGaC	Americus
Brienza	Cody	12/7/2012	SGaC	Albany
Newcomb	Edward	12/7/2012	SGaC	Leesburg
Goldsmith	Brent	12/8/2012	SGaC	Albany
Cooper	Andre	12/12/2012	SGaC	Quitman
Rentz	Ethan	12/12/2012	SGaC	Valdosta
Bacon	Joshua	12/19/2012	SGaC	Leesburg
Joiner	James	12/20/2012	SGaC	Cordele
Hughes	Cody	12/21/2012	SGaC	Albany
Roberts	Cody	1/10/2013	SGaC	Douglas
Thompson	Caleb	1/16/2013	SGaC	Homerville
Helms	Jack	1/16/2013	SGaC	Homerville
Evans	Martez	1/16/2013	SGaC	Lakeland
Culpepper	Benjamin	1/16/2013	SGaC	Poulan
Tucker	Spencer	1/31/2013	SGaC	Poulan
Keys	Brigham	2/4/2013	SGaC	Tifton
Murphy	Adam	2/20/2013	SGaC	Valdosta

Table 3
Silver Beaver and Silver Fawn Recipients

The Year in the table is the year in which the person received the Silver Beaver award, which since 1952 has been in February at the annual awards banquet. Some Silver Beaver programs have referred to the Silver Beavers as the class from the year before and some have referred to the Silver Beavers as the class of the year of the banquet. Since I could document the date the Silver Beaver award was presented by the newspaper articles, the year listed is the year in which the Silver Beaver award was presented. I have omitted the footnotes to the articles, but I have them should anyone wish to have a copy of the article for their year. There were 197 Silver Beavers and Silver Fawns recipients from Chehaw Council and Southwest Georgia Council. There where were 125 Silver Beavers and Silver Fawns recipients from Alapaha Council and Okefenokee Area Council. From 2013 forward, the awards were given by South Georgia Council. A total of 335 Silver Beaver and Silver Fawns have been awarded through 2016.

Name	City	Date	Cncl
Kirby, Clyde	Douglas	1936	Okef.
Greene, Palmer	Cordele	1941	Chehaw
Landau, Edmund A.	Albany	1941	Chehaw
Blankenship, R.H.		1943	Okef.
Smith, Allen C.		1943	Okef.
Evans, O. L.	Americus	1943	Chehaw
Cowart, Robert L.	Douglas	1944	Okef.
Hogg, Charlie	Americus	1944	Chehaw
Whisonnant, E. D.		1945	Okef.
Wilson, W. R. Sr.	Douglas	1946	Okef.
Brown, Bonner B.	Albany	1946	Chehaw
Turner, W. R.	Cordele	1946	Chehaw
McRae, Emmett		1947	Okef.
Gortatowsky, I. C. (Ike)	Albany	1947	Chehaw
Durrenberger, J. A.	Valdosta	1948	Okef.
Lunsford, Frank J.	Leary	1948	Chehaw
Newham, Ray T. C		1949	Okef.
Blair, James R.	Americus	1949	Chehaw
Chapel, W. L.	Cordele	1949	Chehaw
Crouch, C. Frank	Ocilla	1950	Okef.
McKenzie, G. C.	Ashburn	1950	Chehaw
Pinkston, J. Ray	Albany	1950	Chehaw
Harper, John P.		1951	Okef.
Johnson, R. J.		1951	Okef.
McTigue, R. E.	Albany	1952	Chehaw
Turner, Ben M.	Cordele	1952	Chehaw
Wilson, Walter Jr.		1953	Okef.
Phillips, A. B.	Tifton	1953	Chehaw
Speer, Earl L.	Albany	1953	Chehaw
Mann, E. William	Fitzgerald	1954	Okef.
Rogers, Murphy	Ocilla	1954	Okef.
Turpin, Bob		1954	Okef.
Cox, Hamilton. M.	Albany	1954	Chehaw
John T. Phillips, Sr.	Albany	1954	Chehaw
Osborn, A. D.		1955	Okef.
Blue, Rhodes Ellsworth	Ashburn	1955	Chehaw
Nichols, Don		1956	Okef.
Davis, Orlando	Albany	1956	Chehaw
Griffin, W. E.	Vienna	1956	Chehaw
Camp. H. C.	Sylvester	1957	Chehaw
Dickinson, Roger H.	Albany	1957	Chehaw
Symonette, B.		1958	Okef.
Bullock, R. L.	Albany	1958	Chehaw
Leader, Leo	Albany	1958	Chehaw
Kippenbrock, Michael J.		1959	Okef.
Paulk, Milton J.	Ocilla	1959	Okef.
Armstrong, J. W.	Albany	1959	Chehaw
Smith, William T.	Tifton	1959	Chehaw
Patten, L. L.	Lakeland	1960	Okef.
Johnson, Elston	Tifton	1960	Chehaw
Lee, Chester O.	Albany	1960	Chehaw
Goode, R. C.	Adel	1961	Alapaha
Strickland, Jessie M.		1961	Alapaha
Landau, Louis W.	Albany	1961	Chehaw
Odum, Horace	Americus	1961	Chehaw
Mathis, Harry		1962	Alapaha
Clegg, Donald L.	Albany	1962	Chehaw
Johnson, Tasker	Tifton	1962	Chehaw
Stevens, Joe	Valdosta	1963	Alapaha
Clayton, Harold	Americus	1963	Chehaw
Hardy, Max	Leesburg	1963	Chehaw
Register, Jr., Sam	Valdosta	1964	Alapaha
Farr, Don	Americus	1964	Chehaw
Wells, Earnest L.	Albany	1964	Chehaw
Shelton, Thomas D.	Valdosta	1965	Alapaha
Crane, W. Ed	Valdosta	1965	Alapaha
Martin, Jr. Walter. D.	Albany	1965	Chehaw
Reyher, Keith	Ashburn	1965	Chehaw
Boyette, I. H.	Valdosta	1966	Alapaha

Gnehm, Edward	Albany	1966	Chehaw
Monk, Ridley	Sylvester	1966	Chehaw
Mingledorff, Jr., George	Douglas	1967	Alapaha
Lancaster, Clifton	Albany	1967	Chehaw
Sumner, B. J.	Tifton	1967	Chehaw
Nisbet, Jr., T. R.	Valdosta	1968	Alapaha
Champion, Jim	Tifton	1968	Chehaw
Crittenden, Tom	Dawson	1968	Chehaw
Collier, Jr., T. O.		1969	Alapaha
Eason, Joseph	Ellaville	1969	Chehaw
Gailey, Tom	Americus	1969	Chehaw
Long, Fred	Sylvester	1969	Chehaw
DeGange, Joe A.		1970	Alapaha
Chisholm, Lewis F.	Homerville	1970	Alapaha
Hall, Jack	Albany	1970	Chehaw
Stewart, T. Bonner	Albany	1970	Chehaw
Wilson, Frank A, III	Leslie	1970	Chehaw
McIntosh, Harry	Valdosta	1971	Alapaha
Winston, Richard		1971	Alapaha
Stevens, Emma *(Fw)*	Valdosta	1971	Alapaha
Abernathy, Joe	Albany	1971	Chehaw
Brooks, Ray	Albany	1971	Chehaw
Coker, Dot *(Fw*)	Sycamore	1971	Chehaw
Hall, Henry A.	Valdosta	1972	Alapaha
Strickland, Bill J.	Valdosta	1972	Alapaha
Adams, Gerald	Ft. Gaines	1972	Chehaw
Forrester, Gerald	Albany	1972	Chehaw
Hudgens, Harold	Albany	1972	Chehaw
Meyer V. Bremen, B.*(Fw)*	Albany	1972	Chehaw
Rowe, Lester	Tifton	1972	Chehaw
McRae, Harry		1973	Alapaha
Rowe, Ralph		1973	Alapaha
Chisholm, Audrey *(Fw)*	Homerville	1973	Alapaha
Cassidy, Betty Ann *(Fw)*	Putney	1973	Chehaw
Grennor, Merrill D.		1973	Chehaw
Hudson, Raymond A.	Dawson	1973	Chehaw
Morgan, Loy W.	Tifton	1973	Chehaw
Plummer, George B.	Albany	1973	Chehaw
Koonce, Merrill G..		1974	Alapaha
Ciaccio, Anthony	Valdosta	1974	Alapaha
Garvin, Perry L.	Albany	1974	Chehaw
Huckaby, (Ms) Eddie *(Fw)*	Albany	1974	Chehaw
Koran, Frank Douglas	Tifton	1974	Chehaw
Meyer V. Bremen, Mike	Albany	1974	Chehaw
Sterling, Milton C.	Albany	1974	Chehaw
Eanes, William M.	Valdosta	1975	Alapaha
Guice, Claude M.	Lakeland	1975	Alapaha
Hamilton, E. D.	Albany	1975	Chehaw
Keenan, Walter	Albany	1975	Chehaw
Nelson, Fred L.	Tifton	1975	Chehaw
Weston, Savannah	Ashburn	1975	Chehaw
White, Jerry A.	Ft. Gaines	1975	Chehaw
Jernigan, Leon		1976	Alapaha
Olson, A. W.		1976	Alapaha
Asmussen, Loris	Tifton	1976	Chehaw
Gerbel, Richard	Albany	1976	Chehaw
Melton, Bobbie	Albany	1976	Chehaw
Weber, Robert E.	Albany	1976	Chehaw
J. Edger Willis	Valdosta	1977	Alapaha
Bishop, Troy	Albany	1977	Chehaw
Garland, Roy	Dawson	1977	Chehaw
Standley, Ouida	Albany	1977	Chehaw
Wages, Bill	Americus	1977	Chehaw
Smrcina, F. J.		1978	Alapaha
Kafoure, Louis	Valdosta	1978	Alapaha
Hayes, Cathy	Blakley	1978	Chehaw
Littlefield, Jim	Americus	1978	Chehaw
Unruh, Martha	Albany	1978	Chehaw
Stoval, Mildred		1979	Alapaha
Coleman, William	Albany	1979	Chehaw
Lacy, Gayle	Albany	1979	Chehaw
Sanderson, Richard	Albany	1979	Chehaw
Termunde, Darrold	Albany	1979	Chehaw
Anderson, Sally	Valdosta	1980	Alapaha
Forsyth, Jim	Albany	1980	Chehaw
Johnson, Warren B.	Albany	1980	Chehaw
Mosely, Crawford	Albany	1980	Chehaw
Ussery, Carlton	Albany	1980	Chehaw
Moodie, Harry	Douglas	1981	Alapaha
Anderson, Ben	Valdosta	1981	Alapaha
Bell Jr., Alf. J.	Americus	1981	Chehaw
Gary, Marilyn	Albany	1981	Chehaw
Martin, Miles	Albany	1981	Chehaw
Rhodes, J. M.	Leesburg	1981	Chehaw
Davis, Charlton	Valdosta	1982	Alapaha
Funderburk, J. Carl	Valdosta	1982	Alapaha
Montague, Robert	Valdosta	1982	Alapaha
Frazer III, Eley C	Albany	1982	Chehaw
Greene, Richard	Americus	1982	Chehaw
Haddock, Alyce	Damascus	1982	Chehaw
Unruh, Howard	Albany	1982	Chehaw
Kirkland, Milton		1983	Alapaha
Poppy, Thomas		1983	Alapaha
Allen, Hannah	Albany	1983	Chehaw
Perkins, Ray	Blakely	1983	Chehaw
Pry, Keith	Albany	1983	Chehaw
Woodward, Wayne	Cordele	1983	Chehaw
Pryor, Gerald W.	Fitzgerald	1984	Alapaha
Ricket, Kenneth T.	Valdosta	1984	Alapaha
Brookins, Clark	Americus	1984	Chehaw
Davis, Diane	Albany	1984	Chehaw
Gary, Bruce	Albany	1984	Chehaw
Griner, Johnny	Sylvester	1984	Chehaw
Burkett, Raymond O.	Valdosta	1985	Alapaha

Barr, Wade	Americus	1985	SWGaC
Corner, Max	Albany	1985	SWGaC
Hutchinson, Rodney	Sylvester	1985	SWGaC
Thompson, Derby	Albany	1985	SWGaC
Stone, Allen K.	Hazlehurst	1986	Alapaha
Cordova, J. J.	Valdosta	1986	Alapaha
McArthur, Sara	Valdosta	1986	Alapaha
Causey, Sara	Arlington	1986	SWGaC
Haddock, Hal	Damascus	1986	SWGaC
King, Hodge	Ashburn	1986	SWGaC
Oxford, Winston	Americus	1986	SWGaC
Rivers, John	Americus	1986	SWGaC
Maris, Wayne S.	Fitzgerald	1987	Alapaha
Micklon, James R.	Valdosta	1987	Alapaha
Atwater, Pat	Tifton	1987	SWGaC
Dent, Fred	Sylvester	1987	SWGaC
Lovelace, Mary	Albany	1987	SWGaC
Rambeau, Ralph	Albany	1987	SWGaC
Singletary, Marvin	Albany	1987	SWGaC
Thaden, Charles H.	Albany	1987	SWGaC
Williams, Pete	Albany	1987	SWGaC
Dixon, Jacquie	Fitzgerald	1988	Alapaha
Hunt, Sammie	Adel	1988	Alapaha
Causey, Harvey	Arlington	1988	SWGaC
Haley, Joel	Cordele	1988	SWGaC
Stacy, Elaine	Sylvester	1988	SWGaC
Stover, Blane	Albany	1988	SWGaC
Wright, Tiny (Mrs)	Albany	1988	SWGaC
Hunt, Terry	Valdosta	1989	Alapaha
Ward, Bill	Douglas	1989	Alapaha
Cannon, Gary	Colquitt	1989	SWGaC
Odum, Jr. James. C.	Albany	1989	SWGaC
Oxford, June	Americus	1989	SWGaC
Pierrung, Mark	Cordele	1989	SWGaC
Pool, Thomas		1990	Alapaha
Jennett, Jerry	Valdosta	1990	Alapaha
Bates, Lee	Sylvester	1990	SWGaC
Cameron, Bob	Albany	1990	SWGaC
Hayes, James	Albany	1990	SWGaC
Thompson, Sam	Tifton	1990	SWGaC
Wilson, Dale	Albany	1990	SWGaC
Stalvey, Richard	Valdosta	1991	Alapaha
Brantley, Norman		1991	Alapaha
Knighton, Thomas L.	Albany	1991	SWGaC
Smith, Bruce	Albany	1991	SWGaC
Wester, Cleve	Albany	1991	SWGaC
Stevens, Jody	Valdosta	1992	Alapaha
Halter, H. James	Valdosta	1992	Alapaha
Fullerton, Greg L.	Albany	1992	SWGaC
Thomas, Milton	Albany	1992	SWGaC
Parker, Clarence	Valdosta	1993	Alapaha
Cottingham, Jim	Douglas	1993	Alapaha
Arnold, Barbara	Albany	1993	SWGaC
Baker, Mary	Albany	1993	SWGaC
Berry, Leavie	Albany	1993	SWGaC
Smith, L. Travis	Tifton	1993	SWGaC
Stephens, Bob	Albany	1993	SWGaC
Brooks, Don	Douglas	1994	Alapaha
Ausley, Gene	Valdosta	1994	Alapaha
Moulton, John L.	Albany	1994	SWGaC
Taylor, Samuel	Albany	1994	SWGaC
Dukes, John	Valdosta	1995	Alapaha
Peeples, Bill	Valdosta	1995	Alapaha
Grimes, Gary	Tifton	1995	SWGaC
Johnson, Mike	Albany	1995	SWGaC
John T. Phillips, Jr.	Albany	1995	SWGaC
Campbell, J. Jette	Valdosta	1996	Alapaha
Parrott II, James A.	Fitzgerald	1996	Alapaha
Pendergraph, Garland	Nashville	1996	Alapaha
Boyd, Rick	Americus	1996	SWGaC
Myers, Mike	Albany	1996	SWGaC
Vaughn, Bobby	Albany	1996	SWGaC
McPherson, George	Valdosta	1997	Alapaha
Mormon, Frank	Valdosta	1997	Alapaha
Smith, Lynne	Fitzgerald	1997	Alapaha
Arnold, L. J.	Albany	1997	SWGaC
Jackson, Joe	Edison	1997	SWGaC
Tolbert, Jim	Albany	1997	SWGaC
Shackleford, Richard	Adel	1998	Alapaha
Smith, Thomas H.	Douglas	1998	Alapaha
McCurley, Tommy	Americus	1998	SWGaC
Scott, Jeff	Albany	1998	SWGaC
Speer, Claude	Americus	1998	SWGaC
Fletcher, Lynn	Fitzgerald	1999	Alapaha
Konigsdorffer, Melissa	Douglas	1999	Alapaha
Choens, John	Valdosta	1999	Alapaha
Ellis, Mike	Americus	1999	SWGaC
Griffin, Lem	Albany	1999	SWGaC
Vaughn, Shirley	Albany	1999	SWGaC
Aguon, Ray	Valdosta	2000	Alapaha
Edwards, Rruce	Douglas	2000	Alapaha
Andrews, Ben	Americus	2000	SWGaC
Crozier, Richard	Blakely	2000	SWGaC
Burke, Jr., George L.	Fitzgerald	2001	Alapaha
Miller, Linda J.	Valdosta	2001	Alapaha
Roquemore, Bob	Lakeland	2001	Alapaha
Erickson, Richard	Albany	2001	SWGaC
Gray, Larry	Albany	2001	SWGaC
Najjar, Joe	Albany	2001	SWGaC
Shoemaker, Art	Albany	2001	SWGaC
Smith, Andy	Valdosta	2002	Alapaha
Looney, Jack	Nashville	2002	Alapaha
Bussiere', Cindi	Valdosta	2002	Alapaha
Heidt, Amy	Chula	2002	SWGaC

Lunsford, Steve	Albany	2002	SWGaC
Slenker, Robert E. (Bo)	Cordele	2002	SWGaC
Roberts, Tommy	Wray	2003	Alapaha
Roberts, Cathy	Wray	2003	Alapaha
Hutchinson (Rowe), Miki	Sylvester	2003	SWGaC
Gay, Mary Ann	Valdosta	2004	Alapaha
DeLong, Robert A.	Valdosta	2004	Alapaha
Ator, Robert A.	Valdosta	2004	Alapaha
Hall, Benny	Albany	2004	SWGaC
McRae, Tim	Chula	2004	SWGaC
Shearer, Bruce	Albany	2004	SWGaC
Broyhill, Raymond	Hahira	2005	Alapaha
Overstreet, Bennie	Douglas	2005	Alapaha
Jones, Joseph	Americus	2005	SWGaC
Scott, Stephen	Tifton	2005	SWGaC
Sumner, Paul	Chula	2005	SWGaC
Murray, Bill	Homerville	2006	Alapaha
Arnold, Wayne	Valdosta	2006	Alapaha
Greene, J. Michael	Americus	2006	Chehaw
Hancock, Carl V.	Albany	2006	Chehaw
Williams, Calvin	Hahira	2007	Alapaha
Dansereau, Steven	Lakeland	2007	Alapaha
Hart, Redden	Valdosta	2007	Alapaha
Brock, Allen	Albany	2007	Chehaw
Womack, Jim	Albany	2007	Chehaw
Berkel, Kevin	Valdosta	2008	Alapaha
Keanon, John	Douglas	2008	Alapaha
Burtle, Gary	Tifton	2008	Chehaw
Chester, Clay	Albany	2008	Chehaw
Hutchinson, Carl David	Ocilla	2009	Alapaha
Bookout, Cindy	Douglas	2009	Alapaha
Moseley, R. Clay	Valdosta	2009	Alapaha
Hudgens, Harold (Huddy)	Albany	2009	Chehaw
Jordan, John Ladd	Albany	2009	Chehaw
Stokes, Jr., David	Valdosta	2010	Alapaha
Watson, Paul	Valdosta	2010	Alapaha
Bowman, Donnie	Leesburg	2010	Chehaw
Bishop, Joe C.	Albany	2010	Chehaw
Gibbons, Jaime	Lakeland	2011	Alapaha
Turk, James	Ambrose	2011	Alapaha
McKinnin, Mike	Albany	2011	Chehaw
Pinson, Harold	Leesburg	2011	Chehaw
Crowder, Tony	Americus	2012	Chehaw
Kirkland, Melissa	Albany	2012	Chehaw
Barrett, Mark	Leslie	2013	SGaC
Tuten, Chris	Douglas	2013	SGaC
Redshaw, Rusty	Valdosta	2013	SGaC
Clark, Tommy	Albany	2013	SGaC
Jackson, Derrick	Albany	2014	SGaC
Chaney, Helen	Hahira	2014	SGaC
Benson, Jamie	Ocilla	2014	SGaC
Whitesell, William	Valdosta	2014	SGaC
Dickenson, Merrill	Albany	2015	SGaC
Helms, Cathy	Valdosta	2015	SGaC
Waller, Bill	Albany	2015	SGaC
Halbrook, Margaret	Dawson	2016	SGaC
Waddell, Stephen	Albany	2016	SGaC
Scott, Sharon	Tifton	2017	SGaC
Brinson, Britt	Cordele	2018	SGaC
Sterling, Drew	Albany	2018	SGaC
King, Kevin	Valddosta	2019	SGaC
Shipley, Angie	Albany	2019	SGaC
Shipley, Geoffrey	Albany	2019	SGaC
Frost, John	Cordele	2020	SGaC
Brooks, Brooks	Hahira	2020	SGaC
Tillman, Bill	Valdosta	2021	SGaC
Palazollo, Rose	Albany	2021	SGaC
Blair, Brenda	Valdosta	2022	SGaC
Daniel, Houston	Albany	2022	SGaC
Bryant, Walt	Douglas	2023	SGac
Deaver, Dan	Valdosta	2023	SGaC
Moon, Katrina	Valdosta	2024	SGaC

Table 4

First Eagle Scouts in a Town

George Johnson	2/8/1922	Troop 3	Albany
John Ewing Kiker, Jr.	1920	Troop 1	Americus
Royce Hobby	2/21/1944	Troop 31	Ashburn
Waylon Lacey	1/1/1943	Troop 90	Blakely
Earl Ford	12/6/1954	Troop 51	Camilla
Billy Mundy	4/4/1947	Troop 85	Colquitt
Gene Espy	4/12/1943	Troop 40	Cordele
James Bradly Willis	7/6/1982	Troop 83	Damascus
Eli Lewis	12/11/1942	Troop 70	Dawson
Coleman Strickland	2/16/1982	Troop 39	Edison
Matthew Shoemaker	11/11/1991	Troop 24	Ellaville
Wendell Hinton	11/17/1958	Troop 96	Ft. Gaines
Max Hardy	1/21/1959	Troop 16	Leesburg
Arthur Carlan	10/3/1968	Troop 29	Leslie
??? Harris	9/20/1943	Troop 50	Pelham
John Porter	12/13/1969	Troop 100	Poulan
Robert Usry	6/1/1961	Troop 17	Smithville
Kyle Reynolds	9/13/1970	Troop 36	Sycamore
Tommy Lawhorne	2/23/1960	Troop 33	Sylvester
Chas. Harmon	5/19/1924	Troop 2	Tifton
Y. Wallace	5/19/1924	Troop 2	Tifton
Eric Farmer	10/14/1980	Troop 522	Vienna
John Golmitz	10/14/1980	Troop 522	Vienna

Table 5

James E. West Fellowship Award Recipients

Year	Name	Council
1993	Gil Barrett	Chehaw
1994	John T. Phillips, Jr.	Chehaw
1994	Ben Andrews	Chehaw
1994	Keith Pry	Chehaw
1994	Dell Bush	Chehaw
1994	Greg L. Fullerton	Chehaw
1994	Harold Hudgins	Chehaw
1994	Brooks Lovelace	Chehaw
1994	Mary Lovelace	Chehaw
1994	John Moulton	Chehaw
1994	Bruce Smith	Chehaw
1995	Katherine C. Hudgens	Chehaw
1995	Lem Griffin	Chehaw
1995	Iva J. Adams	Chehaw
1995	Jimmy Lanier	Chehaw
1996	Derry Thompson	Chehaw
1997	Richard Crozier, Jr.	Chehaw
1997	Richard Crozier, III	Chehaw
1998	Carlton Ussery	Chehaw
1998	Ben M. Turner	Chehaw
1998	Francis S. Turner	Chehaw
1999	Bruce P. Shearer	Chehaw
2000	L. Travis Smith	Chehaw
2000	Mary Brashears	Chehaw
2001	Carl V. Hancock	Chehaw
2001	Mike Meyer Von Bremen	Chehaw
2002	Jim Womack	Chehaw
2003	Eugene Black, Jr.	Chehaw
2003	Joe Abernathy	Chehaw
2003	Vicki Cirone	Chehaw
2003	Patrick Bonz	Chehaw
2007	Gordon Kilgore	Chehaw
2008	Clay Chester	Chehaw
2009	Phillip Millerd	Chehaw
2009	Susan Marie Wilson	Chehaw
2009	Dale Anthony Wilson	Chehaw
2009	Sam Stanley Thompson	Chehaw
2010	Joe C. Bishop	Chehaw
2010	J. Michael Greene	Chehaw
2010	Eileen M Najjar	Chehaw
2010	Joe Najjar	Chehaw
2010	Cliff Moye	Chehaw
2010	Everett J Freeman	Chehaw
2010	Harold Hudgins Jr	Chehaw
2010	Steve E Lunsford	Chehaw
2010	Paul E Sumner	Chehaw
2010	Frances Wellman	Chehaw
2011	Eric Ginter	Chehaw
2014	Andrew Smith	SGaC/OA
2014	Tommy McCurley	SGaC
2015	Dennis Menard	SGaC/OA
2019	Kelley Dawson	SGaC
2021	Mark Micklon	SGaC
2021	Jason Adams	SGaC

Table 6

Known District Awards of Merit

(South Georgia Council. Year is year awarded.)

Name	District	Year
Baity, Michael	Alapaha Dist	2013
Deaver, Dan	Alapaha Dist	2013
Gowen, Mike	8 Rivers Dist	2013
Kirkland, Melissa	Chehaw Dist	2013
Merritt, Greg	8 Rivers Dist	2013
Richard, Carmen	Chehaw Dist	2013
Blakey, Tony	Chehaw Dist	2014
Shipley, Angie	Chehaw Dist	2014
Tillman, Bill	Alapaha Dist	2014
Clark, Jennifer	Alapaha Dist	2015
Menard, Dennis	8 Rivers Dist	2015
Shipley, Geoffrey	Chehaw Dist	2015
Waddell, Stephen	Chehaw Dist	2015
Creamer, Jeff	Alapaha Dist	2016
Sterling, Drew	Chehaw Dist	2016
Sterling, Kelli	Chehaw Dist	2017

Table 6

Known District Awards of Merit

(From Chehaw Council. Year is year awarded.)

Name	District	Year
Andrews, Ben	Chehaw Cncl	
Andrews, Michelle	Chehaw Cncl	
Arnold, Barbara	Chehaw Cncl	
Arnold, L. J.	Chehaw Cncl	
Bacon, Amy	Chehaw Cncl	
Barrett, Mark	Chehaw Cncl	
Bell, Alf	Chehaw Cncl	1977
Berry, Linda	Chehaw Cncl	1982
Joe C. Bishop	Chehaw Cncl	
Bishop, Troy	Chehaw Cncl	
Boone, Bobby	Chehaw Cncl	
Boyd, Rick	Chehaw Cncl	
Braswell, Allan	Chehaw Cncl	
Bufford, Cheryl	Chehaw Cncl	
Byers, Cheryl	Chehaw Cncl	1977
Candy, Vernice	Chehaw Cncl	
Carlton Unruh, Carlton	Chehaw Cncl	
Clements, Jimmy	Chehaw Cncl	
Cliett, Jay	Chehaw Cncl	
Culpepper, Gordon	Chehaw Cncl	1982
Ellis, Mike	Chehaw Cncl	
Erickson, Dick	Chehaw Cncl	
Faircloth, Mark	Chehaw Cncl	
Foil, Lisa	Chehaw Cncl	
Forsyth, Jim	Chehaw Cncl	
Fox, Ed	Chehaw Cncl	
Fullerton, Greg	Chehaw Cncl	
Greene, Mike	Chehaw Cncl	
Hall, Bennie	Chehaw Cncl	
Harrell, Wanda	Chehaw Cncl	
Hayes, Cathy	Chehaw Cncl	1977
Howard, Lyle	Chehaw Cncl	1982
Hudley, Willie	Chehaw Cncl	
Ivey, Scott	Chehaw Cncl	
Johnson, Mike	Chehaw Cncl	
Lacy, Gerald	Chehaw Cncl	1977
Lunsford, Steve	Chehaw Cncl	
McClean, Kathy	Chehaw Cncl	
McCurley, Tommy	Chehaw Cncl	
McRea, Tim	Chehaw Cncl	1982
Melton, Bobby	Chehaw Cncl	1977
Miller, Hannah	Chehaw Cncl	
Myer, John	Chehaw Cncl	1977
Najjar, Joe	Chehaw Cncl	
Odom, J. C.	Chehaw Cncl	
Oxford, Winston	Chehaw Cncl	1982
Perkins, Ray	Chehaw Cncl	1982
Perry, David	Chehaw Cncl	
Phelps, Church	Chehaw Cncl	
Phinazee, Dean	Chehaw Cncl	1977
Pinson, Harold	Chehaw Cncl	
Price, Jennifer	Chehaw Cncl	
Ransom, Keith	Chehaw Cncl	
Reed, Samuel	Chehaw Cncl	
Reeves, Danny	Chehaw Cncl	
Rivers, John	Chehaw Cncl	1982
Roddy, Greta	Chehaw Cncl	
Sanders, Pam	Chehaw Cncl	
Shearer, Bruce	Chehaw Cncl	
Sheffield, Glen	Chehaw Cncl	
Shoemaker, Art	Chehaw Cncl	
Slaughter, Colleen	Chehaw Cncl	
Slenker, Robert E (Bo)	Chehaw Cncl	
Smith, James	Chehaw Cncl	1982
Taylor, Judy	Chehaw Cncl	
Termunde, Darrold	Chehaw Cncl	1977
Thadden, Charles	Chehaw Cncl	
Thompson, Derby	Chehaw Cncl	
Thompson, Rhett	Chehaw Cncl	
Threadgill, Dale	Chehaw Cncl	1977
Tolbert, Jim	Chehaw Cncl	
Turner, Ben	Chehaw Cncl	1977
Unruh, Martha	Chehaw Cncl	1977
Williams, Clifford	Chehaw Cncl	
Wilson, Floyd	Chehaw Cncl	
Wright, Tiny	Chehaw Cncl	1982
Thompson, Sam	Chehaw Cncl.	

CHAPTER 6
CAMP NOCHAWAY

Summer camp for Nochaway Council or its predecessor Nochaway District began in 1921. As the Council did not own a camp, various places were used for the summer camps. Regardless of the physical location, the camp was called Camp Nochaway.

The Camp Nochaway Badge or Emblem is first mentioned as being awarded at the 1922 camp. Points were awarded for various activities, and those that accumulated sufficient points received the Badge. In 1922, a scout needed at least 220 points.[1104] The next documented use of the point system was in 1925, although it was probably used in the intervening years.[1105] A total of 225 points were required in 1925 to earn the Camp Nochaway Emblem.

Camp in 1921 at Barnet's Mill Bridge

In 1921, Nochaway District held a summer camp for scouts from Dougherty and Calhoun Counties.[1106] Nochaway Council had not yet been chartered by the National Council and the area was still known as Nochaway District.[1107] The camp was held at Barnet's Mill Bridge on the Nochaway Creek, which was 10 miles west of Newton in Baker County.[1108] Barnet's Mill Bridge is now the bridge on Georgia Highway 200 at the Ichauway-Nochaway Creek in Baker County.[1109] Mitchell and Grady Counties held their own summer camp at Lake Bradford near Tallahassee.[1110]

Dr. Hugo Robinson the Dougherty County Health Commissioner cleared the camp for occupation during the first week of May.[1111] Sixty-one scouts from Albany attended the camp along with thirty Scouts from Arlington. No list of the individual Scouts who attended has been found. The leaders at this camp were J. S. Morgan, B. W. Simon, John J. West, H. M. Mills, Tom Malone, Lehman Sumter, and District scoutmaster Wesley M. Bagby of Albany who served as Camp Director. The camp ran for 10 days. On Sunday, parents came and dined with the scouts.[1112] On June 20, Stanley Harris, National Field Executive, visited the camp.

Camp in 1922 at Barnet's Mill Bridge

In 1922, Camp Nochaway was again held at Barnet's Mill Bridge on the Nochaway Creek.[1113] Scout Executive Bagby was again Camp Director. The camp had an "Officer of the Day" each day, who was in charge of the daily program. Officers of the Day were: Leroy Herring of Tifton, J. J. West of Albany, Tom Malone of Albany, J. Robert Haire of Bainbridge, Tom Malone of Albany (again), W. W. Branch of Sumner, and J. J. West of Albany (again). Events included a hike to the Baker Power Company dam on the Nochaway Creek. Capture the Flag was

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1104 "Nochaway Boy Scout Camp is a Scene of Great Activity," *The Albany Herald*, June 15, 1922.
1105 "Point System To Be Used At Boy Scouts' Camp Is Explained," *The Albany Herald*, June 12, 1925.
1106 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, July 25, 1921.
1107 "Boy Scouts Return From 10-Day Camp," *The Albany Herald*, June 24, 1924.
1108 "Boy Scouts Off for Ten-Day Camp," *The Albany Herald*, June 14, 1921.
1109 The current location of Barnett Mills Bridge is from Carol Heard of Baker County, Georgia.
1110 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, July 9, 1923.
1111 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald*, May 2, 1921.
1112 "Boy Scouts Return From 10-Day Camp," *The Albany Herald*, June 24, 1924.
1113 "Nochaway Boy Scout Camp is a Scene of Great Activity," *The Albany Herald*, June 5, 1922.

played by the entire camp most every afternoon. Troops at camp were Troop 2 of Albany, Troop 3 of Albany, Troop 5 of Albany, Troop 6 of Albany, Troop 1 of Bainbridge, Troop 1 of Colquitt, Troop 1 of Moultrie, Troop 1 of Newton, Troop 1 of Sumner, Troop 1 of Tifton, Troop 2 of Tifton; and two individual boys from Cairo attended without their troop. Mitchell and Grady Counties held their own summer camp at Lake Bradford near Tallahassee.[1114]

The Quartermaster corps for the summer of 1922 consisted of Asa Tift, Will Tift, Maurice Pullen, Eddie Mathis, and Mercer Sherman.[1115] A doctor was in camp every day and the boys were given quinine which was supervised by "Geechie" Marks of Albany. Will Crawford earned his silver medal for marksmanship, Mason Reid earned a gold medal, and Lee Wylly received the expert marksman designation. All three boys were from Troop 5 of Albany. A Camp Nochaway Medal could be earned by accumulating points for certain activities.

Camp in 1923 at Rhodes Ferry

The 1923 Camp Nochaway was held near Rhodes Ferry at Bainbridge, Georgia. The actual site of Rhodes Ferry, and most likely the camp site, appears to have been flooded when Lake Seminole was built. In 1923, the staff was T. M. Ticknor, Camp Director, S. K. Simoms, Quarter Master, J. J. West, W. Morrow, and W. E. Carter. Three Eagle Scouts also assisted with camp: Wheeler Johnson of Macon, George Johnson of Albany, and Jack Bierman of Albany. Camp operated from Friday, June 8, 1923; until Friday, June 15, 1923, and the cost was $5 per scout.[1116] There were l30 boys attending camp, representing thirteen troops from Albany, Boston, .Jakin, Bainbridge. Tifton and Moultrie.

The 10 scouts who earned the most merit points took a boat trip down the river to the Gulf. The scouts were Oliver Benson, Raymond Holt, Joe Leary, Burton Morris. Mercer Sherman, Fred Sumter and George Sparks all of Albany; James Jones of Boston and Frank Wheelis of Moultrie. Horace Coleman, scoutmaster of Troop 5 of Albany led the group and Eagle Scout George Johnson of Albany assisted him.[1117] Other boys who qualified to make the trip, but could not go were Hugh Shackelford, Charles McClure and Tom Mitchell of Troop 5 in Albany. The trip cost the Council $120.[1118]

Mitchell and Grady Counties held their own summer camp at Lake Bradford near Tallahassee from July 23 to July 30.[1119]

Camp in 1924 at Crystal Lake

Camp Nochaway for 1924 was held at Crystal Lake, which was 20 miles east of Ashburn, and just in Irwin County, Georgia,[1120] A smaller number of scouts attended than did in 1923.[1121] The camp is known to have operated the week of June 10, 1924 and to have operated on the point

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1114 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald,* July 9, 1923.
1115 "Nochaway Boy Scout Camp is a Scene of Great Activity," *The Albany Herald,* June 5, 1922.
1116 Camp Nochaway brochure from 1923.
1117 "Albany Scouts Take Journey." *The Macon Telegraph*, June 20, 1923
1118 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald,* July 30, 1923.
1119 "Boy Scout News," *The Albany Herald,* July 9, 1923.
1120 "Boy Scouts Prepare For Encampment," *The Albany Herald,* June 3, 1923.
1121 "Nochaway Scouts Return to Albany from Summer Camp," *The Albany Herald,* June 18, 1924.

system for awards. Four boys were awarded the grand prize which was a trip to the Okefenokee Swamp.[1122]

Mercer Sherman, other scouts and a friend spent at least one night in the abandoned house, with a full moon on Crystal Lake. During the night an invisible "ghost" walked the front porch, passing back and forth in front of the windows, which kept them awake all night. Only at dawn did they get up enough courage to look out the window and discover that the footsteps they had heard all night were made by a gopher tortoise crawling up and down the porch with its shell making the noise of footsteps as it moved.[1123]

The Story of Crystal Lake

Crystal Lake is also known as Bone Pond.[1124] It is located in lots forty-seven and forty-eight in third district of Irwin County. It covers about one hundred acres of land, and is seventy-five feet deep in the deepest place. It has a beautiful sandy bottom and, except at two places, is shallow from the edge gradually becoming deeper for from thirty to fifty yards before it becomes deep as a man's head. It is surrounded by a beautiful sandy beach, and back of this are oaks with beautiful foliage. Attached to these trees are long streamers of gray moss. The water is crystal clear and has been analyzed to be pure. It abounds with all kinds of fresh-water fish which can be viewed from the banks or the pavilion coming to the surface to gather bread when thrown into the water for them.

Its name in the early days was the Bone Pond, named after a man by the name of Bone who once owned it. Bone came to Irwin County about 1858 and the next year he moved to Crystal Lake and cleared a small farm. A man by the name of John Mathews cultivated this land for Bone.

During the Civil War, two escaped Federal Yankee prisoners took refuge at Bone's home and he protected them. They remained hidden on the southwest side of the pond and cleared about twelve or fifteen acres of land for Bone. During the time they were at Bone's place, they went to the farm of MaNassa Henderson, Sr., about twelve miles away, and stole two of Henderson's horses. Everybody thought Bone instigated this theft, as Henderson was a Secessionist and Bone a Union man. Daniel Henderson and others found the trail of the thieves, following them into what is now Coffee County, and came so near overtaking them the Yankee thieves fled, leaving the horses which were captured and returned to the owner. One of the thieves stopped some distance farther on, committed another theft, and was killed by his pursuers.

Bone was relieved from going to the war because he was a miller. He had a steam powered corn mill on the bank of Crystal Lake. At the time Bone built this mill at the lake, it was much smaller in size than at the present time. His mill was first located on dry land, and the water was five feet deeper than at the present time. It is said that after Bone's death in 1865 the lake rose to the eaves of the mill house. Then it remained low for a number of years, but in 1928 and 1929 it gradually began to rise again until in 1930 it was as full as any of the old citizens had ever seen it.

1122 "Scout News," *The Post-Search Light*, June 19, 1924.

1123 From David M. Sherman, son of Mercer Sherman, May 21, 2008.

1124 Chapter 7, *History of Irwin County*, 1932.

Bone proved to be a criminal of the vilest kind. In the spring of 1865, Toney, a Negro slave belonging to Sam Young, ran away from home and went to Bone; and he concealed him and put him to work cutting growth off his newly cleared land.

Jack Walker was Justice of Peace and the neighbor of Bone, living about three miles west of the Alapaha River from Bone's place. Walker owned a large stock of hogs, many of which ranged near Bone's plantation in the swamp. He left home on Monday morning about April 20, 1865, carrying a wallet of corn, as was customary in that day, and his rifle, looking for his hogs to feed and incidentally to kill a deer for food. In looking for hogs, he went by Bone's field and found the Negro, Toney, there. Walker was a strong man so he decided to capture the Negro. In doing this, he got into a scramble with the Negro but from the sign left on the ground Walker had the Negro down and was preparing to tie him when he was shot from ambush.

Night came and Walker did not return home. The neighbors were notified and went in search of him but failed to find any trace. The news was spread of Walker's disappearance, and the people turned out en masse to search for him. Wednesday came and still no trace of Walker could be found.

Wednesday was mill day at Bone's mill. Dink Walker, a son of Jack Walker, and James H. Fletcher went to the mill. Bone spoke to them and told Dink Walker he had heard his father was missing, and that they were saying that he (Bone) had killed him. Bone also talked very rough to Walker. A short while after this, Bone was taken into custody. He refused to tell his captors anything. Bone had two children, Mary and Tayler. Tayler was a boy about fourteen or fifteen years old. He was taken away from his father and was told by his captors that they believed he knew where Walker was and that the whole crowd would be hanged unless he told all he knew about it. Tayler replied, "If you'll not hang me, I will tell you how it all happened." He was assured that if he would tell the truth and tell all about it that he would not be hurt. This is about what Tayler said. "Daddy carried the Negro's dinner and called me to bring his gun which I did. The Negro and Walker were in a scuffle and Daddy shot Walker from the gap of the field and hit Walker but did not kill him. Daddy went to Walker while he was down and hit him on the head with his gun until he thought him dead. He and the Negro then took Walker up and carried him to an old bay north of the pond and buried him and his gun in the mud. I don't know what became of the Negro."

The people who were there searching for Walker went to the field and found the sign of the struggle, found blood on the fence where Bone had crossed it with Walker and went into the swamp and found where he was buried. Evidently, he was buried alive as his hands had worked upward through the mud and blood had come to the surface. Walker's body was taken to the pond where they attempted to cleanse it by washing, but this could not be done. He had been dead so long decomposition had set in to such an extent the body could not be cleansed. The skin would burst and come apart. The Negro Toney has never been seen or heard from. It was the supposition at the time that Bone killed him and put his body with weights attached in the deepest part of the pond.

Many people in the country had gathered to assist in the search for Walker. Since it was about the close of the war, many soldiers had just returned home from the army. The best people of the county were there. They organized by electing Jacob Young, a Primitive Baptist Minister and a former Judge of Inferior Court, as chairman or judge and organized a court of justice and

proceeded to try Bone for the murder of Walker. After hearing the evidence, he was promptly and properly convicted and sentenced to be hanged. A scaffold was erected on the edge of the pond under a large oak tree with a large limb extending out over the newly erected scaffold.

Ropes in those days were scarce. Mrs. Jemimah Hogan, wife of David M. Hogan, had spun and woven a rope to use around a bale of cotton in place of ties, and this new rope was used to hang Bone. All things being ready for the execution, John and Sam Walker, sons of the murdered man, were permitted to tie the hangman's knot, and Sam Walker was allowed to climb the tree and place the rope over the limb, which he gladly did. Then Bone was made to mount the scaffold and told that he had fifteen minutes to make any statement he desired. These were his last words, "Take warning from me and don't come to what I have." He moved and the scaffold fell and launched Bone, the murderer, into eternity.

A grave was dug in the jamb of the fence of one of Bone's patches at the northwest corner of the pond; and, when the grave was ready, Bone's wife sent or brought a sheet with the request that his body be wrapped in it, which was done, and the body was placed in the grave.

After Bone was hanged, his wife told a Mr. Pridgen that Bone, after killing Walker, placed or hid Walker's shoes and hat in a hollow log and told where the log was located. Upon investigation, they were found to be there as she stated.

The family members were notified to wind up their affairs, dispose of their property, and move out of the county. This was done as speedily as possible, and they moved back to Taylor County, Georgia.

Camp in 1925 at Crystal Lake and Lake Bradford

In 1925, there were two different locations for Camp Nochaway. The first was at Crystal Lake, which began June 15, 1925. The second was at Lake Bradford, in nearby Tallahassee, Florida, which began on July 6, 1925. Again, in 1925, Camp Nochaway used a point system to determine who would earn a "Camp Nochaway Emblem." The top five boys would receive a trip. The following five boys were selected to go to the Okefenokee Swamp, they having been chosen as the top five campers at Crystal Lake: Burton Morris and Wade McArthur of Albany, Mercer Bridewell of Bainbridge, Edwin Bishop of Ashburn, and Marvin Smith of Moultrie.

The 1925 staff of the Crystal Lake Camp consisted of: Assistant Scout Executive Mercer Sherman of Albany, Assistant Camp Director; C. H. Bishop of Ashburn, Quartermaster; Hugh Shackelford of Albany, Swimming; Lifesaving and Athletics Director; W. A. Robertson of Montgomery; Alabama, Signaling; and Wilbur Horn of Boston (Georgia), Forestry and Woodcraft.[1125]

Camp in 1926 at Lake Walters

Nochaway Council held the June 1926 Camp Nochaway at Lake Walters, better known as Long Pond, in Baker County.[1126] Camp ran for two one-week sessions beginning on June 17 and

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1125 "June 8 Last Day for Boy Scouts to Register for Camp," *The Albany Herald*, May 30, 1925.

1126 Long Pond is located at 31° 24' 43.5594" N, 84° 20' 50.6394" W for those of you with Google Earth™.

ending on July 1.[1127] Apparently malaria was of great concern, and the Georgia State Board of Health inspected the site in May of 1926.[1128] They found it to be satisfactory as none of the nearby lime sinks or lakes were actively breeding mosquitoes. The Board recommended daily quinine for the boys for safety. A. W. Muse was the Chairman of the Camping Committee, and it appears he was also the on-site Camp Director.[1129] Eagle Scout William Searcy of Cairo was selected as Assistant Camp Director.[1130]

The plan was to make Lake Walters the permanent summer camp for Nochaway Council.[1131] A deep well and buildings were completed prior to the 1926 camp opening.

Camp in 1927 at Rawson Farm

Summer camp for 1927 was originally planned for Lake Walters again. However, due to a drought, Lake Walters was not suitable for a summer camp.[1132] The location was changed to the land of C. W. Rawson which was five or six mile north of Albany on the Kinchafoonee Creek. The Rawson property was on the east bank of the Kinchafoonee Creek across from town of Palmyra.

The location change was announced on June 9 and the camp was opened on June 13. Since the location had never been used for a camp before work had to be done prior camp opening. The staff left for Camp Nochaway on June 9 to prepare the camp.[1133] Larger tents were used than in the past years. Tents 16 feet by 16 feet which held 6 boys each were used.

There is no record of the number of scouts that attended camp or the number of weeks that the camp operated. The camp could hold between 25 and 30 scouts a week.[1134] The only staff member to be recorded is Jimmie Perry who would be cooking for his seventh year at Camp Nochaway.[1135] On Thursday of the first week, the Council put out a request for more archery equipment.[1136] Apparently the Archery Merit Badge was far more popular than had been anticipated. A prize of a long bow was being offered to the first scout to complete his Archery Merit Badge.

Camp in 1928 on the Kinchafoonee Creek in Lee County

The 1928 Camp Nochaway was also held on the Kinchafoonee Creek in Lee County, but not at the same place as the 1927 Camp Nochaway.[1137] Camp in 1928 was seven and one-half miles north of Albany near the Leesburg Road in Lee County. An advance party went to the camp site on about May 19 to begin preparations for the camp. They built a boat landing, kitchen, diving

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1127 "Camp Site Is Approved By State Board," *The Albany Herald,* May 18, 1926.
1128 "Camp Site Is Approved By State Board," *The Albany Herald,* May 18, 1926.
1129 "A. W. Muse Named Nochaway Camping Committee Head," *The Albany Herald,* May 26, 1926.
1130 "Eagle Scout Will Be Assistant Camp Head," *The Albany Herald,* June 1, 1926.
1131 "Camp Site Is Approved By State Board," *The Albany Herald,* May 18, 1926.
1132 "Boy Scout Camp Site Is Changed," *The Albany Herald,* June 9, 1927.
1133 "Reservations for Camp Are Coming Slowly," *The Albany Herald,* June 7, 1927.
1134 "Boy Scout Camp Site Is Changed," *The Albany Herald,* June 9, 1927.
1135 "Reservations for Camp Are Coming Slowly," *The Albany Herald,* June 7, 1927.
1136 "Archers Will Have To Speak Quick," *The Albany Herald,* June 7, 1927.
1137 "Annual Scout Camp Plans Announced," *The Albany Herald,* May 15, 1928.

tower, cable bridge, and headquarters building.[1138] A second crew left the week before camp opened and built steps to the spring, a baseball diamond, athletic field, flag pole, spring board, and diving tower.[1139]

Camp operated for only one week opening on June 1 and the cost was $6.[1140] The only known staff member was the cook Jimmie Perry who cooked for eight years at Camp Nochaway.[1141] Camp was scheduled to end at taps on June 7 with the boys returning the morning of June 8.[1142] However, camp closed two days early due to flooding on the Kinchafoonee Creek which made swimming impossible and had made all the tents damp.[1143]

Camp in 1929

No record of any 1929 Camp Nochaway was found.

1138 "Annual Scout Camp Plans Announced," *The Albany Herald*, May 15, 1928.
1139 "Camp Party Will Leave Town Friday," *The Albany Herald*, May 29, 1928.
1140 "Troop Reports, Troop 5," *The Albany Herald*, May 15, 1928.
1141 "Annual Scout Camp Plans Announced," *The Albany Herald*, May 15, 1928.
1142 "Troop Reports, Troop 5," *The Albany Herald*, May 15, 1928.
1143 "Nochaway Camp Breaks Up Early," *The Albany Herald*, June 12, 1928.

CHAPTER 7
CAMP SHEHAW

Camp Shehaw is located a few miles northwest of Americus on the Muckalee Creek. The exact location is in Land Lot 123 of the 27th Land District of Sumter County, Georgia. The camp is only two acres on the east side of the creek; however, the scouts had use of the other approximately ninety acres, which included both sides of the creek. Having access to both sides of the creek made the camp a wonderful site for bridge building.

The original plan for the camp in March of 1932 referred to the camp as "Camp Shehawk."[1144] At that time John Sheffield and C. C. Hawkins announced a donation of 800 acres between the Muckalee Creek and the Little Muckalee Creek for the use of Troop 1 and Troop 2. The local scout committee immediately planned a pavilion, mess hall, and athletic field in order to open camp in August of 1932. There were two restrictions on the land: no fires and no hunting. There is no record of why the donation of the 800 acres of land was abandoned in favor of the deed to the County for the 2 acres. The Little Muckalee Creek intersects the Muckalee Creek approximately 1½ miles northwest of the 2-acre site. The 800-acre tract would have been northwest of the 2-acre site by at least 1½ miles and most likely closer to 3 miles. Therefore, the two sites were different properties.

Camp Shehaw was donated by John Sheffield to Sumter County for use by the Scouts and other boys' organizations in February, 1934. The camp's official name is "Shehaw" which came from a merger of the name Sheffield who donated the land and Hawkins who was also instrumental in the donation.[1145] The name is not related to any Indian word. Various forms of the name have appeared over time such as "Shehawk."[1146] "Sheehaw," or "Shee-Haw."[1147] The camp became known as "Camp Little Chehaw" only after Camp Osborn opened in 1943.

A cabin was built on the property and finished on July 16, 1935, with the last floor boards being put in place. The cabin included a large central area and two smaller rooms. It had screened porches both front and back. The "old swimming hole" on the Muckalee Creek had been cleaned out and a springboard and steps had been added. A tennis court and baseball diamond had also been built. An open house was held for the public on July 18. The directions published in the *Americus Times-Recorder* were: ". . . go north of the City on U. S. Highway 19, then left at Hallman's Tourist Camp, and then follow the trail back to the camp about a mile."[1148] Until 1949, the entrance was the gate at the Federal Nursery next door to Camp Shehaw.[1149]

The official dedication of Camp Shehaw was on July 25, 1935, although the Scouts had been holding annual summer campouts at the location since 1932.[1150] Colonel Steve Pace served as Chairman of the Building Committee and spoke at the opening ceremony. The dedicatory invocation was given by Reverend John R. Joyner. Many local public officials and private citizens

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1144 "Americus Boy Scouts Given A Scout Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 28, 1932.

1145 "Intruders at Scout Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 31, 1940.

1146 "Americus Boy Scouts Given A Scout Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 28, 1932.

1147 The information is directly from John Sheffield, Jr. and a number of articles in the *Americus Times-Recorder*.

1148 "Scouts Invite Camp Visitors," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 17, 1935.

1149 "Scouts Pitch There Tents Here Tuesday," *Americus Times-Recorder*, August 9, 1949.

1150 "Scouts Ready to Open Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 24, 1934.

attended, as did Scouts from Americus Troop 1, Troop 2, and Troop 3 and the Troop from Ellaville, Georgia. The Americus Kiwanis Club and the Americus Rotary Club had provided the majority of the funding for the construction of the cabin. The Ellaville Methodist ladies stocked the pantry.[1151]

History of the Land

Land Lot 123 of the 27th Land District of Sumter County (originally Lee County) was won in the 1827 land lottery by John Mathis of Jordan's District of Washington County, Georgia. He won on an extra draw which he received because he was an honorably discharged Revolutionary War soldier.[1152] On February 5, 1834, John Mathews of Washington County deeded the entire land lot to Joseph Burns of Twiggs County for $200, by a deed at Deed Book B, Page 198, of the records of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Sumter County. Most likely Mathis and Mathews are the same person, and we will never know which was the correct spelling. Mr. Burns deeded the property to Joseph A. S. Turner of Sumter County for $1,000 on December 6, 1842, by a deed at Deed Book F, page 432.

From 1842 until 1927, the property completely disappears from the deed records of Sumter County.[1153] In 1927, the property was owned by Mrs. Annie Belle Roney Holms of Crisp County, Georgia, and J. C. Roney of Shelby County, Tennessee. How they came to possess the property is lost to history. However, on December 15, 1927, they deeded the property to John Sheffield of Americus, Georgia, by a deed recorded at Deed Book 9, Page 371.

On February 1, 1934, the property split and John Sheffield donated to Sumter County two acres ". . . as long as the same shall be used for the purpose of a boy's camp." A reversionary clause was included in the deed should the property cease being a camp for boys. The deed is located at Deed Book 22, Page 41. Due to the passage of time and the vagueness of the description in the deed, locating the property on the ground is not possible. But, it is likely the small triangle of property shown on the 1990 plat and bounded on the west by the Muckalee Creek, the north and east by the USDA fence line, and the south by a straight line closing the triangle. The tax records of Sumter County have a parcel number assigned for the land but do not have a defined location on the map. Langdon C. Sheffield, son of John Sheffield, gave an affidavit on November 15, 1995, in which he stated that the scouts were still using the part of the property near the creek. The affidavit is filed at Deed Book 425, Page 327.

The remainder of the property, approximately 91.5 acres, was passed from the estate of John Sheffield to Sheffield Company on October 20, 1946, and from Sheffield Company to Sheffield Hardware Company on July 22, 1947. The deeds are recorded at Deed Book 34, Page 113 and at Deed Book 34, Page 567, respectively. Both deeds included the reversionary rights to the two acres.

The property left the Sheffield family on April 2, 1990, when the entire 93.6 acres was deeded to James Gary Reeves, Jerry Reeves, and Wildflower Packing Co., Inc. This property description included the two acres given to the County for a boy's camp. On March 2, 1992, the

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1151 "Scouts Open Camp Sheehaw," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 25, 1935.

1152 1827 Land Lottery, Lee County, Districts 25, 26, 27, Reel No. 2-2427, Georgia State Archive.

1153 The title was searched by professional title searcher Julia Bowen.

same three sold the property to Flint River Wood, Inc. On December 30, 1993, Flint River Wood, Inc. sold the property to Dave West of Americus by a deed at Deed Book 364. For $49,500, he sold the property to Wallace Mays on November 16, 1995.

Summer Camp Through The Years

The Americus Scouts began their annual summer camp at what would become Camp Shehaw in 1932.[1154] Camp ran from August 18 to August 21. There is no indication of whether the pavilion or mess hall had been completed by the time camp opened, as had been planned in the March 1932 meeting.[1155] A newspaper article in the *Americus Times-Recorder* stated that it was the first of the annual summer camps. No reports were found in the *Americus Times-Recorder* to indicate that the scouts camped on the property during the summers of 1930 or 1931. During this time the property was also known as the "Sheffield-Hawkins Wood Lodge."

Thirty-six boys from Troop 1 and Troop 2 attended the inaugural Camp Shehaw. Camp was held from August 18 to August 21 of 1932.[1156] Troop 1 scoutmaster J. S. Burton was the Camp Director. The only other known staff member was Joe Boyd who was the cook.

The 1933 summer camp at Camp Shehaw took place from Thursday, August 24 to Saturday, August 26.[1157] Troop 1, Troop 2, and Troop 3 from Americus all took part. J. S. Burton, scoutmaster of Troop 1, was again the Camp Director. Joe Boyd was again the camp cook.

By the summer of 1934, the land had been donated to the county. The Americus troops camped at Camp Shehaw on different weeks. Sixteen scouts from Troop 2 camped the week of August 23.[1158] An unknown number of scouts from Troop 1 camped the week of September 4.[1159] J. C. Arrington was in charge of the Troop 2 campers. J. S. Burton, scoutmaster of Troop 1 who was in charge of the joint camp in 1932, most likely headed the Troop 1 week.

Summer camp in 1935 began August 5, 1935, and ran for one week with all Scouts attending during the one week.[1160] W. E. Gear, Athletic Director at Americus High School, was the Camp Director. A cabin measuring 31 by 70 feet was started in May.[1161] The cabin was completed just in time for the camp.[1162] The Kiwanis Club and the Rotary Club financed the building of the cabin.[1163] A well had already been completed and was in place for the opening of camp.

1154 "Boy Scouts Break Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 22, 1932.
1155 "Americus Boy Scouts Given A Scout Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 28, 1932.
1156 "Boy Scout News," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 11, 1932; "Boy Scouts Break Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 22, 1932.
1157 August 22, 1933, *Americus Times-Recorder*.
1158 "Scouts Camping at She-Haw Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* .August 23, 1934.
1159 "Scout Troop No. 1 Will Have Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 31, 1934.
1160 "Scouts Open Camp Today," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 5, 1935.
1161 "Scout Cabin to be Built," *Americus Times-Recorder,* April 30, 1935.
1162 "Scouts Open Camp Today," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 5, 1935.
1163 "Scout Cabin is about Finished," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 26, 1937.

The 1936 Camp Shehaw ran from June 8 to June 13.[1164] Seventeen boys attend, which was lower than the year before.[1165] Unlike 1935, this year was restricted to registered scouts only and was not used as a recruiting tool. Cost of the camp was $3.50. The camp did not have its own cots and a plea was issued to the public to borrow cots for camp. By the opening of camp a baseball diamond, tennis court, and croquet ground had been completed. A shoot-and-scoot had been built from the cabin down the hill to near the creek. This was probably the original coaster that later became the "Mercury Coaster."

The first documented camp patch was made and awarded in 1936 to 10 boys who earned the required number of points for participating in camp activates.[1166] The patch was blue felt with the letters "B. S." on it. The patch was cut in the shape of a tent. The 10 boys winning the patch were Glenn Feagin, William McCorkle, George O. Marshall, Steve Pace, Jr., Frank Butler, Richard Foster, Walter Johnson, John Flatt, Breedin Argo, and Elbert Wootten. None of these patches is known to have survived. A signal tower and suspension bridge were built during camp. Adults assisting Camp Director O. L. Evans were Abe J. Davis (food and projects) and J. C. McMillian and Tom Freeman who directed the games

In 1937, Camp Shehaw operated summer camp from Monday, July 12 to Saturday, July 17, 1937. Tallmadge DeWitt, who was Director of Physical Education at Georgia Southwestern College, was Camp Director.[1167] Bill Cumbaa was the Assistant Camp Director.[1168] Frank Butler and O. L. Evans of Americus and Ralph Williams of Columbus were also on the staff.[1169] Ralph Williams was an Eagle Scout from Columbus and a student at Georgia Southwestern College. Bill Cumbaa was also an Eagle Scout from Columbus and he was a student at Emory University. The cost of camp was $3.50. Scouts attending Camp Shehaw in 1937 from Americus were: Robert Abbet, Jack Pittman, Gus York, Karl Jordan, Jimmie Luck, Pal Marquette, Glenn Feagin, Farris Saliba, Donald Jenkins, Bradley Kitchens, Tommy Cook, Frank Butler, Robert Evans, James Evans, Thomas Ballew, Eugene Robinson, and Richard Foster.[1170] Also attending were Johnny Worthy of Smithville, and John Ragsdale and William Faircloth of Albany.

During the fall of 1937 and winter of 1938 Troop 1 and Troop 3 of Americus built a "cave" at Camp Shehaw.[1171] The cave was to store the troops' relics. Shiver Lumber Company donated supplies to shore-up the cave.[1172] Also, in October the Americus Scouts built a footbridge across the creek in order to open a nature trail.[1173]

In 1938, the Boy Scouts again used Camp Shehaw for summer camp from July 4 to July 9, 1938.[1174] Initially, Alfred Duck, a teacher at Anthony School in Americus, was chosen to be Camp

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1164 "Scout Cabin is about Finished," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 26, 1937.

1165 "Boy Scouts Break Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 13, 1936.

1166 "Boy Scouts Break Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 13, 1936.

1167 "Will Observe Scout Week," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 16, 1939; "DeWitt Heads State Group," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 18, 1940.

1168 "Cumbaa Named Camp Director," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 29, 1939.

1169 "Scouts Open Larger Camp Here," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 13, 1937.

1170 "20 Scouts at Camp Shehaw," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 10, 1937.

1171 "Scouts to Finish Cave Tomorrow," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 10, 1937; "Boy Scouts to Work on Cave Again Saturday," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 14, 1938.

1172 "Scouts Build Wall, Top to Cave at Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* December 28, 1937.

1173 "Scouts go to Camp Shehaw," *Americus Times-Recorder,* October 15, 1937

1174 "Williams to Direct Camp – Cumbaa Assistant at Camp Shehaw," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 1938.

Director.[1175] However, Ralph Williams was later selected Camp Director. Bill Cumbaa also returned to the staff. Scouts from Americus on the staff were Frank Butler, Glenn Feagin, and Robert Abbet, who was in charge of the camp store. The Girl Scouts also used Camp Shehaw for the summer Girl Scout camp in 1938.[1176]

In 1939, the Sumter District offered Camp Shehaw as the Council Camp.[1177] The Americus Scouts continued to use Camp Shehaw for summer camp.[1178] The camp operated from July 3 to July 8, 1939.[1179] Forty-three boys attended the camp.[1180] The cost was $3.50 for the week.[1181] Bill Cumbaa was Camp Director and Ivan Bennett was Assistant Camp Director.[1182] John Bennett and Ralph Ellis from Columbus were on the staff. Ralph Ellis was an Eagle Scout from Columbus and in 1943 became a staff member of Chehaw Council. Frank Butler and Glenn Feagin from Americus were on the staff. Joseph Monts and Clark Battle operated the canteen. Max West was voted best athlete, Charles Weeks was voted best natured, Joseph Monts was voted most popular and Bob Gatewood was the best all-around camper.[1183] Based on a February 20, 1939, newspaper article, a new water pump had been requested from the local citizens, as the current one at Camp Shehaw was "broken beyond repair."[1184] Also, the Americus Scouts collected wire coat hangers to sell to the local cleaners in March of 1939.[1185] The money collected was used to help with the construction at the camp.

Just prior to the start of camp in 1939, the Scouts ran a contest to name the "coaster" at Camp Shehaw.[1186] The coaster ran from near the scout cabin down the hill to near the creek, a length of about 200 feet. Four boys could ride the coaster at one time. The coaster ran on rails and had a wench to pull the cart back to the top.[1187] The prize for submitting the winning name was a box of candy. "Muckalee Comet" was submitted by John Howard Thurman and was the winning name from over 100 names submitted.[1188] The name was painted on the side of the car. Prior to summer camp, Troop 3 of Americus built a "new" bridge over the creek.[1189] Also, all three Americus troops got together and built cots for the cabin.[1190]

Council Executive Welty Compton inspected Camp Shehaw in early July, 1939, in order to determine whether it could be used for the Council Camp.[1191] He stated that only a lake and either permanent cottages or tents for the boys were all that were needed. According to Mr. Compton, John Sheffield, who had donated the land, was willing to build a lake in the Muckalee Creek on the camp property.

1175 "Scout Summer Camp Planned," *Americus Times-Recorder*, March 3, 1938.
1176 "Girl Scouts are at Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 7, 1939.
1177 "Scout Council Head is Heard," *Americus Times-Recorder* June 17, 1939.
1178 "Scout Camp Ready to Open," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 30, 1939.
1179 "Camp Shehaw Opens July 3," *Americus Times-Recorder,*, June 3, 1939.
1180 "Forty-Three Are at Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 5, 1939.
1181 "Scouts to Register for Summer Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 26, 1939.
1182 "Cumbaa Named Camp Director," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 29, 1939.
1183 "Scouts Close Successful Camp, Many Tests Passed at Shehaw," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 10, 1939.
1184 "Scouts Need a Water Pump," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 20, 1939.
1185 "Scouts to Collect Wire Coat Hangers," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 27, 1939.
1186 "Name Wanted for Boy Scout Coaster," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 12, 1939.
1187 From the personal knowledge of Ralph Ellis.
1188 "Scout Roller Coaster Named," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 15, 1939.
1189 "Boy Scouts of America," *Americus Times-Recorder,* April 21, 1939.
1190 "Scouts to Build Cots for Cabin," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 19, 1939.
1191 "Local Scout Work Praised," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 19, 1939.

The week after the 1939 Boy Scout camp, the Girl Scouts again held their summer camp at Camp Shehaw.[1192] Mrs. Charles Stubbs was camp director. Mrs. J. M. Yarbourgh, Marguerite Furlow, and Nell Pittman were camp counselors. 10 girls attended the camp.

In 1940, Camp Shehaw opened July 1, 1940. By this date, Chehaw Council was open and Scout Executive Welty Compton was on the job; and he was actively visiting Camp Shehaw.[1193] Cost for the week was $3.50.[1194] However, Camp Shehaw was not operated as the Council camp in 1940. The Council ran Camp Chehaw at Graves Springs for 5 weeks during June and July of 1940.

For the 1940 camping season, the cabin's roof had been repaired and the front porch had been enlarged.[1195] The bridge over Muckalee Creek had been repaired. Also, the bridge over the swamp had been repaired. Other features at the camp were the roller coaster (the Mercury Coaster), the nature trail with its new suspension bridge, and the cave.[1196]

During the first week of the 1940 season forty-six scouts attended camp. Bill Cumbaa was again Camp Director. The known staff were: Robert Turner, Ralph Ellis (advancements), and Walter Gumby (leather working), all of Columbus. Robert Turner was an Eagle Scout from Columbus. The staff from Americus was: Steve Pace, Jr. (bugling and first aid), Frank Butler, Jr., Glenn Feagin (leather working and archery), Max West (rustic work), and Clark Battle (bead work). Mrs. Amalie Mathews was in charge of pottery.[1197] The list of scouts earning awards at Camp Shehaw consisted solely of Sumter District Scouts. Honor campers from the first week were: D. S. Short, Bob Gatewood, Julius Howell, Halley Smith, Billy Flatt, and Frank Easterlin. There is no record of how many additional weeks of camp were held.

Camp Shehaw was the official Chehaw Council summer camp in 1941.[1198] In March of 1941, the scouts of the Sumter District got together to build another signal tower at the camp. For summer camp, plans were made for 60 to 75 scouts for each of "several" weeks.[1199] One hundred fifty-four scouts from twenty-two troops attended over the entire camp.[1200] Fifty-one scouts attended camp the first week.[1201] Paul Smith, the Assistant Scout Executive for Chehaw Council, served as Camp Director. Upgrades to the camp for 1941 included: running water, showers, toilets, and tent floors. Camp ran Thursday through Wednesday. In addition to the Americus troops, troops from Albany, Arlington, Blakely, Cordele, Edison, Leary, Pelham, and Tifton attended. Candy and soft drinks were added to the camp store but each scout was limited to 10 cents per day in these expenditures. Known 1941 staff members were: Jim Pace of Troop 15, Homer Wallace of Troop 8, and John Cheney, Bobby Hill and John Williamson of Troop 1.[1202]

1192 "Girl Scouts are at Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 12, 1939.
1193 "Scout Camp Staff Listed," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 1, 1940.
1194 "Scout Camp Date is Set," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 25, 1940.
1195 "Scouts End Camp Today," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 6, 1940.
1196 "Scouts Urged to Register for Camp Now," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 18, 1940.
1197 "Scout Camp Staff Listed, Camp Shehaw to Open Monday," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 27, 1940.
1198 "Albany Scouts to Attend Camp near Americus," *The Albany Herald,* June 11, 1941.
1199 "Camp Shehaw Prepares to Open Thurs. ," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 9, 1941.
1200 "154 Scouts Enjoy Camp At Americus," *Macon Telegraphy,* July 21, 1941.
1201 "Albany Scouts Leave for Camp Near Americus," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 13, 1941.
1202 "Albany Scouts to Attend Camp near Americus," *The Albany Herald,* June 11, 1941.

During the first week of the 1941 summer camp, army forces from Fort Benning hid motorized equipment in the woods near Camp Shehaw and planes from the Army Air Corps searched for the equipment in a drill.[1203] Over the weekend, several thousand soldiers in a motorized convey camped near Camp Shehaw. Upon learning that there was no drinking water in the area, the Army setup a water purification system at Camp Shehaw to supply the temporary Army camp with water from the Muckalee Creek. During the second week of camp, Flight Lieutenant L. G. Speck of the Royal Air Force spoke the Scouts at Camp Shehaw.[1204] Lt. Speck was the officer in charge of the British cadets being trained in Americus. Of all the items at scout camp, he liked hotdogs with all the fixings the best.

February 21st and 22nd, 1942, Chehaw Council held a BSA Emergency Service Corp training at Camp Shehaw in Amerius.[1205]

Prior to summer camp in 1942, the Americus Scouts built a "raft" at Camp Shehaw.[1206] In June, 1942, Scouts Landon Bloomer, David Martin and Jim Pace attended BSA aquatic trainging in Augusta in preparation for summer camp in Americus.[1207]

Camp Shehaw was again the official Chehaw Council summer camp in 1942.[1208] Camp ran for five weeks.[1209] Paul Smith was Camp Director and Mr. Lumpkin was Assistant Camp Director. Mr. Lumpkin was the scoutmaster from the Leary Troop. Other known staff members were: Bardan Barry, David Martin, Billy Cobey, Landon Bloomer, all of Albany, and Cecil Trippe of Blakley.[1210] Camp ran for 5 weeks beginning on June 18, 1942. Two hundred seventy-five scouts from 22 troops attended camp. Troops attending during the first week were Troop 24 (Sumter County), Troop 40 (Crisp County), Troop 41 (Crisp County), Troop 8 (Dougherty County), and Troop 3 (Dougherty County). The second week Troop 42 (Crisp County), Troop 22 (Sumter County), Troop 23 (Sumter County), Troop 70 (Terrell County), and Troop 80 (Calhoun County) attended. Troops attending during the third week were Troop 1 (Dougherty County), Troop 21 (Sumter County), Troop 60 (Tift County), and Troop 63 (Tift County). In week four, Troop 2 (Dougherty County), Troop 4 (Dougherty County), Troop 6 (Dougherty) and Troop 50 (Mitchell County) attended. The fifth and final week of camp had Troop 80[1211] (Calhoun County), Troop 83 (Calhoun County), Troop 90 (Early County), and Troop 91 (Early County).[1212] During summer camp, scout J. A. Brim was bitten by a copperhead rattlesnake.[1213] Another scout applied a tourniquet and used the scout Boy Scout first aid kit's suction cup to withdraw the poison. The doctor credited the quick action of the scout with greatly reducing the severity of the injury.

1203 "Chehaw Scout Camp 'Invaded' By Army Sunday," *The Albany Herald,* June 16, 1941.
1204 "RAF Officer Visits Scouts in Americus," *The Albany Herald,* June 23, 1941.
1205 Untitled, *The Columbus Enquirer,* February 23rd, 1942.
1206 "Scouts to Camp at Camp Shehaw," *Americus Times-Recorder,* April 4, 1942.
1207 "Albany Boy Scouts Return From Augusta," *Lee County Journal,* June 12th, 1942.
1208 "Summer Scout Camp Opened," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 19, 1942.
1209 "Boy Scouts Conclude Camp at Americus," *Macon Telegraph,* July 23, 1942.
1210 "Summer Camp Staff," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 10, 1942.
1211 The troop number is most likely a typographical error in the newspaper as Troop 80 attended camp in second week.
1212 "270 Sign for Scout Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 12, 1942.
1213 "Scouts Render Practical First Aid," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 21, 1942.

Camp Shehaw after Camp Osborn Opened

There is no record of any use of Camp Shehaw as a long-term summer camp during the summer of 1943. Camp Osborn opened on June 17, 1943, as the official Chehaw Council summer camp.[1214] After the opening of Camp Osborn, Camp Shehaw was used as the Sumter District campsite.[1215]

In 1944, the Sumter District operated Camp Shehaw from Monday, July 31, until Friday, August 4.[1216] This was in addition to the four or five weeks that Camp Osborn operated in June and early July. Ralph Ellis, Field Representative from Chehaw Council, was Camp Director.[1217] Twenty-six scouts attended. Troop 21 of Americus sent eleven Scouts; Troop 23 of Americus sent eleven Scouts; and Troop 25 of Plains sent five Scouts.[1218] The staff members were Howard Lane and Lawrence Wolfe from Troop 22 and Joel Mauk from Troop 21. Cost of the camp was five dollars. On Tuesday, the Rotary Club held its regular meeting at the camp and participated in a fire-building contest with the scouts.[1219] A Board of Review was held Thursday night for those scouts needing advancement.[1220]

In 1945, the Sumter District ran a three-day patrol camp at Camp Shehaw.[1221] The camp was originally scheduled for August 14 to August 16. Either Height Swearingen or Parke Renshaw, professionals from Chehaw Council, was slated to be Camp Director.[1222] However, the camp was ended early on August 15 as a result of the announcement of the end of World War II and the serious injury of one of the scouts Monday night just prior to camp.[1223] Harold Cripe, scoutmaster of Troop 23, served as Camp Director rather than either of the Council professionals. The scouts did complete a new bridge over the creek and a new pump house.

There is no record of a major camporee being held at Camp Shehaw in the summer of 1946.

In the summer of 1947, a new roof had been placed on the building, screens had been placed on the windows and doors, the swimming hole and baseball field had been cleaned, and a tower had been built for a trolley, which extended over the swimming hole.[1224] In August of 1947, the Sumter-Schley District held a Camporee at Camp Shehaw from August 28 to August 30.[1225] The camporee was a contest among the troops for points and the wining troop received a shoulder patch.

In September of 1948, a District Camporee was held at Camp Shehaw.[1226] James Scott, Field Executive for the northern area of Chehaw Council, was the Camp Director. Merit badges

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1214 "44 Scouts to Attend Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 14, 1943.
1215 "Scout Troop Plans Over-Night Hike," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 3, 1943.
1216 "Registration for Shehaw Camp in Progress Here," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 17, 1944.
1217 "Scouts Must Register for District Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 24, 1944.
1218 "26 Scouts at District Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 31, 1944.
1219 "Rotarians Visit Scouts at Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 2, 1944.
1220 "Scouts Advanced as Board of Review Meets on Thursday," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 5, 1944.
1221 "Sumter Scouts Plan Three-Day Patrol Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 4, 1945.
1222 "Sumter Scouts Plan Three-Day Patrol Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 4, 1945.
1223 "Scout Camporee Concludes Today," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 15, 1945.
1224 "Local Scouts to Hold Camporee at Camp Shehaw," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 21, 1947.
1225 "Sumter Scouts Plan Three-Day Patrol Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 4, 1945.
1226 "Sumter-Schley Scouts on Shehaw Camporee," *Americus Times-Recorder,* September 10, 1948.

and rank advancements were earned and the best troop received a shoulder patch. The three troops that attended were Troop 21 and Troop 22 of Americus, and Troop 28 of Ellaville.

In 1949 a new road had been made to Camp Shehaw which eliminated the need to use the Federal Nursery gate.[1227]

The *Americus Times-Recorder* reported that Troop 21 camped at Camp Shehaw in April of 1952 for a "Coffee Can and Compass Hike."[1228] Also known to have camped at Camp Shehaw in 1952 or 1953 is Troop 25 of Plains, Georgia.[1229] In 1958, the Kiwanis Club of Americus built a scout hut at Camp Shehaw.[1230] It is not clear from the report if this hut replaced an existing building or was a new construction.

The 1965 Lake District Spring Camporee was held at Camp Shehaw.[1231]

The cabin located on the property was used by Troop 21 to hold many of its Eagle Scout Courts of Honor in the 1950s and 1960s. Also, the Girl Scouts have held campouts at Camp Shehaw. The camp is still used for camping by the local Boy Scout District and local troops.[1232]

The Scout at Camp, a Play by Ralph Williams

As part of Boy Scout week for 1939, a play entitled *The Scout at Camp* was performed at the recreation department building in Americus on Friday, February 10, 1939. Approximately 200 people attended the play.[1233] The floor of the building was turned into Camp Shehaw and the guests sat in the bleachers on the sides. The camp included cots, dining table, flag pole, and camp fire. The play was written by Ralph Williams about life at Camp Shehaw where he had been Camp Director in 1938. A photo of Mr. Williams can be seen in the Appendix containing the materials relating to the play.[1234]

The cast consisted of: Ralph Williams, Announcer; C. L. Adams, Camp Director; Glenn Feagin, Thomas the Life Guard; Robert Turner, Joe the Director of Games and Activities; Charles (Charlie) Hogg, Arthur the Director of Tests; Frank Butler, Jr,. the First Aid Instructor; Joseph C. Logan; Phillip the Pioneering Instructor; Evan Mathis, Jr. , Elmer a Patrol Leader; Clark Battle, Robert a Patrol Leader; Frank Easterlin, Jr. as both Warren and Ned; Bob Arthur, Bugler.[1235] All other Americus Scouts appeared as campers.[1236] Mr. Adams was the Council Executive from the Georgia-Alabama Council in Columbus and appeared as the guest star.[1237]

1227 "Scouts Pitch There Tents Here Tuesday," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 9, 1949.
1228 "Scout Troop Plans for Overnight Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* April 16, 1952.
1229 From the personal knowledge of Jack Pugh, former member of Troop 25.
1230 "Scout Troop Plans Overnight Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, November 21, 1958.
1231 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, March 25, 1965.
1232 J. Michael Greene attended campouts at Little Chehaw during the early 1970s and his sons attended fampouts at Little Chehaw during the early 2000s.
1233 "Scouts Show Life in Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, February 11, 1939.
1234 "Large Crowd Expected for Scout Drama," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 10, 1939.
1235 "Scout Play is Rehearsed," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February, 1, 1939.
1236 "Scout Play Cast Listed," *Americus Times-Recorder,* February 9, 1939.
1237 "Scout Leader Coming Here," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 24, 1939.

Table 1

Scouts Attending the First Summer Camp at Camp Shehaw in 1932

Breedin Argo (Troop 2)
Herschel Argo, Jr.
Henry Black
Rupert Brown
J. S. Burton (SM Troop 1)
Frank Creighton (Troop 1)
Julian Glaze
Luther Glaze
Walter Hamilton
James Hawkins (Troop 1)
Leroy Holt (Troop 1)
Hinton Hudson (Troop 1)
Herbert Humber
J. E. Jackson
Ned Kiker (JASM of Troop 2)
Jimmy Lassiter (Troop 2)
Frank Lawson (Troop 1)
Edward Lipford (Troop 1)
Frank McLain
Herbert W. Moon (Troop 1)
Reginald Poole (Troop 1)
John Pope
Ray Pope
Gammage Shivers
John Shumaker (Troop 1)
Wyatt Shumake
W. T. Silver (Troop 1)
Calvin Speer
Charles Speer
Pat Thayer
T. C. Tillman (Troop 1)
Kyle Tindol
John R. Wall
Nat Wall
Dan Wheeler
N. W. White
Marvin Yates

Table 2

Known Scouts Attending the Chehaw Council Summer Camp at Camp Shehaw in 1942

Troop 3 – Albany

scoutmaster Tom Malone
Junior Assistant scoutmaster Homer Walker
Bobby Garrett
Spencer Faircloth
Joel Harvey
Lamar Clifton
Jackie Moore
Jimmy Sweat
Tom Pate
Ralph Calhoun
Paul Jones
Waite Clark
Aubrey Hitson
Ernest Garrett
John McEachern
Fred Bartlett
Robert Clifton
John Grissett
Billy Van Cise
Johnnie Clark
John Skandamis
Jim Redfearn
Randolph Champion
Dick Flint
Ed Brannon.

Troop 21 - Americus

Jimmie Weaver
Bobbie Monahan
Bobbie Collins
Jimmie Whaley
Mike Saliba
Lamar Dixon
Johnnie Banner
Lee Durham
Harold Stewart
Jim Dudley

Troop 22 - Americus

Jimmie Pressley
Billie Mainor
Jim Grey Watson
Billy Entrekin
Evan Bass

Troop 24 -Americus

Herbert Mize
Bill Pilcher

Unknown Americus Troop

Hugh Henderson
Milton Fletcher
Micky Anthony
Jack Mccrary

CHAPTER 8
CAMP CHEHAW

In 1940, Chehaw Council held its first council-wide summer camp.[1238] Camp was held at Graves Springs on the east bank of the Muckalee Creek in Lee County.[1239] The camp was called "Camp Chehaw." The name should not be confused with "Camp Shehaw" (a/k/a "Camp Little Chehaw") which was operated by the Sumter District also in 1940. This was the only time any camp run by any council or district was called "Camp Chehaw."

Camp Chehaw operated for five weeks in the summer of 1940. Camp was originally scheduled to operate for only four weeks with the first week beginning June 12 and the fourth week beginning July 3.[1240] C. J. Bott was the Camp Director and J. W. Starr, Jr. was the Assistant Camp Director.[1241] Other known staff members were Hugh Mills of Troop 1 and Steve Pace, Jr. of Americus.[1242] The cost of the camp was $1 per scout.[1243] Troops attending camp were from Albany (Troops 6, 11, 15), Americus (Troop 21), Cordele, Plains (Troop 25), Vienna, and Warwick

A "camper's emblem" was awarded to certain scouts at the conclusion of each week.[1244] Eighteen were awarded to scouts attending the second week of camp.[1245] No details of the requirements have been found but it was probably a points system based on the scout's participation in activities during the week. None of the patches is known to exist today and none of the resources gives any description.

1238 "Plains Boys Win Outstanding Recognition at Camp Chehaw," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 6, 1940.
1239 The coordinates of Graves Springs is 31° 40' 3.6228" N 84° 5' 58.6602" W .
1240 "Chehaw Scout Camps to Be Held June 12 – July 10," *The Albany Herald*, June 2, 1940.
1241 "Bott Is Named Chehaw Council Camp Director," *The Albany Herald*, June 4, 1940.
1242 "Second Week of Scout Camp Begins Today," *The Albany Herald*, June 19, 1940.
1243 "Troop 21 Will Attend Council Camp Wed. ," *The Albany Herald*, June 15, 1940.
1244 "Americus Scouts Win Coveted Camper's Emblem," *Americus Times-Recorder*, June, 1940.
1245 "Eighteen Scouts Receive Emblems at Council Camp," *The Albany Herald*, June 26, 1940.

CHAPTER 9
CAMP CHASE S. OSBORN

In March of 1943, Chehaw Council formally announced that the former Governor of Michigan Chase S. Osborn and Stella Osborn had donated 810 acres in Worth County[1246] for a permanent camp site.[1247] The donation was reported around the Council.[1248]

Shortly thereafter Mr. J. E. Bishop, Director of Engineering Science of the National Council, Boy Scouts of America, came to Albany from the New York headquarters of the Boy Scouts for two days of meetings with the Chehaw Council Reservation Committee. Wallace Sheffield of Americus had been appointed to serve as committee Chairman. The Council named the property "Camp Chase S. Osborn" in honor of the Governor.

According to Luther Wood, Jr. a Camporee was held on the property in 1942. However, it was not a council-wide event nor was it summer camp.[1249] The first official summer camp was held the summer of 1943.[1250] In June 1943, a ceremony was held at Camp Osborn and a letter was read from Governor Osborn, whose health prevented his attendance in person.[1251] In late June of 1943, Governor Osborn presented Eagle Scout Eugene Espy of Troop 40 in Cordele the deed to Camp Osborn.[1252] The presentation was held at Possum Poke and was attended by D. S. Hudson, Sheriff of Worth County; K. B. Hodges, Chairman of the Trustees; Welty Y. Compton, Council Executive; Tenderfoot Scout Eugene Hudson of Troop 32 in Sylvester; and I. C. Gortatowsky, Executive Vice-President of Chehaw Council.

The official dedication of the camp was not held until January, 1950. There is no official reason for the delay; but, in the spring and summer of 1943 World War II was in full force. At that time the battle for North Africa was raging; Japanese troops had invaded and were holding American territory in the Aleutian Islands of Alaska; and, American and allied forces had begun retaking islands in the south Pacific. The war most likely postponed the official dedication and after the war Governor Osborn's continuing declining health probably continue the postponement.

The 1950 dedication was attended by Ms. Stellanova Osborn. Georgia Governor Herman Tallmadge was to be the keynote speaker; however, at the last moment he was unable to attend and Lt. Governor Marvin Griffin spoke.[1253] Governor Osborn had died on April 11, 1949 at Possum Poke in Poulan, Georgia.

Dr. G. C. McKenzie of Ashburn was the master of ceremonies for the event. The Tifton High School band provided music. A tree planting ceremony was held to inaugurate the "Trail of

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1246 The main gate is at 31°39'1.17"N 83°56'37.52" W for those of you with Google Earth™.

1247 The two deeds for the camp were dated April 10, 1943, and are recorded in the office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Worth County, Georgia.

1248 "Scouts Given Site for Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* March 16, 1943.

1249 Luther Wood, Jr. (first Lodge Chief of Immokalee Lodge) attended the camporee and provided first-person knowledge of the event.

1250 Ralph Ellis (Chehaw Staff 1943 to 1945) stated that the first summer camp at Camp Osborn was held in the summer of 1943.

1251 *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts*, Iva J. Adams, Pages 14 to 16, contains the text of the letter.

1252 "Scout Gets Deed to Reservation," *The Albany Herald,* June 26, 1943.

1253 "Many from Americus Attend Boy Scout Camp Dedication," *Americus Times-Recorder,* January 23, 1950.

Trees" or "Trail of States."[1254] Each scout Council had been asked to send a tree native to its location to be planted along the driveway to the administration building. Trees from Michigan, Indiana, and Georgia were planted at the dedication by scouts Tommy Griffin and Bill Chapel along with Scoutmaster W. L. Chapel.[1255]

Over 100 trees were received, including a Sequoia from a council in California, from Michigan councils came White Cedars and Hard Maples, from councils in Pennsylvania came Ash, Soft Maple, and Poplar, from a Texas council came Pecan trees, and a While Willow from an Ohio council. We know of four council by name which sent trees. The Honolulu Council sent two Mamane trees native to Hawaii to be planted at the opening ceremony.[1256] Troop 22 from Amelia, Trinity-Neches Council, Texas sent a Yupon Holly which was native to the council.[1257] Troop 60 of the Ogden Area Council in Utah sent a Quaking Aspen.[1258] Troop 44 of Reidsville, North Carolina, Cherokee Council, sent a Post Oak Tree.[1259]

Edward Van Horne of Augusta who had envisioned the Trail of Trees and was a personal friend of Governor Osborn spoke at the ceremony. Other speaking were H. T. McIntosh, editor emeritus of The Albany Herald, Senator Frank Lunsford, and Ms. Osborn. Lt. Governor Marvin Griffin delivered the key-note address in the absence of Governor Talmadge.

About 500 people attended the dedication. Scouts from the entire Council attended, including all three troops from Americus.[1260]

On January 22nd, 1960, the Council celebrated the 100th anniversary of Govenor Osborn's birth at Camp Osborn.[1261]

According to a 1970 article in *The Albany Herald*, each year the Council held a memorial program in honor of Governor Osborn.[1262] The 1970 program was held at Possum Poke on April 4, 1970. The featured speaker was Mr. George B. Hawthorne who originally asked Governor Osborn to donate the camp to the scouts. Mrs. Osborn also attended and spoke about Governor Osborn.

1254 Camp Osborn Dedication Program, January 22, 1950.
1255 "Boy Scout Camp is Dedicated," *The Sylvester Local*, January 26, 1950.
1256 "Trees From Hawaii," *The Honolulu Advertiser*, January 18, 1950.
1257 "Scouts send Tree to Georgia," *The Beaumont Enterprise*, January 6, 1950.
1258 "Aspen Found Best Suited As Utah Representative," *The Ogden Standard Examiner*, January 16, 1950.
1259 "Boy Scouts," *The Reidville Review*, January 19, 1950.
1260 "Scouts and Parents to Attend Dedication of Osborn Reservation, January 20, 1950," *Americus Times-Recorder*.
1261 "Scout Leaders . . .," *The Macon Telegraph*, January 15th, 1869.
1262 "Osborn Memorial Program Scheduled, March 22, 1970," *The Albany Herald*, Unknown Date.

Chase S. Osborn, The Person

Chase S. Osborn was born on January 20, 1860, in Huntington County, Indiana.[1263] His childhood was spent in poverty in Lafayette, Indiana. At about the age of 10 he had a newspaper route during which he was being harassed by a gang of other kids. He resolved the issue by empting a pistol at the gang but hit none of them. Later he reminisced that but for his poor aim he probably would have had a much different life.

He later worked for the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Milwaukee Chronicle* before moving to Florence, Wisconsin, and purchasing the *Mining News* in Florence. In 1899 he served as Postmaster at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan; State Fish and Game Warden in 1895; Commissioner of railroads in 1899; and Regent of the University of Michigan in 1908. Osborn made a great deal of money buying and selling timber tracts in the Upper Peninsula. However, he made most of his money finding, staking, and selling iron ore claims.

Osborn was elected Governor of Michigan in 1910 and stated that he would only serve one two-year term. He is Michigan's only governor from the Upper Peninsula. He did run, although unsuccessfully, for governor in 1914. He also lost bids for the U.S. Senate in 1918 and 1928. It is reported that he declined an offer to be Herbert Hoover's vice-presidential running mate.

In 1881, at the age of 21 he married 18-year-old Lillian Gertrude Jones. Together they had seven children. His marriage to Lillian ended in 1924 with a legal separation. They were never divorced out of concern for their children. Lillian died sometime in the 1930s.

In 1924, Osborn met Stella Lee Brunt and she became his secretary. She was a 30-year-old Canadian student attending the University of Michigan. In 1931, Governor Osborn legally adopted Stella Lee Brunt, who was an orphan, by a legal adoption filed in Worth County, Georgia.[1264] The adoption was a socially shocking event. At Osborn's request she changed her name to Stellanova, meaning "new star."

During his later years he became disabled, and he and Stellanova spent the greater part of each year at their winter home of Possum Poke, near Poulan, Georgia. In 1945 he broke his hip, and by that time he was almost blind from cataracts. Following the breaking of his hip, his general health deteriorated rapidly. However, living up to his reputation for the unexpected, on April 9, 1949, he had the adoption of Stellanova annulled. The same day, and some sources say within an hour, he and Stellanova were married despite his health being so bad that he could not stand. He died two days later. It is reported that his last words were to Stellanova and were "thank you." But, rather than being a sad ending, in a speech Ms. Osborn gave late in her life at Lake Superior State University she is quoted as saying that she waited her entire life for two days (the two-day marriage to Chase Osborn) and that it had been worth it.

1263 The personal history of Chase S. Osborn was gleaned from a number of sources, some of which are: "To a Different Drum," Richard D. Shaul, *Michigan History*, September – October 2004; *Wikipedia; Memorial Record of the Northern Peninsula of Michigan*, author unknown; and, *History of Michigan*, by Charles Moore.

1264 History of Worth County, Georgia, By Lillian Grubbs, 1934, page 571. The book was published prior to the 1949 dissolution of the adoption.

Governor Osborn is buried in the family cemetery on Duck Island, in the St. Mary's River, near Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County, Michigan.[1265] After Governor Osborn's death, Stellanova moved to an apartment at Lake Superior State University which her husband had helped found. She died at the age of 93[1266] and is buried on Duck Island next to her husband.[1267]

History of the Land

Camp Osborn consists of four Land Lots (2, 3, 62 and 63) in the 15th Land District of Worth County. The 15th Land District was originally part of Dooly County. It was divided into land lots; the ownership of each was determined by the Land Lottery of 1821. Each land lot is supposed to contain 202.5 acres, which would make Camp Osborn a total of 810 acres, more or less. But land lots vary in size and no survey has ever been done to determine the exact acreage.

There is no record of any transaction involving any part of the Camp Osborn property from the creation of Worth County in 1853 until the 1898 Last Will and Testament of W. D. Gillis. Such a gap in the 1800s usually indicates that the property was passed through inheritance within a family. In the 1800s many transfers of property by inheritance were not recorded.

A search of the Dooly County records prior to 1853 found no mention of the property. Unfortunately, the Dooly County courthouse burned in 1846, and all records from Dooly County's founding in 1821 to the 1846 fire were destroyed. No mention of the Camp Osborn property was found in the records from 1846 to 1853.

Fortunately, the Land Lottery records are stored at the Georgia Achieves in Atlanta rather than in the individual counties. A search of the 1821 Land Lottery records found the following winners of the land that would become Camp Osborn: Land Lot 2 was won by Gilbert McNier of Jordan's District of Wilkinson County (see Grant for Land Lot 2); Land Lot 3 was won by Beverly Purgason (male) of Bridges' District of Gwinnett County (see Grant for Land Lot 3); Land Lot 62 was won by an unknown person who defaulted in payment of the required fee and so the Land Lot reverted to the state, which sold it to F. D. Scarborough of Dooly County in 1845 (see Grant for Land Lot 62); and Land Lot 63 was won by John Hill of McGee's District of Baldwin County (see Grant for Land Lot 63).

According to the Last Will and Testament of W. D. Gillis, he owned Land Lots 2, 3, 62 and 63 of the 15th Land District by at least September 10, 1898. He referred to the four land lots as "My Plantation."

W. D. Gillis (Dan Gillis) was the son of John Gillis and Roseanna Gillis. John Gillis had emigrated from Wilcox County to Worth County prior to the War Between the States.[1268] Roseanna Gillis had previously been married to a Mr. Calhoun by whom she had children and was a widow. Her maiden name was Hamilton.[1269] John and Roseanna Gillis had four children: Dan, Norman, Nancy and Claris. No dates of birth were found. However, Norman lost an arm in the War Between

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1265 <http://politicalgraveyard.com/bio/osborn.html (2007)> and the *Wikipedia* Online Database.

1266 The exact date of death has not been located in any record.

1267 *A Michigan Love Story*, Stan J. Woodward, www.greatlakespilotpreview.com

1268 *History of Worth County, Georgia*, Lillian Grubbs, 1934, pages 343-344 refer to him bringing his slaves with him and his son loosing an arm in the War Between the States.

1269 History of Worth County, Georgia, Lillian Grubbs, 1934, pages 343-344.

the States, so the assumption can be made that they were born some years prior to 1860.[1270] Dan died in Sylvester.

In 1903 and 1904 Betts & Company bought up large tracts of land in Worth County for $1.25 an acre. Dan Gillis refused to sell his 800 acres (the future Camp Osborn) even in the face of the threat of having access cut off.[1271]

We do not know the exact date of death of W. D. (Dan) Gillis. His Will was probated between December 4, 1912 and January 7, 1913 in Worth County, Georgia. The Will was contested because it omitted his wife. The Worth County Probate Court did not have the files from that time period, but the Will must have been upheld as title to the property passed as specified in the Will.

W. D. Gillis bequeathed in his Last Will and Testament a life estate (the right to live on the property until her death) to Millie Teasly, and at her death the property passed to Sallie E. Gunn and Rosa Anna C. Pool. The Last Will and Testament states that Sallie E. Gunn and Rosa Anna C. Pool were the daughters of Millie Teasly. The Will further states that Sallie E. Gunn was the adopted daughter of W. D. Gillis but the Will did not state the same for Rosa Anna C. Pool. Millie Teasly surrendered her life estate to Sallie E. Gunn and Rosa Anna C. Pool on December 10, 1913, by a deed recorded at Deed Book LL, Page 7.

In 1919, Land Lots 62 and 63 were split off from Land Lots 2 and 3. On November 25, 1914, Rosa Anna C. Pool deeded her interest in the two land lots for $250 to Sallie E. Gunn by a deed at Deed Book LL, Page 152. Sallie E. Gunn put both land lots up as collateral for a loan of $4,500 from the Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company by a security deed dated July 18, 1919, and filed at Deed Book 29, Page 23. On August 12, 1919, Sallie E. Gunn sold Land Lot 63 to E. M. Aultman, Jr. for $6,400 by a deed recorded at Deed Book 28, Page 347. On October 18, 1919, Sallie E. Gunn sold Land Lot 62 to George B. Young for $5,000 by a deed at Deed Book 28, Page 378.

Mr. E. M. Aultman, Jr. sold Land Lot 63 to H. C. Sceals on October 18, 1922, for $5,000. The deed is recorded at Deed Book 33, Page 37. The deed states that Mr. Sceals would pay $500 on the date of sale, the remaining $4,500 he was to use to pay off the Phoenix Mutual security deed. Apparently Mr. Sceals did not pay the debt off because Phoenix Mutual foreclosed on the Gunn Security Deed which included both Land Lots 62 and 63 on November 17, 1927. Chase S. Osborn purchased the property for $4,875 at the foreclosure. The foreclosure deed is recorded at Deed Book 43, Page 101.

Millie B. Young of Worth County sold to Chase S. Osborn on December 21, 1927, Land Lot 63 (by deed at Deed Book 43, Page 100) for $500. Most likely she was the widow of George B. Young.

Sallie E. Gunn sold to Rosa Anna C. Pool for $250 her interest in Land Lots 2 and 3 by a deed at Deed Book 28, Page 530 dated November 23, 1914. On October 10, 1927, Rosa Anna C. Pool sold Land Lots 2 and 3 to Home Realty Company by a deed at Deed Book 42, Page 427 for

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1270 History of Worth County, Georgia, Lillian Grubbs, 1934, pages 343-344.

1271 Worth County Celebrates Its Birthday, 1852 – 1952.

$3,000. Home Realty Company sold Land Lots 2 and 3 for $5,000 to Chase S. Osborn on December 21, 1927, by a deed at Deed Book 43, Page 99.

Once Governor Osborn obtained all four land lots he deeded them to Ms. Osborn on May 20, 1932, by a deed at Deed Book 50, Page 99. Just before the property was transferred to the Scouts, Ms. Osborn deeded Land Lots 2, 3, and 63 back to Governor Osborn by a deed at Deed Book 71, Page 421, which was dated April 10, 1943. In this deed she reserved the right and privilege of working the pine timber on the land for turpentine purposes, and the use of the non-turpentine timber and fallen wood, from storm or decay for fuel and wood purposes (but with no right to sell wood). She also deeded Land Lot 62 to Governor Osborn on the same date but with no reservation of timber or turpentine rights, by a deed at Deed Book 71, Page 423.

Also on April 10, 1943, Chase S. Osborn gave to Chehaw Council Land Lots 2, 3, and 63 by a deed at Deed Book 71, page 422. He continued the reservation of rights to turpentine as in Deed Book 71, Page 421. He also gave the Council Land Lot 62, with no reservation of rights, by a deed at Deed Book 71, Page 424.

On October 13, 1951 Ms. Osborn deeded to Chehaw Council the rights that had been reserved in Land Lots 2, 3, and 63, but only after her death, by deed at Deed Book 91, Page 196. Land Lot 62 had been deeded without reservations. On the same day she deeded to the Council the timber on Land Lots 2, 3, and 63 in trust by a deed at Deed Book 91, Page 197.

Summer Camp in General at Camp Osborn

Camp Osborn held summer camp each summer through 2012.[1272] At Camp Osborn, campers arrived for summer camp on Sunday afternoon and left early the next Saturday morning. Summer camp traditionally began in the middle of June and ran for as many weeks as needed. The number of weeks summer camp operated is determined each year by the number of scouts registered for camp. Summer camp at Camp Osborn has ranged from one week up to four weeks. Additionally, before the first week of camp, the staff arrives to prepare the camp during what is known as "Staff Week."

Summer camp is traditionally used by the scouts to earn merit badges and complete ranks. As a long-term campout, it counts toward the requirements for the rank of Eagle Scout and toward the requirement for nomination to the Order of the Arrow, should a scout be considered for such honor in the future. At summer camp troops do not cook. Cooking is done in the dining hall by the paid staff, which frees time for the scouts to work on scouting merit badges and ranks. Troops camp together at summer camp.

In the summer, Camp Osborn is said to be "the hottest and most humid place on earth."[1273] Official weather records show that in June the average high temperature is 90 degrees, the average rainfall is 4.8 inches, and the record high temperature is 102 degrees[1274] In July, the average high temperature is 91 degrees, the average rainfall is 4.61 inches, and the record high temperature is 102 degrees. For August, the average high temperature is 91 degrees, the average rainfall is 4.23

1272 Except for 1987 when no summer camp was held at Camp Osborn.

1273 Just ask anyone who has been to summer camp at Camp Osborn.

1274 All weather records are from Intellicast.com.

inches, and the record high temperature is 101 degrees.

The Order of the Arrow holds its "tap-out" (now referred to as the "call-out") at dusk on family night. This spectacular ceremony has been a tradition since the beginning of summer camp at Camp Osborn, and it leaves lasting memories with both the scouts and the parents. More can be read on these ceremonies in the chapter on the History of Immokalee Lodge.[1275]

Summer Camp Through the Years at Camp Osborn

The first official summer camp at Camp Osborn was held the summer of 1943.[1276] The 1943 summer camp season began on Thursday, June 17, and ran for five weeks.[1277] Camp operated Thursday through Wednesday, as it had at Camp Shehaw, rather than Sunday through Saturday. Camp in 1943 cost $5.50 for each Scout plus eleven ration coupons, as this was during World War II.[1278]

Bill Huggins, who was a 13-year-old Scout at Camp Osborn in 1943, remembers the check-in procedure.

> The first thing on the agenda after arriving at camp was a health check provided by a physician. Then we lined up to be issued an empty mattress tick to be filled with yellow straw for padding. We would carry this along with our belongings across the wooden bridge and on up to the ridge to our assigned campsite. Tents had already been set up. The tents had dirt floors. Two metal cots were inside on which we placed our newly acquired mattresses. Next, a swimming test was given to see who would be allowed to swim in the Blue Hole. The weak or non-swimmers were relegated to a shallower spot.[1279]

From 1943 until 1946, the center of camp was much further east in the main camp than it is today. A map of Camp Osborn as it was in 1943 can be found in Appendix 86. The flagpole was the center of camp live. The day began with reveille at the flagpole and the day ended with retreat at the flap pole. During this time, the flagpole was located between the old dining hall and Mill Creek. The only structures that existed in the main camp were the dining hall (old), the water tower, the camp director's tent, and the flagpole. Swimming was taught in the Blue Hole. Scouts camped in tents on Horseshoe Ridge from the opening of Camp Osborn through 1946. The tents had dirt floors and metal cots.[1280] By 1945, pallets had been added to provide wooden floors to the tents. Access to Horseshoe Ridge was by a footbridge which was east of the flagpole and which was in approximately the same location as the current Ben Turner Bridge. There was no vehicle bridge to the ridge.

1275 As of November 1, 2007, the Chehaw Council office in Albany, Georgia, still had for sale copies of *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts,* Iva J. Adams.

1276 From the personal knowledge of Ralph Ellis.

1277 "44 Scouts to Attend Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 14, 1943.

1278 "Scout Troop 22 Going to Camp on Thursday, June 23," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 10, 1943.

1279 This information provided by Bill Huggins on August 27, 2008.

1280 From the personal knowledge of Bill Huggins.

In 1944, Camp Osborn again operated on the Thursday-through-Wednesday schedule and ran for five weeks, ending July 19.[1281] Camp had 265 scouts and 25 leaders attend from 33 troops.[1282]

In 1945, summer camp again ran for a full five weeks.[1283] But Camp Osborn switched to a Sunday through Saturday schedule, with the camping week ending on Saturday after dinner.[1284] The fee for the week was $6.

In 1947, five cabins were built on the west side of main camp and all campers were moved off the ridge.[1285] A map of Camp Osborn during these years can be found in Appendix 86. The footbridge remained in place and allowed Scouts access to Horseshoe Ridge although no camping was done on Horseshoe Ridge. The cabin closest to the road was for staff and the other four cabins were for campers. The cabins were square with one door, with screen all around, and would sleep eight scouts. The cabins contained cots that had been donated by Turner AFB.[1286] Two seat outhouses behind each of the cabins served the sanitary needs of the campers.[1287] If the cabins filled up, a tent city would be put up south of the location of the original Trading Post.[1288] These tents were two-man tents with dirt floors. An additional staff area was located to the east of the cabins and was made up of tents with wooden pallets as floors. Other additions to Camp Osborn were the swimming pool, which was added in 1948, and a council ring with a gateway, which was built just south of the cabins.

In 1949, the Girls Scouts were using Camp Osborn for summer camp in August when Patsy Bostwick of Arlington came down with Polio. The remainder of the Girl Scout summer camp was cancelled.[1289]

In 1951, summer camp operated for three weeks.[1290] The first week had Troop 7 of Albany, Troop 61 of Tifton, Troop 21 of Americus, Troop 91 of Blakely, and Troop 80 of Leary. The second week had Troop 15 of Albany, Troop 82 of Edison, Troop 13 of Albany, Troop 43 of Cordele, Troop 1 of Albany, Troop 70 of Dawson, Troop 33 of Sylvester, and Troop 15 of Albany. The final week had Troop 40 of Cordele, Troop 5 of Albany, Troop 60 of Tifton, Troop 2 of Albany, Troop 31 of Ashburn, and Troop 6 of Albany.

In 1952, the first week of camp started on Sunday, June 8. Fifty-two scouts attended the first week from Troop 40 in Cordele, Troop 21 in Americus, Troop 23 in Americus, Troop 33 in Sylvester, and Troop 63 in Tifton.[1291] A severe drought was destroying crops across South Georgia in the summer of 1952. Area farmers had jokingly asked the scouts to use their knowledge of Indian lore to perform a rain dance. On Thursday night, June 26, Hugh Ector, Mack Williams, and Jack Duskin dressed in Hopi Indian regalia and performed the "snake rain dance," including

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1281 "Fifth Period at Boy Scout Camp Opens," *The Albany Herald,* .July 13, 1944.
1282 "Camp Chase S. Osborn Boy Scout Camp Closes Session," *Macon Telegraph,* July 30, 1944.
1283 "Dates Announced for Scout Camp," *The Albany Herald,* April 5, 1945.
1284 "Summer Camp for Scouts to Open June 17," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 14, 1945.
1285 From the personal knowledge of Bill Huggins.
1286 From the personal knowledge of John Argo.
1287 From the personal knowledge of John Argo and Gil Tripp.
1288 From the personal knowledge of John Argo.
1289 "Polio Cancels Date for Girls Scouts," Columbus *Enquirer,* August 10, 1949.
1290 "Chehaw Scout Camp in Full Swing at Osborn Reservation," *The Albany Herald,* June 12, 1951.
1291 "Area Scouts Attend Camp at Osborn," *The Albany Herald,* June 10, 1952.

the traditional water snakes held in the dancers' mouths. It started raining 23½ hours later.[1292] A motion picture was made of life at Camp Osborn summer camp in 1952.[1293] The film was shown to Scouts in 1953 at Courts of Honor as a promotion tool for summer camp.

By the early 1950s, a toilet/shower facility had been constructed in the center of the cabins. Other additions since the late 1940s include: A new trading post had been constructed near Jasmine Springs; an Administration Building had been built where the old Trading Post had been; a baseball diamond had been added near the new trading post; and a health lodge had been built near the Administration Building. A map of Camp Osborn during these years can be found in Appendix 86.

In 1955, a new Council Ring on the southeast side of the camp was built and the lake (later named Lake Keenan) was opened in 1956. Access to the lake was by a footbridge, which ran from behind the Blue Hole to the southwest corner of the lake. Sometime before or during the construction of the lake, the 1943 footbridge to Horseshoe Ridge was removed.[1294]

Camp Osborn ran for six weeks in 1956 operating from the first part of June through the middle of July.[1295]

According to Ms. Iva Adams, Camp Osborn cook during the 1950s, the Staff developed a tradition of obtaining watermelons from Mr. Brown's watermelon patch, which was located near the backside of the camp.[1296] The tradition began in 1952 when melons began showing up for just certain staff members. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Brown, a local farmer, came roaring into camp looking for Mr. Starrett. The Staff was summoned and made to pay for the melons. The next year Mr. Brown's pit bulldogs got after the boys and they had to leave the melons and run for it through the briars. One year the Sheriff of Worth County showed up with a shoe print of a Converse tennis shoe taken from the melon patch. Luckily, everyone in camp wore converse tennis shoes. Mr. Starrett paid 13 cents for the missing melon. The pit bulldogs stayed for years and the next year several of the boys were chased up a tree. They did not get to come down until dawn the next morning, but that did not stop that year's staff. They just changed to another melon field. Finally, late in the 1950s, Mr. Brown planted a small field near the road and put up a sign that read "Scouts, Have a Nice Watermelon." That seemed to end the challenge as no more melon adventures are mentioned.

Camp operated for five weeks in 1964.[1297] Approximately 500 campers from forty Troops are registered.

Camp Osborn was attended by 475 scouts in 1965.[1298] The camp fee for 1965 was $15.00 and for 1966 was $17.50 with $5.00 required as a deposit.[1299]

1292 "Scouts Make Like Hopi Indians, Produce Deluge at Summer Camp," *The Albany Herald*, June 29, 1952.
1293 "District Court of Honor," *Americus Times-Recorder*, April 13, 1953.
1294 From the personal knowledge of John Argo.
1295 "Local Scouts Win Honors at Camp Osborn," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 23, 1956.
1296 *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts*, Iva J. Adams.
1297 "Chehaw Council," Sylvester Local, June 11th, 1964.
1298 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, August 11, 1965.
1299 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, January11, 1965; *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, August 11, 1965.

In 1966, each district had a week at summer camp and the Jim Snead, District Executive, was the program director.[1300] This included the Flint River District which was still reserved for black scout troops only. If a scout registered by April 15 they received a free Camp Osborn T-Shirt.[1301] The fee for each scout to attend summer camp at was $17.50 for 1967 and 1968.[1302] Summer camp in 1968 was also structured so that each district had a week: June 23 – Central District, June 30 – Lake District, July 7 – East District, and July 14 Flint River District.[1303]

In 1970, seven new troop campsites were constructed, each with its own latrine, wash rack, tent platforms, and tents.[1304] A map of Camp Osborn during these years can be found in Appendix 86. Four were on the ridge, and apparently, a well had been dug for them over the summer. Three of the new sites were in the main camp along the west boundary line.[1305] They were Morgan Troop Camp Site, Troop Camp Site 1, and Champion Troop Camp Site. In addition to the new campsites, the main camp already had the Staff Lean-To Site and a campsite with lean-tos called Lean-To South, both of which remain in their same location today. At some point, the staff latrine was named "Pry's Privy" in honor of Keith Pry, a long-time adult leader at Camp Osborn. The four new campsites on the Ridge were: Ellison Troop Camp Site (a/k/a Troop Camp Site 2), Troop Camp Site 3, Troop Camp Site 4, and Troop Camp Site 5.[1306] By 1978, the three troop campsites along the western line of the main camp had been moved to the ridge, leaving only the Staff Lean-To Site and the Lean-To South Site.[1307] The move was prompted by the road leading to Camp Osborn being paved and extended from the gate to run along the northwest boundary of the main camp.[1308] When this was done, the nearness of the newly paved and extended road to the westerly troop camps destroyed their feel of remote camping and presented a safety issue.[1309]

In 1973, Camp Osborn ran for 5 weeks starting on June 17th.[1310] Seventeen troops from Nochaway District, twelve troops from Lake District and nine troops from East District attended summer camp.[1311]

In 1977, 212 scouts attended Camp Osborn from 21 Chehaw Council troops.[1312]

In 1979, camp opened June 17th and ran for four weeks. Staff week was the week before camp opened.[1313]

1300 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, January 25, 1966.
1301 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, February 26, 1966
1302 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, December 25, 1967.
1303 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, March 25, 1968.
1304 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Issue No. 123, September 11, 1970.
1305 From a map of Camp Osborn on Camp Osborn neckerchiefs of the early 1970s.
1306 From a map of Camp Osborn on Camp Osborn neckerchiefs of the early 1970s.
1307 From Chehaw Council History, a brief history of the Council from 1986 to 1989 which is part of the official records of Chehaw Council. The author is unknown.
1308 Prior to the paving and extension of Boy Scout Road, the road turned 90 degrees west at the entrance to the camp along what is now called Camp Osborn Road.
1309 Additionally, one or more of the campsites may have been discovered to be partially on a neighbor's property, but this has not been verified.
1310 "Camp Osborn," *Sylvester Local*, June 14th, 1973.
1311 From the Chehaw Council 1974 Annual Appreciation Banquet program.
1312 1977 Chehaw Council Annual Appreciation Banquet program.
1313 Chehaw Council, Sylvester Local, June 14th, 1979.

In 1982, camp opened with staff week June 6 to 10. Summer camp ran four weeks June 13 to 19, June 20 to 26, June 27 to July 3, and July 4 to 10.[1314] A total of 339 scouts from 33 troops attended summer camp at Camp Osborn and 144 Webelos camped a week during the summer.[1315]

Summer camp for 1983 cost $60 per scout.[1316]

Summer camp for 1984 cost $65 per scout.[1317]

Summer camp for 1986 ran for 3 weeks and cost $65 per scout.[1318]

No summer camp was held at Camp Osborn in the summer of 1987. Due to a significant decline in summer camp attendance and a drastic financial loss at Camp Osborn from the 1986 summer camp in August 1986, the Council's Executive Board set forth a group of criteria which, if not achieved, would result in summer camp operations being suspended for the camping season of summer 1987.[1319] With an almost totally new professional staff coming on board in early 1987, every attempt was made to encourage scoutmasters in our Council to enroll their units for a summer camp experience at Camp Osborn. Following exhaustive personal contacts, phone calls, letters, promotion by the Order of the Arrow, and other vehicles, it was determined that the objectives set forth by the Executive Board could not be achieved by the March 15 deadline. The deadline was subsequently extended to April 1 and once again, the anticipated enrollment was not sufficient to project enough income to operate in the black. Therefore, operation of Camp Osborn as a summer camp facility was not possible during summer 1987. Summer camp was reopened in 1988, with nearly 300 youth members attending during a two-week schedule.

In 1988, summer camp ran for two weeks: June 12 to 17 and June 19 to 24.[1320]

In 1989, summer camp ran for two weeks: June 18 to 23 and July 9 to 13.[1321]

In 1990, summer camp ran for two weeks: June 24 to 30 and July 8 to 14. No camp was held the weekend of July 4th.[1322] Staff week was June 17 to 23.

In 1991, summer camp also ran for two weeks: June 23 to 29 and July 7 to 13. No camp was held the weekend of July 4th.[1323]

The 2000s period to be added here.

1314 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, May 25, 1982; *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, June 25, 1982
1315 The 1982 Annual Report of The Chehaw Council Boy Scouts of America.
1316 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, December 25, 1982.
1317 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, February 25, 1984.
1318 *News of Scouting*, Southwest Georgia Council, April 1, 1986 Volume 1, Issue 2.
1319 *The Square Knot*, Southwest Georgia Council, Summer 1986 Volume 1, Issue 6.
1320 From Immokalee Lodge 1988 Planbook.
1321 From Immokalee Lodge 1989 Planbook.
1322 From Immokalee Lodge 1990 Planbook.
1323 From Immokalee Lodge 1991 Planbook.

During summer camp 2010, youth could earn the Chehaw Council Centennial Merit Badge and adults could earn the Chehaw Council Centennial Knot.[1324]

Summer camp 2011 was two weeks. Week one had over two-hundred scouts. Several troops from Florida as well as other Georgia Councils attended.

Summer camp 2012 ran for two weeks in June. During camp, staff member Forrest Crowder of Americus Troop 26, was bitten by a cottonmouth snake and spent five days in the hospital. Effective in 2013, the National Council put into effect many additional requirements for a Council to operate a long-term summer camp. Therefore, Chehaw Council had determined that it would not hold summer camp at Camp Osborn in 2013 even before the fall 2012 council merger.

Construction at Camp Osborn before the 2017 Tornados

(See Appendix 86 for Maps of Camp Osborn Construction)

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING – No Information.

BLUE HOLE – In September 1946 it was announced that improvements to the "swimming area" would be made and what we know today as the Blue Hole would be built. "The swimming area, a natural pool, will be considerably widened. Its banks will be built up and leveled and two small dams will be constructed to direct the entire flow of Jasmine Spring through the pool, making it entirely safe spring-water. The creek which now runs through the pool will be diverted by cutting a new channel north of the pool."[1325]

BOY SCOUT ROAD – Boy Scout Road the county road leading to camp was paved in 1984.[1326]

BRIDGES TO THE RIDGE - From 1943 until 1946, Scouts camped on Horseshoe Ridge, and there was a footbridge, which ran from main camp to the ridge.[1327] The footbridge was located near the current Ben Turner footbridge. In 1947, all Scouts were moved to the main camp, but the footbridge remained to provide access to Horseshoe ridge. Research indicated that the footbridge was most likely removed during construction of the lake in the year 1955.[1328]

Upon the completion of the lake in 1955, access from the main camp to the lake was by a series of short footbridges which ran from behind the Blue Hole to the southwest corner of the lake.[1329] At some point between 1956 and 1970, a roadway was built from behind the dining hall to the lake. The roadway contained two bridges over Mill Creek, which are still in use today. The exact date of construction is undetermined.

In the 1960s, a cable bridge was built from the back of the Blue Hole over Mill Creek to the lake.[1330] It was removed in the early 1970s.

1324 See Appendix 92.

1325 "Planned Improvements for Camp Osborn," *The Sylvester Local*, September 19, 1946.

1326 "Boy Scout Road," *Sylvester Local*, October 11th, 1984.

1327 From the personal knowledge of Bill Huggins.

1328 From the personal knowledge of Bill Huggins who stated that the bridge remained even as he was in college and from the personal of John Argo who knows that it was not in place in 1954.

1329 From the personal knowledge of John Argo.

1330 From the personal knowledge of Ben Andrews.

In 1970, a 250-foot walking bridge was completed across Mill Creek and the swamp, shortening the walk distance between Horseshoe Ridge and the main camp.[1331] This footbridge was later named The Ben Turner Bridge. This would have been in addition to the vehicle roadway. During the summers of 1987 and 1988, one of the bridges was totally rebuilt and the other repaired.[1332]

At the Fall Ordeal in November of 2016, the lodge rebuilt the bridge (walkway) to the Eagle Chapel.

BURROW (The) - At the 2013 Summer Fellowship, Withlacoochee Lodge began work on a permanent home for the Lodge at Camp Osborn. A National Service Grant of $2,500.00 from the National Order of the Arrow Committee, financial support from many local brothers and many hours of service transformed an old, unused pavilion at the east end of the staff area into a lodge house. The pavilion had been used in previous years for summer camp merit badge courses and crafts, but had been neglected in recent years. The work included removing the old screens, enclosing the walls in exterior plywood, applying a vapor barrier, insulation, inside plywood, wiring for additional outlets and light fixtures, ceiling fans, a new ceiling, new doors and windows, and an epoxy coating for the floor.

Withlacoochee Lodge held a dedication and ribbon cutting for "The Burrow" on August 16, 2014 at the Summer Fellowship. The ribbon was cut by the youngest and oldest scouts in attendance at the dedication who were Andrew Deaver and Rick Green. The Burrow was damaged but not destroyed during the 2017 tornados and was repaired.

CEREMONIAL RINGS – From 1943 until 1946, ceremonies were held in the area of the flagpole, which was, then on the east side of the main camp near Mill Creek. However, after the 1947 move of all Scouts to the main camp, a ceremony ring was built on the west side of the camp south of the cabins. This ceremony ring was used until 1955 when another ring was built on the east side of camp just east and north of the Scout overflow tent area. In about 19xx, a ceremony ring was constructed at the Blue Hole, which served until the Wachtschu Fire Bowl opened on the east end of Keenan Lake in 19xx. (See Lake Keenan and Wachtschu Fire Bowl).

CHAPEL (EAGLE CHAPEL) – Built on The Ridge in 1969 or 1970 with funds from the Capital Campaign. It was designed by Michael Meyer von Bremen of Albany.

DEDICATED SCOUT MONUMENT - In 2008, on the first day of summer camp, the Council unveiled the Dedicated Scout Monument.[1333] The monument consists of the three flagpoles and statue in front of the dining hall. The monument was donated by Gerald Lawhorn, who attended the ceremony although confined to a stretcher. The previous flagpole was in the open field south of the trading post where it had been since at least the 1960s. The Dedicated Scout Monument was not damaged during the 2017 tornados.

1331 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Issue No. 123, September 11, 1970.

1332 From Chehaw Council history, a brief History of the Council from 1986 to 1989 which is part of the official records of Chehaw Council. The author is unknown.

1333 Chehaw Council Press Release, June 13, 2008.

DINING HALLS

Original Dining Hall – The original dining hall stood where the Eagle Pavilion now stands. The dining hall in 1943 had dirt floors, and lighting was provided by gas lanterns.[1334] A concrete foundation for the old dining hall was poured in the summer of 1944.[1335] It did not have windows but rather had canvas covering the openings.[1336] The tables and benches were homemade.[1337] By 1948, enough timber had been cut to pay for the more permanent dining hall which was erected in the same place, administration building which still stands, and swimming pool which has been removed.[1338] In 1951, the Commander of the Marine Base was on the Executive Board; and the camp kitchen received several donations of equipment.[1339] What remained of this structure (the roof, fireplace, and supports) was torn down at the OA work weekend in the summer of 2003, and the new Eagle Pavilion now stands in its place.

The Abernathy Dining Hall - The new dining hall, which is still in use in today, was constructed in 1957 and first used at summer camp that year.[1340] In 1983, the dining hall had a major refurbishing in preparation for the OA Conclave, which was held in April.[1341] In 1998, the kitchen was redone, including a new floor, new stoves, and new freezer.[1342] In 2005, the dining hall developed a severe bat problem in the rafters. A specialist in removing bats was called in and over a period of several months, and at no small cost to the Council, removed the bats.[1343]

FLAGPOLES – The location of the flagpole is of importance, as it indicated the location of the center of camp where the day began with Reveille and ended with Retreat. From 1943 until 1946, the first flagpole was located on the east side of camp near the footbridge across Mill Creek. In 1947, cabins were built on the west side of camp and the flagpole was relocated to the southwest of Jasmine Springs in the outfield of the baseball field. The flagpole remained in this location until 2008 when "The Dedicated Scout" monument, including three new flagpoles, was built near the dining hall.

HEALTH LODGE - According to Mrs. Adam's book, in 1951, the Civitan Club of Albany built the health lodge that is still used today. It had hot and cold water and a "real" bathroom.[1344] The opening of the health lodge is confirmed by the article in *The Albany Herald*. The newspaper also stated that "a new shower and flush toilet house" had been added in 1951.[1345] The bathhouse was built with funds donated by scouts who had attended the 1950 Jamboree.[1346] Although no

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1334 Information provided by Bill Huggins who attended Camp Osborn in 1943 on August 27, 2008.

1335 Ralph Ellis (Chehaw Staff 1943 to 1945) helped pour the foundation and provided first-person knowledge of the event.

1336 *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts*, Iva J. Adams, Page 132.

1337 *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts*, Iva J. Adams, Page 8.

1338 "Boy Scouts Plan to Attend Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder*, May 18, 1948*;* Camp Osborn Dedication Program, January 22, 1950.

1339 *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts*, Iva J. Adams, Page 108.

1340 *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts*, Iva J. Adams, Page 132.

1341 From Chehaw Council history, a brief History of the Council from 1984 to 1985 which is part of the official records of Chehaw Council. The author is unknown.

1342 *Owl Hoot*, Vol. 98, No 2, April 1998.

1343 From the knowledge of Mike Greene.

1344 *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts*, Iva J. Adams.

1345 "Scouts Readying for Summer Camp at Osborn Reservation," *The Albany Herald*, June 5, 1951.

1346 "Chehaw Scout Camp in Full Swing at Osborn Reservation," *The Albany Herald*., June 12, 1951.

definite information has been found, the bathhouse referred to is probably the one to the east of the health lodge, which would have been centered among the campsites in the early 1950s. In 2009, a front porch was added to the building.

KEENAN LAKE and THE WACHTSCHU FIRE BOWL - The lake was built using funds from the first cutting of timber in 1952.[1347] The lake was under construction in the summer of 1955 and it was ready for use in the summer of 1956.[1348] Carl Hancock, who was on the staff during those years, went out to camp in 1955 and saw the lake under construction. The lake was featured on the cover of the 1956 Chase Osborn Camp guide. Upon the completion of the lake in 1955, access from the main camp to the lake was from behind the Blue Hole to the southwest corner of the lake.[1349] There were various types of bridges over the wet spots and Mill Creek.

In 19xx building of the Council ring at the east end of the lake was abandoned after the death of Steven C. Lovelace in an automobile accident in Illinois. Steven and several older Scouts had been the group that had designed and started building the Council ring in the area adjacent to the lake. After his death, the older scouts approached the Scout Executive and requested that it be named in memory of Steven Lovelace. The request was approved and the new Council ring became the Wachtschu Fire Bowl. Wachtschu was Steven's Order of the Arrow Vigil Indian name and means "Mountain." The work came to naught, as many of these older Scouts finished school and moved away from the area. The Lovelace Family took over the project and contributed the money, materials, and labor to complete the project.

At about the same time as the Wachtschu Fire Bowl project, plans for a wilderness lake were abandoned as inadvisable due to a lack of water flow. The lake was to be south of what is now Mike Ellis Road on the unused part of the camp. The funds for the building of the wilderness lake were given in memory of Paul A. Keenan, Sr. by the Keenan brothers, Paul, Jr. and Walter. When the project was abandoned, the Keenan's agreed that the existing lake could instead be named Lake Keenan in memory of Paul A. Keenan, Sr.[1350]

Due to the ongoing drought, in May of 2008, a well was installed east of the Fire bowl to provide water for the lake. The old well was located at the Blue Hole and pumped water into the lake near the dam. The pipe from the new well was run underground to the east end of the lake.

In 2010, a boat house and 5 boat slips were constructed on the west end of the lake.

MIKE ELLIS ROAD – Mike Ellis Road connected The Ridge with the front gate and completed the road around the developed part of Camp Osborn. The road was named for Mike Ellis, the long-time scoutmaster of Troop 26 in Americus. Where the road crosses Mill Creek, the pipes washout frequently due to the large watershed empting in to the creek above the road. This paragraph was added in December 2014 as the most recent "blowout" from October was just repaired.

1347 "Timber Sale Scout Camp Will Benefit," *The Albany Herald*, July 3, 1952.

1348 From the personal knowledge of Carl Hancock.

1349 From the personal knowledge of John Argo.

1350 Eric Ginter provided the Editor, from his personal knowledge, the following: when he became Camp Ranger he found the sign for the lake that read "Lake Keenan" which he restored and which is still displayed at the lake as of 2008.

RANGER HOUSE – The "new" camp ranger house was completed in November of 1981.[1351] The groundbreaking ceremony was attended by Ms Stellanova Osborn.[1352] The 1981 ranger house is still in use today. The Ranger House was damaged during the 2017 tornados, but was repaired.

RIFLE AND ARCHERY RANGE - By summer camp in 1952, the original rifle range was open, although not fully completed.[1353] In 2009, the rifle range was dedicated to William R. Miller of and the archery range was dedicated to of Larry Gray.

In 2010, a new shotgun and skeet range was built on the site of the old landfill on Mike Ellis Road. The range has multiple target houses providing the scouts with a variety of shots. The shotgun range was built with money donated by the family of Phil Bean, who was the scoutmaster of the Byne Memorial Church troop for 20 years. The range was apply named "Bean's Bunker."

PROGRAM SHELTERS - In 1983, three program shelters were built to use for classes. One was near the staff area; one was west of the parking lot; and one was in a place that is yet to be determined.

SHOWERS – According to Mrs. Adams' book, when she arrived in 1950, the camp had a makeshift shower area which was twenty-five crossties standing in the ground about ten feet apart.[1354] At the top of each crosstie was a showerhead. Canvas flaps were hung around the circle by rope for privacy. The shower area was not in the cabin area, Mrs. Adams stated, "There was no running water in the camping area, hence the public baths." Most likely the shower was near the pool.

In 1953 or 1954, the first toilet and shower facility was constructed in the center of the Scout cabins.[1355] It was a cement block structure that was built with sinks for hand washing on the north wall near the door, toilets along one of the long walls, and urinals along the opposite long wall. Showers were along the south wall. There were no internal walls; and, when the Girl Scouts would use the camp, sheets were hung for privacy. This facility was torn down during the lodge's Fall ordeal in 2016.

During the summers of 1987 and 1988, construction was begun on a central shower facility on the ridge which was completed in 1989.[1356] This facility, a cinder block building now painted green, is still in use today even though a newer shower facility has been constructed on the ridge. In 1999 and 2000, two new restroom/shower buildings were completed. [1357] One was near the shooting range, and the other was near the American Legion campsite on the ridge. Each building had eight private bath/shower rooms for privacy.

STAFF AREA – The Keith Pry staff privy was torn down in 2009 and not replaced. Also

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1351 The 1982 Annual Report of The Chehaw Council Boy Scouts of America.

1352 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, June 25, 1982.

1353 "Area Scouts Attend Camp at Osborn," *The Albany Herald*, June 10, 1952.

1354 *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts*, Iva J. Adams, Page 50.

1355 From the personal knowledge of John Argo.

1356 From Chehaw Council history, a brief History of the Council from 1986 to 1989 which is part of the official records of Chehaw Council. The author is unknown.

1357 From the personal knowledge of Sam Thompson.

in 2009, air conditioning was added to the staff huts.

SWIMMING POOL - The swimming pool was built in 1948.[1358] The cost of the pool was $14,000.[1359] The pool was fed directly from the very cold waters of Jasmine Springs, about which more can be read in the section on Jasmine Springs. The pool had to be drained periodically to scrub the walls with chlorine to kill the algae. Then the pool had to be refilled via a large pump driven by a V4 Wisconsin engine, with water being drawn from the spring.[1360] In 1971, a chlorinating and filtering system was added.[1361] At some point in the 1970s, the water began to be pumped from the well system.

In the early 1970s, if you left you "buddy tag" on the wrong board at the pool, the staff held your funeral at dinner that night as dinner entertainment.. According to campers from the early 1960s, an earlier tradition was to have you "sing" for your tag to be returned.

The pool had been closed since 2012 due to needed repairs and was removed in the clean-up from the Tornados of 2017.

TRADING POST – The first trading post was built in 1949 and was in the location of the current Administration Building on the east side of the road near the gate to the main part of the camp.[1362] The building was a wood cabin with a tin roof. The second and current trading post for Camp Osborn was built in late 1953 and early 1954 and is located near Jasmine Springs. It was dedicated in January of 1954.[1363] The construction was a project of the Rotary Clubs of Albany, Americus, Blakely, Camilla, Dawson, Pelham, and Tifton.

The Tornados of 2017 and the Rebuilding of Camp Osborn

On Monday, January 2, 2017 an F2 tornado struck Camp Osborn. The tornado travelled along Boy Scout Road from Highway 300 moving easterly across the northern part of camp. At the time there were scouts and leaders on the ridge preparing the camp for the upcoming NYLT course. For a short time, not contact could be made with them and even after contact was made they were stranded on the ridge due to the trees on the roads. The Georgia Forestry Commission responded quickly and got the roads opened to the back of camp to evacuate the scouts and leaders. Camp Ranger Eric Ginter did a great job managing the situation during this crisis.

Every power pole in camp was broken. All but three buildings were heavily damaged or destroyed, including: cub world pavilion was destroyed, two cub world huts were heavily damaged, the OA burrow was damaged, the Ben Turner bridge was destroyed, the doublewide mobile home was destroyed, the Eagle Pavilion had damage to the roof, the ranger house had major damage to the roof, the shower house on ridge had major damage, there was slight damage to the dining hall, there was a tree on the chapel, and the handicraft pavilion was damaged

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1358 Camp Osborn Dedication Program, January 22, 1950.

1359 "Fine Progress is Reported in Scout Council," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 9, 1948.

1360 Information provided on August 27, 2008 by Bill Huggins who was Water Front Director at Camp Osborn in 1943.

1361 Chehaw *Drumbeat*, Issue No. 123, September 11, 1970.

1362 From the personal knowledge of John Argo.

1363 From the dedication plaque located on the trading post at Camp Osborn.

On Sunday, January 23rd, 2017 a second tornado travelled along Jewell Crowe Road to the south of camp and took out most of the planted pines on the south side of camp. Wind from the second tornado caused the First Aid Lodge to sustain heavy damage and the Eagle Pavilion to sustain more damage. Mike Ellis Road was also washed out.

After both tornados only seven buildings were eventually repaired: the dining hall, the administration building, the OA Borrow, the trading post, the ranger house at the old entrance, and the shower houses on the ridge and in the main camp. All of the other buildings in camp were torn down by the end of 2017.

As a result of both tornados, all of the timber from north of Mike Ellis Road was broken or knocked over and was harvested. The only exception was the timber along Mill Creek. For the first time in the history of the camp, you could see from the Ranger House at the old main entrance to the dining hall which is a distance of about one-half of a mile.

Due to the almost complete destruction of Camp Osborn the camp was closed immediately after the January 23rd, 2017 tornado. A massive effort to harvest all of the salvageable timber was already underway when the second tornado struck. After the second tornado struck three full timber crews were working fulltime at Camp Osborn harvesting the timber and removing the stumps. This effort lasted until the end of May. The only timber not harvested or removed was the timber around the Order of the Arrow Ceremony Ring and Mill Creek which was in total about 125 acres. The timber around the Order of the Arrow Ceremony Ring was not damaged.

On February 21, 2017, John L. Stewart, of the National Council, visited Camp Osborn and provided the Council with a Field Service Report.. In summary the report said that if we chose to rebuild we should focus the rebuilding effort on Cub Scout and family camping. Due to the massive damage the Executive Board of the Council had to consider and decide whether or not to rebuild Camp Osborn.

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At the March, 2017 Executive Board Meeting it was decided to limit the work at Camp Osborn to critical repairs and infrastructure until the decision was made to rebuild or close the camp. But, the salvage operation of the timber was to continue. Three possible outcomes for Camp Osborn were being considered: 1. Rebuild Camp Osborn, 2. Sell Camp Osborn and use Camp Patten exclusively, and 3. Sell Camp Osborn and buy and build a new camp with or without selling and combining Camp Patten into the new camp. At the May, 2017 Executive Board Meeting, an Auction Proposal was reviewed which stated we could sell Camp Osborn for between one million dollars and one and a quarter million dollars.

The timber salvage operations ran from shortly after the first tornado until the end of May including the removal of the stumps. Slightly over 35,628 tons of all kinds of timber was harvested for which the Council received over $346,000.

At the November, 2017 Executive Board Meeting it was decided to proceed with the demolition of the structures at Camp Osborn that were severely damaged and/or no longer needed including: the pool, the staff and cub world hootches, the first aid lodge, handicraft shelter, and the smith bathhouse. It was also decided to begin work on the restoration of the infrastructure at Camp Osborn upon the receipt of funding from FEMA.

Over 70 insurance claims were filed by the Council during 2017 cover everything from damage to the buildings, loss of the timber, and loss of income from the closing of the camp.

Also, in November, 2017 clearing and grading the land in the main camp north of Mike Ellis Road began. The land was cleared and smoothed level enough to seed. Substantial grading was done on the low area between the Ranger house and the Administration building including substantial new drainage piping. Another major change was the relocation of the camp road on the ridge to run along the east property line rather than wandering through camp. The main entrance was relocated from near the Ranger House to near the north property line further up the road. The new entrance provides a straight entrance to the main camp and more parking.

December 30th, 2017 marked the first official workday at Camp Osborn since its closing. Substantial work was done on Keenan Lake and The Wachtschu Fire Bowl as well as general clean-up.

On January 26th, 2018, the replacing of power lines was begun by running underground power cable. In February, 2018 timber replanting was begun and power was connected by the power company. The second official workday was held on February 24th, 2018. Work continued on The Wachtschu Fire Bowl and other places around camp. In March, the new Gateway was begun with the installation of the posts and supporting structure at the new entrance. On March 2nd, 2018 the power was turned back on the main camp.

On April 27th, 2018 a new sign was installed at the Gateway at the new entrance. On April 28th, the third official workday was held. Work was continued on the Keenan Lake, The Wachtschu Fire Bowl, the Gateway, as well as general work to many other areas. On June 2nd, 2018, three new shelters or small pavilions were completed to replace the ones destroyed. On June 25th, 2018, graveling of the main roads was done. On July 10th, repairs were made to the shooting range and horse barn. The fourth official workday was held on August 4th, 2018 with work focusing on finishing the Gateway and completing the area around the Gateway and drive.

The fifth official workday was September 8th, 2018 and coincided with the 2018 annual Camp Osborn Service day. The 2017 Camp Osborn Service day had been cancelled.

The official re-opening of Camp Osborn was held on Saturday, September 29th, 2018 during the Council Camporee at Camp Osborn. At 8:00 AM a ribbon cutting was held at the new front gate. The ribbon was officially cut by Tommy McCurley the scoutmaster of Troop 21 in Americus. However, this was not the first official event at Camp Osborn. On Saturday, September 22, 2018, the Cub Scout *Rocket Into Scouting* was held at both Camp Osborn and Camp Patten.

On October 10th, 2018 Hurricane Michael hit Camp Osborn with the strongest ever hurricane winds to reach Georgia and did the following damage: Tractor barn roof blown away; new gateway sign destroyed; OA burrow, Eagle Pavilion and dining hall roofs damaged; the shower house on the ridge had siding, overhang, and door damage; and, the roof on the fire bowl tower is damaged.

In January of 2019, we replaced the sign and the large pipe to go under Mike Ellis Road was delivered. By January 18th, 2019, Lake Keenan had been cleared of debris and repairs had begun. On January 30h, 2019, the underground water pipe was rerun.

On March 23rd, 2019, the Wood Badge Course began repairing the Eagle Chapel. On May 11th, 2019, another workday at the Eagle Chapel almost completed its rebuild. On April 4th, 2019, the new large piping under Mike Ellis Road was put in place. On May 10th, 2019, the reconstruction of Mike Ellis Road was completed.

Status of the Primary Buildings as a Result of the 2017 Tornados

Administration Building	Repaired or Rebuilt
Bridges To The Ridge	Destroyed or Damaged and Not Rebuilt
Burrow (The)	Repaired or Rebuilt
Ceremonial Ring	Not Damaged
Chapel (Eagle Chapel)	Repaired or Rebuilt
Cub World	Destroyed or Damaged and Not Rebuilt
Dedicated Scout Monument	Not Damaged
Dining Hall	Repaired or Rebuilt
Eagle Pavilion	Repaired or Rebuilt
Health Lodge	Destroyed or Damaged and Not Rebuilt
Keenan Lake	Repaired or Rebuilt
Mike Ellis Road	Repaired or Rebuilt
Ranger House	Repaired or Rebuilt
Rifle And Archery Range	Repaired or Rebuilt
Program Shelters	Destroyed or Damaged and Not Rebuilt
Showers	Repaired or Rebuilt
Staff Area	Destroyed or Damaged and Not Rebuilt
Swimming Pool	Destroyed or Damaged and Not Rebuilt
Trading Post	Not Damaged
Wachtschu Fire Bowl (The)	Repaired or Rebuilt

Construction at Camp Osborn after the 2017 Tornados
(Including New Construction made during the Restoration)

ABERNATY DINING HALL – Covering added to back porch in October, 2023.

BEN TURNER BRIDGE – The Ben Turner bridge had to be rebuilt and the work was done in 2019 and completed in early 2010.

BRASHEARS LODGE (THE A-FRAME) – Jim Womack provided funds to restore the A-Frame which was done in early 2019.

BURROUGH - Back porch added in October, 2023.

CHAPEL – Rebuilt in 2019 as a joint project of the Wood Badge course and local units.

GATEWAY and ENTRANCE – A new main entrance was added near the northwest corner of the camp providing a shorter and straight driveway into the main camp. A gateway was constructed in 2018.

KEENAN LAKE – Major work was done on Keenan Lake since it was empty of water and full of downed trees. The bottom was cleared and leveled and a dam was put across the middle of the lake making two lakes. A new pump was added to keep the lake full during drought times.

PAVILIONS – Four pavilions were built in the main camp.

ROADS

Ridge - The road on the ridge was moved to east boundary line.
Entrance – A new road was built from the new entrance to the main camp.
Mike Ellis Road – The road was redone with new larger pipes to allow flood water to flow under the road. Construction was completed in May, 2019.

Events Other than Summer Camp at Camp Osborn

In addition to Summer Camp, a number of other events have been held at Camp Osborn on a regular basis.

Since at least 1946, Immokalee Lodge of the Order of the Arrow held its ordeals, ceremonies, and fellowships at Camp Osborn. More can be read on these gatherings in the in the History of Immokalee Lodge. After the council merger of 2012, Withlacoochee Lodge, the successor of Immokalee Lodge, has held many of its functions at Camp Osborn.

In December 1947, Walter Smith from near Salem Church was arrested for stealing tools and cooking equipment value at around $200 from Camp Osborn.[1364]

The Salvation Army held its summer camps at Camp Osborn from 1949 to at least 1952. The camp was held after the scout summer camp had ended.[1365] Chehaw Council donated the use of the camp, as the Salvation Army was providing the camp for disadvantaged youth. In 1951 the camp was held from July 8 through 15, 1951. Following the 1951 Salvation Army camp, the Campfire Girls camped at Osborn for two weeks.[1366] In August, 1951, the Mallory Baptist Association held a one-week camp for its youth. Again in 1952, the Salvation Army used the camp for its annual summer outing for two weeks. The first week was for girls and the second week was for boys.[1367]

In May of 1969, Camp Osborn was used for the leader training weekend for adult leaders for the 1969 Jamboree.[1368]

1364 "Officers Solve Camp Burglary," *Sylvester Local*, December 25th, 1947.
1365 "Salvation Army Girls Prepare for Gala Vacation at Osborn," *The Albany Herald*, July 3, 1953.
1366 "Chehaw Scout Camp in Full Swing at Osborn Reservation," *The Albany Herald*, June 12, 1951.
1367 "Salvation Army Girls Prepare for Gala Vacation at Osborn," *The Albany Herald*, July 3, 1953.
1368 "130 Scout Leaders," *Sylvester Local*, May 8th, 1969.

Beginning in 2003, a nationally sanctioned endurance horse race has been held each January.[1369] Riders from all over the United States attend and ride to earn competition points for the national standings.[1370]

For several years in the early 2000s the Junior ROTC held its summer training camp at Camp Osborn.[1371]

Council camporees are also held at Camp Osborn. Currently they are held every other year, but in the past they were held every year. The council camporee is a bigger gathering of scouts than summer camp because summer camp is spread out over a number of weeks. The council camporee is held on one weekend for all scouts in the Council and usually all cub scouts in the council. A number of district camporees and merit badge camporees have also been held at Camp Osborn.

Joel Abernathy, son of Joe Abernathy, is the only person known to have married at Camp Osborn. He married in about 2005 at the chapel on the ridge.

Timber at Camp Osborn

In April of 1947, $15,000 of timber was sold and the money used for the development of cooking, swimming and other camp facilities.[1372]

In 1951, a committee from Chehaw Council and Mrs. Osborn agreed upon a plan with the United States Department of Agriculture Forestry Service and Georgia Forestry Commission to develop the timber at Camp Osborn.[1373] Timber on the 810 acres, which was mature or had been used to produce turpentine, was to be sold immediately. Timber producing areas were then replanted or thinned. Watson Lumber Company was the high bidder for the timber to be cut with a bid of $43,500. Watson Lumber Company estimated that Camp Osborn would produce 1,372,000 board feet of lumber and 275 cords of pulpwood. The committee consisted of G. C. McKenzie, Chairman, I. M. Mann, B. S. Hudson, W. R. Turner, and K. B. Hodges.

Mrs. Chase S. Osborn presented an organ to Presbyterian Church of the Poulan-Sylvester on behalf of the Chehaw Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and herself. The organ, built by Wurlitzer, was purchased with a contribution from the Chehaw Council of the Boy Scouts, at the suggestion of Mrs. Osborn, from the sale of timber from the Chase S. Osborn Boy Scout Reservation.[1374]

Jasmine Springs

At the center of the developed part of Camp Osborn is Jasmine Springs. Jasmine Springs is an artesian spring approximately 20 feet in diameter which flows into the Blue Hole and then

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1369 Sanctioned by the American Endurance Ride Conference, which means that points toward the national standings can be earned at the event.

1370 Eric & Jamie Ginter, Camp Ranger and his wife, started the event and run it each year.

1371 Guardsmen help with JROTC Program, Georgia Department of Defense, June 2005.

1372 "Chehaw Council Meeting," The Sylvester Local, April 10th, 1947.

1373 "Timber Sold from Scout Reservation," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 7, 1952.

1374 "Presbyterians DedicateOrgan," Sylvester Local, September 6, 1956.

into Mill Creek. Its beauty is what attracted the Osborns and the scouts to the land. Stellanova Osborn published a book of poems entitled *Jasmine Springs* in 1953. A monument at Jasmine Springs was dedicated on January 22, 1960. The plaque reads in part:

> "We have been a people immeasurably blessed in our inheritance of primeval restoratives and pleasures but we can continue to enjoy our privilege to the full only if we accept with it a grateful responsibility God has given us these grandeurs to love – and to take care of."

Up until the 1970s water from Jasmine Springs was pumped directly into the camp swimming pool. The water was always very cold but felt much colder when swimming in the 95 degree summer heat.

In either 2000 or 2001, after a prolonged drought, Jasmine Springs went completely dry.[1375] People rappelled down into the spring and removed debris that had accumulated there and which included large rocks, drink bottles, and a car tag. By the next year water had returned to the spring, but it did not begin to flow again until 2010. Shortly after the drought, the area around Jasmine Springs and the Blue Hole was cleared to help prevent water from backing up along Mill Creek due to a heavy beaver dam infestation and flooding the area around the dining hall. The earthwork was paid for by Worth County under a state grant to reduce such flooding.[1376] However, the costs of removing the beavers from just the one mile downstream of camp was $50,000 and then an additional $25,000 annually to keep them out. For all scouts who remember the area of Jasmine Springs and the Blue Hole as wooded and natural, it will be some years before the new trees obtain that level of growth.

The Anniversary of Camp Osborn

There has been much debate about the correct anniversary of Camp Osborn, resulting in various anniversary patches which point to different years.

The facts are as follows. Deeds for the entire 810 acres (there are actually two of them) from Governor Osborn to the Trustees of the Boy Scouts of America are dated April 10, 1943. The first summer camp was held at Camp Osborn in the summer of 1943. Camp Osborn's official dedication was held in January, 1950. The monument at Jasmine Springs was dedicated in 1960. Therefore, a 1943 founding of Camp Osborn seems to be the best supported date.

Camp Osborn's summer camp patch for 1998 states it is for the 50th Anniversary, which would mean a 1948 founding. Southwest Georgia's T4 CSP states it is for the 50th Anniversary and was issued in 1997, most likely for a 1998 anniversary, meaning a 1948 founding. Camp Osborn's summer camp patch for 2002 states it is for the 60th Anniversary of the camp, which would mean a 1942 founding as anniversaries are normally calculated but a 1943 founding if actual years are used.

The 75th Anniversary of Camp Osborn was declared to be 2018 to correspond with the reopening of Camp Osborn after the 2017 tornados.

1375 From the personal knowledge of Mike Greene who was present.

1376 From the personal knowledge of Mike Ellis.

Camp Rangers

In April of 1943, the Osborn's deeded the land the Scouts and the "overseer" of the property for the Osborns a Mr. Johnny Aultman continued oversee the land for the scouts.[1377] It is not known how long he continued as overseer for the scouts.

At the December 1955 council business meeting, it was decided to employ a camp ranger to live at Camp Osborn. The reason was the expensive equipment and buildings at the camp. The first camp ranger was Robert "Pop" Hampton who was employed in January 1956.[1378] He retired at the end of 1964 and moved to Moultrie to live with family.[1379]

J. J. Barber took over for Robert Hampton in January, 1965, as Camp Osborn Ranger.[1380]

Bill "Pop" Knight was the camp ranger in November of 1969, and he remained ranger until 1982.[1381] The beginning date of his employment is still not known.

John Stacey (Stacy) was employed as the ranger in September 1982 and served until about 1991.[1382] He was the first ranger to move into the new house, which was completed in 1982, near the old front gate.[1383] The prior ranger house was a cinder block house located near same place.

David Rohback served as ranger from Stacey's leaving in 1991 until 1994.[1384]

Eric Ginter, an Eagle Scout and Vigil Member of the Order of the Arrow from Ohio, became camp ranger in March of 1995.[1385] He was assisted by Johnny Griner until Johnny's death in 2011. Johnny also lived at Camp Osborn until his death. At the 2019 council banquet Eric was honored for his 25 years of service to Scouting and Camp Osborn.

Summer Camp Staffs

Since at least the early 1970s, summer camp staffs at Camp Osborn have decorated canoe paddles and hung them from the ceiling of the dining hall. These paddles vary in style and information, and not all staffs decorated paddles. I am sure that over time some of the paddles have gone missing. Those paddles that are currently found in the dining hall are for years 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1978, 1984, 1985, 1988, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003.

The known Summer Camp staffs were as follows:

1377 "Deeds Transfer Boy Camp Tract," *The Syvelster Local, April 22, 1943.*

1378 "Chehaw Council Names Officers," *The Albany Herald*, December 9, 1955.

1379 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, January 25, 1965.

1380 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, January 25, 1965.

1381 From the personal knowledge of P. T. Braun, email February 2, 2009; from the 1972 Council Banquet program; and from the personal knowledge of Rodney Hutchinson, email dated February 5, 2009.

1382 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, September 25, 1982.

1383 From the personal knowledge of Winston Oxford, email of Feburary 3, 2009.

1384 From the personal knowledge of Eric Ginter, email of February 4, 2009.

1385 From the personal knowledge of Eric Ginter, email of February 4, 2009.

Summer Camp 1943 – Parke Renshaw (Camp Director),[1386] Billy Entrekin of Americus,[1387] Douglas Monts of Americus.[1388]

Summer Camp 1944 – Ralph Ellis[1389] (Camp Director), list as staff for 1944 were Keith Osborne of Tifton, Joel Mauk of Americus[1390], Royce Hobby of Ashburn, and Roy Renshaw of Memphis, Tennessee (Park Renshaw's brother). Listed as junior staff were Wilbur Wortman of Albany, Gene Hudson and J. C. Hobby of Sylvester and Earl McNair of Ashburn.[1391]

Summer Camp 1945 – Parke Renshaw (Camp Director), J. C. Stephens of Ashburn (Assistant Director), Truett Gannon of Cordele, Earl McNair of Ashburn, John McDonald of Ashburn, John Watt of Americus, and Alex Phillips of Tifton.[1392]

Summer Camp 1946 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 1947 – Henry Snipes (Camp Director)[1393], John B. Helms (Food), Billy Mundy Nature Study, Jimmy Buchanan (Rope and Knots), Billy Morton (Compass and Mapping), Luther Woods (Axe and Knife Safety), Harold Stephens (Handicraft), Bobby Williams (First Aid), Jimmy Luke (Pioneering), Bill Chick McNair of Ashburn (Water Front Director), Bill Huggins of Albany (Asst. Water Front & Bugler)[1394], and Harold Stephens of Vienna (Handicraft and Store).

Summer Camp 1948 – J. B.Helms (Camp Director)[1395], James R. Stott (Asst. Camp Director), Bill Huggins of Albany (Water Front Director),[1396] Sonny Collier of Tifton (Camp Craft & Asst. Water Front).

Summer Camp 1949 – Bill Huggins of Albany (Water Front Director)[1397], Sonny Collier of Tifton (Asst. Water Front).

Summer Camp 1950[1398] – Leroy Starrett (Camp Director), Hugh Ector (Waterfront), Charlie Heirs (Waterfront), Wayne Blue (Artificial Resuscitation), Harry (Beany) Helton (Trading Post), Leonard Ward (Rifle Range), Mac Williams (Archery), Don Braswell, Robert Mellincamp, Don Gay, Billy Comer, Harold Jennings, John Argo, Carl Hancock, Danny Rabb, and Gordon Kilgore

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1386 Paul Smith had left the employment of the Council by summer camp in 1945.
1387 "Two Scouts Qualify for Eagle Rank," *Americus Times-Recorder,* September 6, 1943.
1388 "Two Scouts Qualify for Eagle Rank," *Americus Times-Recorder,* September 6, 1943.
1389 "Scouts Must Register for District Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* July 24, 1944. In some places Parke Renshaw is listed as Camp Director.
1390 "Americus Boy on Staff of Annual Boy Scout Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* May 31, 1944.
1391 "Camp Chase S. Osborn Boy Scout Camp Closes Session," *Macon Telegraph,* July 30, 1944.
1392 "Boy Scout Camp to Open June 17; Camp Staff Named," *Americus Times-Recorder,* June 11, 1945.
1393 "Chehaw Scouts Enjoy Summer Camp," *Americus Times-Recorder,* 1947.
1394 Information provided on August 27, 2008, by Bill Huggins, Camp Osborn staff from 1947 to 1949.
1395 "New Scout Camp Ready to Open," *The Atlanta Journal,* June 6, 1948.
1396 Information provided on August 27, 2008, by Bill Huggins, Camp Osborn staff from 1947 to 1949.
1397 Information provided on August 27, 2008, by Bill Huggins, Camp Osborn staff from 1947 to 1949.
1398 *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts,* Iva J. Adams, p. 36.

Summer Camp 1951[1399] – Leroy Starrett (Camp Director), Hugh Ector of Auburn, (Aquatics), Robert Halliday of Americus (First Class Scoutcraft), Charles J. Heirs of Charleston (Handicraft), Harry Helton of Albany (Second Class Scoutcraft and Health Lodge), Don Braswell of Albany (Aquatics), Leonard Ward of Albany (Trading Post and Handicraft), Harold Jennings of Pelham (Health Lodge), Jack Duskin of Dawson (Scoutcraft), Hugh Comer of Cordele (Scoutcraft), Adair Mellincamp (Steward), and Jack Davis (Steward). Special instructors were: Robert Tift of the Georgia Forestry Commission and instructors from Turner Air Force Base taught gun safety. Members of the "junior staff" were: Mac Williams of Albany (Woodcraft), and Don Gay of Tifton (Woodcraft and Fire-Guard). Mrs. Orr (Iva J.) Adams and Betty Jane Adams were the cooks.

Summer Camp 1952[1400] – Leroy Starrett (Camp Director), Roger Dickson (Council Chairman, Camp and Activities Committee), Jeff White (Council Chairman, Health and Safety Committee), W. E. Nexsen (Scout Executive & Camp Chief), Harry Wheeler (Asst Camp Director), Charles Heirs (Activities and Nature Director), Hugh Ector (Aquatics Director), Mrs. Orr Adams (Cook), and Ms. Betty Jane Adams (Asst Cook) . Mac Williams (Campfire Asst & Life Guard & Pioneering & Survival Instructor), Harold Jennings (Campfire Asst., First Aid & Health Instructor), Leonard Ward (Instructor & Craft Work Instructor), Roger H. Dickinson (Instructor & 1st Class Scoutcraft Instructor), Andy Burnam (Bugler & Life Guard & 2nd Class Instructor), Hugh Cromer (Activities Asst. & Swimming Instructor), Jack Duskin (First Aid Asst and Life Guard & Nature Craft Instructor), Danny Rabb (Life Guard, Marksmanship & Steward & Camp Clerk), Wayne Blue (First Aid, Fire Guard & Trading Post Clerk), Gordon Kilgore (Marksmanship Asst. & Steward's Mate), Carl Hancock, Jr. (Campfire Asst. & Bird Study & Steward's Mate). The part-time staff consisted of Capt. E. W. Strother (Range Officer), Wallace Binns, Dougherty County Forester (Forestry), Harold Johnson, Worth County Forester (Forestry), Douglas Pope (Soil Conservation), and M.Sgt. Joseph H. Moore of the Strategic Air Command who was based at Turner Air Force Base provided survival training. [1401]

Summer Camp 1953 – Art Irvin (Marksmanship) [1402]

Summer Camp 1954 – Art Irvin (Marksmanship)

Summer Camp 1955 – Art Irvin (Marksmanship)

Summer Camp 1956[1403] – Carl Gordon, Danny Rabb, Wayne Blue, Mac Williams, Jack Davis, Tommy Williams, Harry Helton, Billy Crammer, Don Gay, Don Braswell, Adair Mellincamp, Robert (Bob) Halliday, Jack Duskin, Harold Jennings, Hugh Ector, Charles Ward, Henry Workman, and Jerry Dawson.

1399 "Scouts Readying for Summer Camp at Osborn Reservation," *The Albany Herald*, June 5, 1951.

1400 *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts*, Iva J. Adams, Appendix.

1401 "Chehaw's Scouts Romping at Camp," *The Albany Herald*, June 15, 1952.

1402 From the statue awarded to Art Irvin for his Camp Osborn service.

1403 *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts*, Iva J. Adams. The book does not make reference to the year that Mrs. Adams is writing about and she obviously skips or combines years. The year was determined by other information in the book.

Summer Camp 1957[1404] – Leroy Starrett (Camp Director), Ronald Tyson, Greg Daniels, Estol Belflower, John Argo, Charles Ward, Leonard Ward, Gary Starrett, Mac Williams, Tommy Williams, Wayne Blue, Maxie ?, Bob ?, Joe Baughn, Carl Hancock, Gordon Kilgore, M. T. Clements (Kitchen), Albert Harnack (Kitchen) and Brownie Wilder.[1405] Americus scouts Douglas Freeman, Leroy Delionbach, and Allen Summerlin, served as temporary staff members during Troop 27's week at summer camp.[1406]

Summer Camp 1958 – Mr. Russell (Camp Director).

Summer Camp 1959[1407] – Jim Snead, (Camp Director), Leroy Starrett, Carl Hancock, Gordon Kilgore, Wayne Blue, M. T. Clements, John Hudgens, John Argo, Jerry Seseo, Joey Seseo, Pat Hardin, Albert Hammonds, Bill Riley, Roger Wells, David Abernathy, Bob Wallace, Charles Ward, Tommy Ward, Mike Henry, Estol Belflower, Godfrey Culbreth, Wayne Woodward, Ed Faber, Gary Smith, Skip Gnehm, Bill Crissy, and Jim Crissy.

Summer Camp 1960 – Maxie Baughan[1408] and David Abernathy.

Summer Camp 1961 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 1962 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 1963[1409] – Leroy Starrett (Camp Director), J. R. Tyson (Program Director), James Snead (Program Director), Skip Gnehm (Activities), Bruce Smith (Commissary Clerk), Robert Whiddon, (Steward), Ray Mock (Steward), Travis Smith (Steward), Johnny Johnson (Steward), Alan Bitterman (Trading Post), Bill Stewart, (Trading Post), M. T. Clements (Aquatics), Bob Wallis (Aquatics), David Abernathy (Aquatics), Jim Fain (Personal Fitness), Morris Irvin (Personal Fitness), Hugh Smith (Rifle Range), Gary Smith (Rifle Range), Hamish Clunies-Ross (Scoutcraft and Nature), Jim Gay (Scoutcraft and Nature), Keith Reyher (Scoutcraft and Nature), Eddie Bateman (Scoutcraft and Nature), Wayne Woodward (Crafts), Terrell Willis (First Aid and Signaling), and Eddie Bateman (Bugler).

Summer Camp 1964 – Buddy Davidson, District Scout Executive from Albany (Camp Director), Jim Sneed, Tifton District Scout Executive (Assistant Camp Director), Skip Gnehm (Program Director), and Bob Wallis (Aquatic Director).[1410] Other members of the camp staff are RayMock, Granville Simmons, David Abernathy, Gary Smith, Barry Lumpkin, Alan Davis, Jimmy Womack, Charles Jordan, Wayne Woodward, Robert Whiddon, Jim and Bill Crissey, Randy Sadler, and Mrs. Ira Adams of Camilla Will head the kitchen staff.[1411] Ed Brown, Allen

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1404 *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts,* Iva J. Adams. The book does not make reference to the year that Mrs. Adams is writing about and she obviously skips or combines years. The year was determined by the statement that the new dining hall was opened which happened in 1957.

1405 *Sylvester Local*, June 20, 1957.

1406 Photo entitled "Explorers of Troop 27," *Americus Times-Recorder*, July 1957.

1407 *My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts,* Iva J. Adams. The book does not make reference to the year that Mrs. Adams is writing about and she obviously skips or combines years. The year was determined by other information in the book.

1408 From information from David Abnernathy.

1409 1963 Camp Osborn Parents Night Program.

1410 "Chehaw Council," *Sylvester Local*, June 11th, 1964.

1411 "Chehaw Council," *Sylvester Local*, May 21st, 1964

Davis, David Prisant (Councilor for Cooking Merit Badge) and Bruce Bitterman.

Summer Camp 1965 – Jim Snead (Camp Director)[1412], Max Shumack (Asst. Camp Director), David Abernathy (Waterfront Director), M. T. Clements (Program Director), Ed Brown (Water Front), Allen Davis, David Prisant (Councilor for Cooking Merit Badge) and Bruce Bitterman.

Summer Camp 1966 – Jim Snead (Camp Director). Max Shumack (Program Director, Week One), Jim Snead (Program Director, Week Two), Buddy Davidson (Program Director, Week Three), Gordon Davis (Program Director, Week Four), Ed Brown (Water Front Director). Frank Butler and Skip Gnehm were staff members.

Summer Camp 1967 – Ed Brown (Water Front Director).

Summer Camp 1968 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 1969 – Bill Graff (Camp Director). P. T. Braun (Field Sports)

Summer Camp 1970 – Gil Tripp (Camp Director). P. T. Braun (Field Sports).

Summer Camp 1971 – Brooks Lovelace (Camp Director). P. T. Braun (Program Director).

Summer Camp 1972 – Brooks Lovelace (Camp Director). P. T. Braun (Program Director)

Summer Camp 1973 – P. T. Braun (Camp Director). The staff is known to have included Ben Andrews and William Carlan.

Summer Camp 1974 – Penn Bernhardt (Camp Director). The staff included Ben Andrews.

Summer Camp 1975[1413] – Ron Schaffer (Camp Director), Ron Nance (Program Director), Kenny Blair (Trading Post), Mark Cagle (Craft Lodge), Ben Andrews (Health Lodge), Tom Fox (Field Sports), John Phillips (Field Sports), Steve Johnson (Field Sports), M. T. (Mike) Clements (Field Sports), John Fisher (Field Sports), C. Fazekas (Aquatics), LeConte Talley (Aquatics), Chip Burger (Aquatics), George Ingram (Aquatics), Arlie Johnson (Aquatics), Frank L. Davis (Ecology), Charlie Holloway (Ecology), Mike Whitacre (Commissioner), L. Lamar Houston (Commissioner), Neal ???? (Scoutcraft), Bill Fazekas, Bill Butler (Dinning Hall), Waller Tarpley (Dinning Hall), Mark Swenson (Dinning Hall).

Summer Camp 1976 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 1977 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 1978 – *No Information.*

1412 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, August 11, 1965.

1413 From 1975 Staff Paddle.

Summer Camp 1979 – Gordon Davis (Camp Director)[1414].

Summer Camp 1980 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 1981 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 1982 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 1983 – Ed Harvey (Camp Director)*[1415]*

Summer Camp 1984 – Charles Barth (Camp Director), Jeff Irwin (Program Director)[1416], Lee Ledger, Danny Jones, Dale R. Hurlebaus, Carlton Unruh, and Jay Hayes. The January 1984 Chehaw Drumbeat had announced that Ed Harvey, the 1983 camp director, would be 1984 Camp Osborn summer camp director, but Ed left to join another council prior to summer camp.

Summer Camp 1985 – John Stacey (Camp Director).[1417]

Summer Camp 1986 – John Stacey (Camp Director),[1418] Rusty Unruh (Program Director), David Miller (Aquatics Director), John Pritchett (Aquatics), Herb Johnson (Camp Craft Director and Assistant Program Director).

Summer Camp 1987 – No summer camp at Camp Osborn.

Summer Camp 1988 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 1989 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 1990 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 1991 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 1992 – Al Bell (Camp Director).

Summer Camp 1993 – Mike Shamlee (either First-Aid or Lifeguard).

Summer Camp 1994 – Blane Stover (Camp Director), Mike Shamlee (either First-Aid or Lifeguard).

Summer Camp 1995 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 1996 – Jim Tolbert (Camp Director).

Summer Camp 1997– *No Information.*

1414 Chehaw Council, Sylvester Local, June 14th, 1979.
1415 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, July 25, 1983, Page 4.
1416 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, Chehaw Council, April 25, 1984.
1417 "Square Knot," Southwest Georgia Council, May 1, 1986.
1418 "Square Knot," Southwest Georgia Council, May 1, 1986.

Summer Camp 1998[1419] – Jim Tolbert (Camp Director), Sam Thompson (Program Director), Todd Bennett (First Aid), Tony Najjar (Aquatics), Cory Miller, Wade Crozier, Jason Taylor. Other names are not readable on the staff paddle.

Summer Camp 1999 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 2000 – *No Information.*

Summer Camp 2001[1420] – Kris Herrick, Lloyd Myers, Brent Murray, John Gram, Rob Truver, Allen Brock, Rhonda Brock, Jesse England, Larry Gray, Justin Andrews, Andrew Roberts, Melissa Scott, Chris Miller, Wade Crozier, Matt Hall, Tommie Canty, Robert Dupre, Gary Newton, Brian Polson, Michael Erickson, Elliott Sumner. Other names are not readable on the staff paddle.

Summer Camp 2002[1421] – Michael Adkins (Camp Director). Eric Ginger (Program Director), Tony Najjar (Aquatics), Chris Miller (Aquatics), Brett Murrah (Aquatics), ??? Godfrey (Aquatics), Jeff Scott (Aquatics), Christy Katz (Aquatics), Charlene Katz (Aquatics), Mack Willis (Cook), Paul Sumner (Scoutcraft), Steve Scott (Scoutcraft), Jesse England (Scoutcraft), Patrick Johnson (Scoutcraft), ??? Lewis (Scoutcraft), Parker Harroff (Scoutcraft), Gary Newton (COPE), D. J. Newton (COPE), Ryan Brown (COPE), Larry Gray (Field Sports), Allen Brock (Field Sports), Tommie Canty (Field Sports), Brett Tripler (Field Sports), Ben Davis (Field Sports), Miki Rowe (Handicraft), Haley Phillips (Handicraft), Ernest Ausby (Handicraft), David Scott (Handicraft), Amy Heidt (Ecology), Rhonda Brock (Ecology), Matt Hall (Ecology), Wade Crozier (Ecology), Elliott Sumner (Ecology), Josh Christy (Ecology), Lloyd Myers (Trading Post), Rob Truver (First Aid), Ben Andrews (First Aid).

Summer Camp 2003[1422] – Lloyd Myers (Camp Director), Tony Najjar, Wade Crozier, Allen Brock, Rhonda Brock, Tim McRae, Amy Heidt, Miki Rowe, Mr. Truver, Mark Willis (Cook), Brent Murray, Elliott Sumner, Steve Scott, Erica Godfrey, Josh Christy, Parker Harroff, Tommie Canty, Patrick Johnson, Ben Davis, Charlene Katz, Christy Katz, Ryan Brown, Brandon Merrill, Josh Christy, Brett Tripler, David Moore, Ross Meadow, Haley Phillips, Devin Hutchinson, Chad Pettiford, Lynn Scott, David Scott, Kyle Branham. Other names are not readable on the staff paddle.

Summer Camp 2004[1423] – Michael Adkins (Camp Director), Amy Heidt (Program Director), Eric Ginter (Camp Ranger) and Johnny Griner (Camp Ranger). Administration: Tonya Drawdy and Steve Scott; Aquatics: Hans Schmeisser (Director), Devin Hutchinson, Ross Meadow, and Clayton Smith; Ecology: Lisa Foil (Director), Bernard Butler, David Dubiansky, Matt Hall, Joseph Krywicki, and Van Oteghem; First Aid: Rob Truver (Director) and R. J. Truver; Climbing: Wayne Kirkbride (Director); Handicraft: Miki Hutchinson (Director), Renae Fennell, Trevor Fennell and Mason Sheffield; Shooting Sports: Allen Brock (Director), Tim McRae, Kyle

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1419 From 1998 Staff Paddle.

1420 From 2001 Staff Paddle.

1421 From 2002 Staff Paddle.

1422 From 2003 Staff Paddle.

1423 July 2004, *Square Knot*, Southwest Georgia Council, BSA and Andy Taylor, Thronateeska District Executive.

Branham, Marty Davis, and Jacob Phillips; Scoutcraft: Paul Sumner (Director), Ryan Brown, Jason Crowell, Wade Crozier, and Brett Tipler; Trailblazer: David Scott (Director) and Scott Phillips; Trading Post: Lynn Scott (Director) and April Willis.

Summer Camp 2005[1424] – Sam Thompson (Camp Director). Amy Heidt (Program Director); Administration: Tonya Drawdy; Aquatics: Hans Schmeisser (Director), Steven Tuller, James Hussion, and Josh Christy; Ecology: Shelly Sumner (Director), David Dubiansky, Joseph Krywicki, and Michael VanOteghem; First Aid: Rob Truver (Director) and R. J. Truver; Climbing: Jason Crowell (Director) and Jacob Phillips; Handicraft (Director): Renae Fennell, Trevor Fennell and Joseph Adkins; Shooting Sports (Director): Allen Brock, Tim McRae, Marty Davis, Caleb Tillman and Kyle Branham; Scoutcraft: Jason Clements (Director), Jason Crowell, Jacob Phillips, and Brett Tripler; Trailblazer: David Scott (Director) and Scott Phillips; Trading Post: David Wilson (Director), Andy Taylor, and Chris Posten; General Staff: Alex Willis.

Summer Camp 2006[1425] – Sam Thompson (Camp Director); Amy Heidt (Program Director); Joseph Adkins (Assistant Ranger); Aquatics: Alex Rennekamp (Director), James Hussion, Josh Jack, and Steven Tuller; Ecology: Lisa Foil (Director), Alan Herin, David Dubiansky, and Joseph Krywicki; First Aid: Pat Bonz (Director) and Jacob Davis; Climbing: Rob Truver (Director), Jacob Phillips, Jason Crowell, and John Sharnikow; Handicraft: Miki Hutchinson (Director), Jesse Phillips, Tony Fall, and Aaron Morgan; Shooting Sports: Allen Brock (Director), Tim McRae, Justin Gilliam, Ryan Brown, and Cory Lord; Scoutcraft (Director), Jason Clements, Trevor Hohorst, and Blake Brown; Trailblazer: T. J. Garten (Director), John Krywicki, Blake Brown, and Tony Fall; Trading Post: Rickey Sanders (Director) and David Wilson.

Summer Camp 2007[1426] – Sam Thompson (Camp Director); Andy Taylor (Program Director); Aquatics: Alex Rennekamp (Director), James Hussion, Josh Jack, and Pat Madden; Ecology: Michael Maw (Director), Alan Herin, Ben Crawford, and Justin Redding; First Aid: Pat Bonz (Director), John Krywicki, and Jordan Knighton; Climbing: Rob Truver (Director), Jason Crowell, John Sharnikow, and Jacob Phillips; Handicraft: Renae Fennell (Director), Lee Shook, Jesse Phillips, and Andrew Horne; Shooting Sports: Allen Brock (Director), Tim McRae, Justin Gilliam, Eric Millard. And Jacob Davis; Scoutcraft: Jason Clements (Director), Michael Hamilton, Trevor Hohorst, and Sam Chapman; Trailblazer: T. J. Garten (Director), Will Sanders, Matthew Lingefelt, and Tony Sears; CIT: Charlie Dayhuff (Director), Josh Burnham, Gary Loyless, Ryan Landers, R. D. Hall, and Arrin Ferguson; Trading Post: Cory Lord (Director).

Summer Camp 2008[1427] - Marie Jones (Camp Director), Donnie Bowman, Alan Brock, Josh Burnham, Misty Chappell, Ben Crawford, Jason Crowell, Deloris Curles, Scott Dove, Brandon Ethridge, Zack Faircloth, Marcus Flannigan, Al Garver, Justin Gilliam, Eric Ginter, Johnny Griner, Alan Herin, Trevor Hohorst, Andrew Horne, Josh Jack, Eli Jackson, Christian Jofre, , Jordan Knighton, Dale Lackey, Matthew Lingefelt, Pat Madden, Michael Maw, Iris McRae, Tim McRae, Eric Millard, Alex Paulk, Jesse Phillips, Richard Taylor, Rob Truver, Isaac Vickers, Brad Walbridge.

[1424] July 2005, *SquareKnot,* Southwest Georgia Council, BSA and Andy Taylor, Thronateeska District Executive.

[1425] 2006 staff provided by Andy Taylor, Thronateeska District Executive.

[1426] 2007 staff provided by Andy Taylor, Thronateeska District Executive.

[1427] 2008 staff provided by Marie Jones, Camp Director.

Summer Camp 2009 – Marie Jones (Camp Director); Abernathy, Joe (Camp Committee); Arnett, Walter (Trading Post); Barrett, John (Trailblazer Instructor); Bell, Al (Camp Committee); Bowman, Donnie (First Aid Director); Brock, Allen (Shooting. Sports Director); Brunson, Mike (IT Assistant); Burke, John (Dinning Hall); Crawford, Ben (Climbing Instructor); Crowell, Jason (Climbing Instructor); Curles, Deloris (Dinning Hall Asst. Cook); Daughtry, Wesley (CIT); Drew; Grayson (Shooting Sports Instructor); Faircloth, Zack (Trailblazer Instructor); Ginter, Eric (Camp Ranger); Herin, Alan (Ecology Instructor); Hohorst, Trevor (Scout Craft Instructor); Horne, Andrew (Handicraft Director); Jackson, Eli (Shooting Sports Instructor); Jofre, Christian (Handicraft Instructor); Kirkland, Dakota (CIT); Knighton, Jordan (Ecology Instructor); Lackey, Dale (Trailblazer Instructor); Madden, Pat (Aquatics Instructor); Maw, Michael (Ecology Director); McRae, Iris (Dinning Hall Head Cook); McRae, Tim (Shooting Sports Instructor); Owens, Michael (CIT); Owens, Morgan (Administrative Assistant & Camp Photographer); Owens, Steve (IT Director); Parker, Preston (Aquatic Director); Paulk, Alex (Scout Craft Instructor); Phibbs, Cecil (Outdoor Skills Director); Pinson, Harold (First Aid); Taylor, Richard (Aquatics Instructor); Truver, Rob (Cope Director); Tuller, Steven (Climbing Instructor); Walbridge, Brad (Program Director) ; and Yearton, Cody (CIT).

Summer Camp 2010 - Marie Jones (Camp Director), Brad Walbridge (Program Director), Eric Ginter (Camp Ranger), Andrew Horne, Walker Johnson, Richard Taylor, Evan Drew, Matthew Dickinson, Dale Lackey, Dakota Kirkland, Patrick Madden, Alex Purdy, John Barrett, Michael Braswell, Oscar Sprull, Grayson Drew, Forrest Crowder, Cody Yearton, Richard Lackey, Thomas Johnson, Preston Parker, Kwasi Wrensford, Jason Crowell, Ben Carsford, and Carl John.

Summer Camp 2011[1428] - Administration: Ray Allen (Camp Director), Brad Walbridge (Program Director), Eric Ginter (Camp Ranger), David Workman, Cecil Phibbs, Ted Sobol, Donnie Bowman, Reagan Allen, Harold Pinson, Jeff Scott, Matt Howard. Aquatics: "Preston Parker, Pat Madden, Richard Taylor, Sean Payne, Richard Lackey. Climbing: Rob Truver, R. J. Truver, Jason Crowell, Alex Purdy, Daniel Fisher. Ecology: Kwasi Wrensford, Kylon Harris, Bailey Nipper, Taylor Richter. Handicraft: Andrew Horne, Thomas Johnson, Jesse Griggs. Scoutcraft: Matthew Dickinson, Sebastian Millerd, Tye Skala. Shooting Sports: Tim McRae, Tony Crowder, Grayson Drew, Evan Drew, Forrest Crowder. Trailblazer: Dale Lackey, Carl Johnson, Oscar Spruill, Desmane Thomas, Anthony Patterson, Jimmy Scarborough.

Summer Camp 2012[1429] - Preston Parker (Camp Director); Eric Ginter (Ranger); Loire Sparling (Administrative Assistant); Michel Pinson (Health Officer); Forrest Crowder (Dinning Hall Stewart); Daniel Fisher (Climbing Instructor); Jacob Dillard (Shooting Sports Instructor); Matthew Dickinson (Scoutcraft Director); Evan Drew (Shooting Sports Instructor); Grayson Drew (Shooting Sports Instructor); Matthew Howard (Handicraft Instructor); Taylor Richter (Ecology Instructor); Thomas Johnson (Handicraft Director); LeAnder Jackson (Handicraft Instructor); Carl Johnson (Scoutcraft Assistant Director); Richard Lackey (Aquatics Instructor); Anthony Patterson (Trailblazer Director); Pat Madden (Aquatics Assistant Director); Tim McRae (Shooting Sports Director); Devonta Williams (Trailblazer Instructor); Bailey Nipper (Ecology Instructor); Dawn Bennett (Aquatics Director); Noah Phillps (Trailblazer Instructor); Sebastian Millerd (Aquatics Instructor); Cecil Phibbs (Food Service Assistant Director); Harold Pinson (Health Officer); Alex

[1428] 2011 staff provided by Brad Waldbridge.

[1429] 2012 staff provided by Preston Parker.

Purdy (Climbing Instructor); Tye Skala (Scoutcraft Instructor); Ted Sobol (Food Service Director); Jimmy Scarborough (Trailblazer Instructor); Richard Taylor (Aquatics Assistant Director); Desmane Thomas (Trailblazer Instructor); Rob Truver (Climbing Director); Dale Lackey (Program Director); Derrick Jackson (Camp Commissioner); Kwasi Wrensford (Ecology Director); Sarha Bennett (CIT); John Crowder (CIT); Callie Graber (CIT); Cheyene Kirkland (CIT); Logan Galvin (CIT); Jesse Wilson (CIT); Charlie Parker (JRCIT); Pinson Hunter (JRCIT).

Table 1

Scouts Known to have Attended the First Summer Camp at Camp Osborn in 1943

Scout	Troop	Week
Aldridge Milton	Troop 80, Leary	Third
Anderson, Bill	Troop 23, Americus	Second
Belcher, Billy	Troop 50, Pelham	Third
Blalock, Bobby	Troop 61, Tifton	Third
Bloomer, Landon	Troop 1, Albany	Third
Bridges, Clyde	Troop 23, Americus	Second
Clements, J. D.	Troop 25, Plains	Fifth
Collins, Billy	Troop 50, Pelham	Third
Comer, Henry	Troop 22, Americus	Second
Copeland, Lane	Troop 80, Leary	Third
Cosen, Bucky	Troop 61, Tifton	Third
Daniel, Wilson	Troop 23, Americus	Second
Davis, Leonard	Troop 72, Sassor	Third
Dixon, Lamar	Troop 21, Americus	First
Dudley, Jim	Troop 21, Americus	First
Entrekin, Billy	Troop 21, Americus	Staff
Espy, Gene	Troop 40, Cordele	Third
Fletcher, Melton	Troop 22, Americus	Second
Freeman, Harry	Troop 23, Americus	Second
Hampton, Stewart	Troop 50, Pelham	Third
Harris, Bobby	Troop 22, Americus	Second
Harris, H. C.	Troop 50, Pelham	Third
Henderson, Hugh	Troop 22, Americus	Second
Hodges, Billy	Troop 50, Pelham	Third
Horn, Terrell	Troop 21, Americus	First
Horton, Bennet	Troop 22, Americus	Second
Huggins, Bill	Troop 1, Albany	Third
Hurst, Billy	Troop 23, Americus	Second
Jones, Jack	Troop 25, Plains	Fifth
Lane, Howard	Troop 22, Americus	Second
Mainor, Billy	Troop 22, Americus	Second
Martin, David	Troop ?, Albany	Third
Mauk, Joel	Troop 21, Americus	First
McAnally, Bobby	Troop 24, Americus	First
Mims, Julian	Troop 25, Plains	Fifth
Monts, Douglas	Troop 22, Americus	Second
Moxley, Harry	Troop 21, Americus	First
Murphy, Ben	Troop 24, Americus	First
Murphy, Micky	Troop 23, Americus	Second
Muse, Gus	Troop 15, Albany	Third
O'Hara, Billy	Troop 22, Americus	Second
Pilcher, Billy	Troop 24, Americus	First
Poupard, Bobby	Troop 23, Americus	Second
Powell, Sumter	Troop 50, Pelham	Third
Pressley, Jimmie	Troop 22, Americus	Second
Prince, Max	Troop 50, Pelham	Third
Renshaw, Park	Professional	Staff
Rogers, Maurice	Troop 80, Leary	Third
Royal, Charles	Troop 22, Americus	Second

Salbia, Mike	Troop 21, Americus	First
Smith, Jerry	Troop 25, Plains	Fifth
Smith, Julian	Troop 25, Plains	Fifth
Stewart, Harold	Troop 21, Americus	First
Suttles, James	Troop 22, Americus	Second
Taylor, Billy	Troop 80, Leary	Third
Toney, Percy	Troop 22, Americus	Second
Watt, John	Troop 22, Americus	Second
Weaver, Jimmie	Troop 21, Americus	First
Webb, Paul	Troop 80, Leary	Third
West, Jack	Troop 50, Pelham	Third
Whaley, Jimmie	Troop 21, Americus	First
Williams, J. C.	Troop 24, Americus	First
Wood, Luther	Troop 1, Albany	Third
Young, James	Troop 21, Americus	First

CHAPTER 10
CAMP WILLIAM C. POTTER

Camp Potter served as the segregated camp for Chehaw Council from its donation to Chehaw Council in 1947 until the mid-1960s, when all scouts began attending Camp Osborn.[1430] Camp Potter was located on the Flint River 4½ miles below Albany. The approximately 160 acres were donated to Chehaw Council in 1947 by William C. Potter. The land was part of Blue Springs Planataion and Mr. Potter retained the remainder. Chehaw Council acquired 2 additional 5 acres tracts adjoining the camp in later years. In 2008, Camp Potter was sold to Dougherty County for use as Green Space Conservation Land. Chehaw Council reserved the right to camp on the 5 acres where most previous camping had been done.

With the donation of the land for Camp Potter in 1947, black Scouts in Chehaw Council acquired a permanent place for summer camp. At this time camps were segregated. The original deed to the council restricted the use of Camp Potter to "negro scouts" only.

For the first two years the camp was supervised by B. T. Warren who title was "Negro Field Executive" for the council. In 1950, Mr. Warren transferred to the Spartenburg, South Carolina Council.

We know that summer camp for the black Scouts in Chehaw Council was held at Camp Potter in July, 1949. At some time in the early 1960, the exact year is unsure, black scouts in Chehaw Council started using Camp Osborn for summer camp, but on a separate week, and the use of Camp Potter as a summer camp ended.

Also in 1949, a deep well and two latrines were constructed at the camp.

In January of 1953, leaders of many of the black troops in Albany, Camilla, Blakely, and Arlington, attended a weekend training session on outdoor skills held at Camp Potter.[1431] Those named as leaders of the black troops were F. L. Kirkpatrick, A. R. Crowell, and Aaron Brown. In December of 1954, a Conservation Field Project short course was held at the camp.[1432] This training appears to have continued at least through 1963.[1433]

According to W. E. Nexson, Chehaw Council Scout Executive, in 1954 the camp was being used nearly every weekend. Under the leadership of Reverend M. F. Adams, Scoutmaster, trails had been developed at the camp.

In February 1950, the council planted 50,000 slash pine seedlings in the open fields. In the early spring of 1951 a fire completely destroyed all these seedlings. The fire came from within the camp and was caused by improper supervision of a group of scouts who were camping there

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1430 According to Ralph Ellis, Chehaw Field Director from 1943 to 1945, in 1944 Chehaw Council ran a summer camp for black Scouts in Lee County near where Georgia State Highway 32 crosses the Kinchafoonee Creek. He and Park Renshaw helped at the camp. It must have been on private land, as a search of the Lee County deed records shows no land owned by the Scouts in Lee County.

1431 "Chehaw Council Scout Activities Set in Area," *The Albany Herald*, January 19, 1953.

1432 "Scout Activities," *The Albany Herald*, December 5, 1954.

1433 Letter from Molder to Phillips, May 9, 1963.

at the time. In 1952, the remaining pine was sold and the camp was replanted. In late 1952, 20 acres of seedlings were destroyed by a fire from off the camp

Sometime after l950 a Mr. Page built a small house on the 5 acre lot adjacent to the southwest corner of the camp. By 1952, one other retired couple was living on 10 acres near the camp and farming a patch of the land. These adjoining land owners made the road to the camp gate very accessible and the council was unsuccessful in keeping the gate closed. Poachers had even gone so far as to remove the gate in spite of the fact that the camp had been posted at the Court House and signs erected on the property.

By 1963, it had become apparent that the council could not secure the camp without a full time caretaker and selling the camp considered. Camp Engineering Services of the National Council suggested that we sell the camp and purchase a more remote tract of land with a pond. They felt that with the location of Camp Potter near Albany it would bring enough money to fund a more developed and secure camp in a more remote location.[1434]

The 1971 Fall Camporee was held in each district and the Central Distict held it's at Camp Potter. The Chehaw Council Spring Camporee was held at Camp Potter in 1981.[1435] The Flint District's Fall Camporee for 1981 was held at Camp Potter.[1436] A 1990 council Advancement Encampment was also held at Camp Potter. During the time up until the sale of Camp Potter in 2008 troops conintued to camp frequently at the location.

William C. Potter, The Person

William Chapman Potter (1875-1957) was born in Chicago, and graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1897 with a BS in Mining Engineering.[1437] He prospected on his own in the Rocky Mountains, and was later employed as a mining engineer in Colorado and Montana. He became an engineer for the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad in 1901, then became a partner in the Chicago mining engineering firm of Dickman, Mackenzie & Potter. In 1904, he managed the Guggenheim Exploration Company in Mexico, and then became the general manager in Mexico and the Southwest of the American Smelting and Refining Company. In 1911, he became president of the Intercontinental Rubber Company, and joined the Guaranty Trust in 1912 as a vice-president. In 1916, he resigned to become a member of Guggenheim Brothers, but continued as a director and member of the executive committee of the Guaranty Trust. In 1918, he was chief of the Equipment Division of the Army Signal Corps in Washington. He served as chairman of the board and/or president of the Guaranty Trust Co. from 1921 to 1941. He was chairman of the executive committee from 1941 to 1946, and was a director until January 1957. He was a director of the Anaconda Company, Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, Electric Bond and Share Company, Columbia Gas and Electric Corporation, Interborough Rapid Transit Company, as well as other firms; former chairman of the Kennecott Copper Corporation and former vice-president of the Braden Copper Company. He was a life member of the Corporation of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. (William Potter, Retired

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1434 Letter from Molder to Phillips, May 9, 1963.

1435 "Troop 100," *Sylvester Local*, May 7th, 1981.

1436 *Chehaw Drumbeat*, September 25, 1981.

Banker. New York Times, Jan. 3, 1957.) In 1916, he attended a dinner by Thomas F. Ryan which was a veritable summit meeting of American Tobacco and the Guaranty Trust Co.; and in 1928, he was a director of the Tobacco Products Corporation, the predecessor of Philip Morris, during its brief merger with United Cigar Stores. (Tobacco Products Committee. New York Times, Feb. 15, 1928.)

William C. Potter's first wife was Caroline Morton, whom he married in Chicago in 1902. She divorced him in 1922, and became the second wife of Harry F. Guggenheim, the son of Daniel Guggenheim, a director of the Guaranty Trust Co. from 1911-24. ("Mrs. Potter Weds H.F. Guggenheim," *New York Times*, Feb. 4, 1923.) Her sister, Pauline, was married to Charles H. Sabin. The Morton sisters' father, Paul Morton, was Secretary of the Navy under President Theodore Roosevelt. Their uncles, Joy and Mark Morton, formed the Morton Salt Company in 1902. ("Mark Morton, Led Salt Concern," *New York Times*, January 26, 1951.) Their grandfather, J. S. Morton, was a childhood friend of Roswell P. Flower in Adams County, New York. He moved to Nebraska ca. 1855, and by 1858 became Acting Governor of the Territory. ("Mr. Morton Goes West," *New York Times*, February 19, 1893; "J. S. Morton Dead," *New York Times*, Apr. 28, 1902.) Their father was Paul Morton, president of the Equitable Life from 1905 until his death in 1911.

Mr. Potter purchased substantial land in the Albany area which he used for hunting, including the land he donated to the Scouts and Blue Springs Plantation.

History of the Land

The land which was Camp Potter is in Land Lots 316 and 341 of the 1st Land District of Dougherty County.[1438] Land Lot 341 was won in the land lottery of 1820 by Abner Johnson of Warren County who purchased the lot from the state.[1439] The winner of Land Lot 316 apparently failed to pay the required fee and forfeited the land. It was sold by the State to Adam Brinson of Baker County sometime between 1847 and 1850.[1440] The deeds of Early County prior to the War Between the States are not indexed and no effort was made to track the ownership until Dougherty County was formed from Early County in 1851.

The history of the 160 acre tract starts in Dougherty County on May 21, 1867, with a deed from Crawford W. Mayo to Zachariah T. Mayo, both of Dougherty County. The deed is recorded at Deed Book 4, Page 166. No money was paid as the deed states the consideration was "love and affection." On July 15, 1910, the heirs of Zachariah T. Mayo sold the property for $6,470 to John Craig as Trustee of the New York – Georgia Pecan Orchard Company by a deed at Deed Book 17, Page 624. The 160 acres then was sold by John Craig as Trustee of the New York – Georgia Pecan Orchard Company to The Empire – Georgia Pecan Company on February 5, 1912, by a deed recorded at Deed Book 19, Page 259. The consideration is stated as $1 which probably means that the transfer was merely a technical matter between corporations. In 1913 Carl G. Allen and a number of others deeded their interest in the property to The Empire – Georgia Pecan Company.

[1438] Dougherty County was formed from Early County in 1853.

[1439] Georgia Archive's records of the Georgia Surveyor General, Early County, at microfilm Supplement Book A, Page 357.

[1440] Georgia Archive's records of the Georgia Surveyor General, Early County, at microfilm Vol. No. AAA, Page 79.

Although it is not clear from the deed, it is likely that the Allen family had some claim to a part or all of the land that needed clearing for title purposes. The deed is recorded at Deed Book 21, Page 524. The Empire – Georgia Pecan Company deeded the property to the United Pecan Company on July 25, 1914, by a deed at Deed Book 23, Page 310.

William C. Potter purchased the land from the United Pecan Company on July 26, 1929, for $20,167.80 by a deed at Deed Book 61, Page 297. On May 22, 1947, Mr. Potter gave the land to the Chehaw Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Inc.[1441] for the express purpose of "a camp site for Negro boy scouts" and with the stipulation that the land would revert to him or his family if used for any other purpose. The deed is filed at Deed Book 112, Page 191. In January, 1980, Paul Mountcastle, Sr. executed a document removing the restriction on the use of the land to "Negro boy scouts." On December 4, 1986, Paul Mountcastle, Sr. deeded to the Southwest Georgia Council (formerly known as Chehaw Council) all of the reversionary interest in the property by a deed at Deed Book 912, Page 222. Mr. Mountcastle had purchased from Mr. Potter the remainder of Blue Springs Plantation from which Camp Potter was formed.

An additional five acres in Land Lot 341 was added to Camp Potter in 1952. The land consisted of tract number 374 as shown on the Empire – Georgia Pecan Company plat. The property had been purchased by the United Pecan Company but not sold to Mr. Potter in 1929. The United Pecan Company sold the tract to W. B. Haley on May 5, 1937, by a deed at Deed Book 63, Page 341. No sale price is stated in the deed. On December 31, 1948, J. T. Haley deeded to W. B. Haley any interest in the tract as part of a larger land swap to divide up their joint holdings. The deed is recorded at Deed Book 130, Page 491. On October 1, 1953, Chehaw Council paid the Haley estate $100 for the tract of land and acquired title by a deed at Deed Book 159, Page 503.

Lot 327 from the Empire Pecan Company plat was deeded from the Empire Pecan Company to Lula B. Eddy on September 29, 1915, by a deed at Deed Book 30, Page 326. In 1971, Lula Eddy Edwards, Executor of the Estate of Lula B. Eddy and her sole heir, deeded the property to John N. Hudgens, Jr. by deed at Deed Book 477, Page 506. In 1981, John N. Hudgens, Jr. also purchased the property at a sheriff's sale for back taxes owed by Lula B. Eddy. The deed is recorded at Deed Book 676, Page 768. John N. Hudgens, Jr. gave the land to the Boy Scouts in 1981 by a deed at Deed Book 686, Page 302.

On February 26, 2008, Chehaw Council sold the land for use as Green Space Conservation Land, a special purpose land use pursuant to Georgia Law, by a deed at Deed Book 3455, Page 234. The Council did reserve the right to camp on one of the five-acre tracts. An affidavit of Adverse Possession stating that the roads had never been opened and that the boundaries were clearly defined was filed at Deed Book 3455, Page 231.

[1441] On April 24, 1975, James W. Smith executed a deed at Deed Book 542, Page 766, correcting the form of the Grantee in the 1947 deed.

CHAPTER 11
CAMP THRONATEESKA

Since at least the 1920s, the Scouts of Crisp County have camped on the Flint River. In 1936, the Scouts were given land on the Flint River just south of the old Hugenin Ferry site. Today the camp is located south of the Veterans State Park across Boy Scout Slough. Technically, the camp is located in Land Lot 3 of the 9th Land District of Crisp County, and the *Google* coordinates are 31 56 55.23 N 83 55 13.09 W.

It is unlikely that any campouts on the Flint River prior to 1936 were at this location. The *Cordele Dispatch* articles in 1936 and 1937 constantly refer to the camp as the "new" property, the "new camp," and the "first campout" on the property. The camp was originally referred to as The Kiwanis Camp[1442] and the Boy Scout Camp on the Flint River.[1443] The only Scout name every given to the camp was in 1939 when it was referred to as Camp Thronateeska.[1444]

The Scouts came to own the Camp through a series of deeds beginning in 1917. In October of 1917, the heirs of L. C. Averett deeded to Mrs. Marie Anderson Averett the property that would become the Boy Scout camp on the Flint River (Book 9, Page 221). Since the deed was to settle an estate, there was no sale price. Next, on February 22, 1922, Mrs. Marie Anderson (Averett) deeded the 23 acres, which included the Boy Scout property, to Minnie Emma Persall and C. H. Persall (Book 10, page 513). The sale price was $1,000. On May 26, 1936, Minnie Emma Persall and C. H. Persall deeded the property as a gift to A. B. Morris, W. J. McClenny, and C. D. McDorman as Trustees for the Boy Scouts (Book 25, Page 232).

On the same day as the deed was signed, the *Cordele Dispatch* ran an article stating that the Cordele Scouts had begun clearing the lot on the Flint River, that a water well was already being bored, and that the American Legion was preparing to build cabins at the camp.[1445] In July of 1936, Woods Theater in Cordele donated all proceeds of a Thursday movie to the camp. The Boy Scouts of Cordele sold tickets to the movie that day.[1446] The Scouts made $224.70 from the project.[1447] A report of the camp given in the paper on August 23, 1936, stated that the four cabins had been framed and tops had been put on them; the "keepers" cabin (staff cabin) had been topped and weatherboard installed; and the well was at 100 feet but had not hit water. The Scouts were hopeful that the camp would be finished in time for them to hold their annual encampment there in 1936; however, school started the second week of September and no report of the Cordele Scouts taking an annual weeklong encampment anywhere was found.

The first annual encampment at the Flint River camp began on Wednesday, June 16, 1937.[1448] Fifty-one Scouts and adult leaders attended.[1449] L. E. Culberson was the Camp Director,

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1442 "Happiness Amid a Beautiful Outdoor Setting at The Kiwanis Camp," *Cordele Dispatch*, June 17, 1937.
1443 "Boy Scouts Leave Tomorrow," *Cordele Dispatch*, June 15, 1937.
1444 "Local Boy Scouts Complete Camp," *Cordele Dispatch*, July 5, 1939.
1445 "Boy Scouts Help at River Camp," *Cordele Dispatch*, May 26, 1936.
1446 "Theater will Assist Local Scouts," *Cordele Dispatch*, July 8, 1936.
1447 "Scouts Realized $224.70 in Drive," *Cordele Dispatch*, July 17, 1936.
1448 "Boy Scouts Leave Tomorrow," *Cordele Dispatch*, June 15, 1937.; "Scout Camp Proves Hugh Success Here," *Cordele Dispatch*, July, 1937.
1449 "Scout Camp Proves Hugh Success Here," *Cordele Dispatch*, July, 1937.

and Clyde Wilson, Jr. was the Assistant Camp Director. The cost of the camp was $4.00; however, each boy only paid $2.40 and the rest was paid by the American Legion. In addition to the five cabins (rather than four as reported in 1936)[1450] and the keeper's cabin (staff cabin), a flagpole had been added, a mess hall had been built with screen partway to the roof, and showers had been installed. During the 1937 encampment, Billy Bennett published a daily newspaper named "Scoutanic Eruptions."[1451] In addition to the regular Scout activities, the Scouts had access to two motor boats for the week.

On August 15, 1938, the Boy Scouts of Cordele again held their annual summer camp at their camp on the Flint River.[1452] Twenty boys attended, along with scoutmaster Palmer Greene.[1453] The Camp Director in 1938 was Bill Gaeslin, Assistant Camp Director at Camp Ben Hawkins in the Central Georgia Council. He was assisted by Clyde Wilson, Jr. of Cordele. Other known staff members were Dr. L. O. Wooten, camp physician; John Hargrove Cook, camp cook; and Oscar Gillian and Mrs. Aleph Patterson, who taught handicrafts.[1454]

Immediately after the formation of Chehaw Council in June of 1939, the Crisp County District Committee voted to open the camp to all registered Scout Troops for the fee of $1 per Scout.[1455]

In July of 1939, the Boy Scouts of the Crisp County District again attended Camp Thronateeska on the Flint River for their summer camp.[1456] The camp was declared the "best of all time." Thirty-five boys and five staff attended the camp, which was headed by Camp Director Clyde Wilson, Jr. The staff members were Charles Greene, John Lee Espy, Bryan Morris, and Jack Pate. Also assisting with the camp were Troop 1 scoutmaster Palmer Greene and A. B. Morris, Chairman of the District Camping Committee.

Beginning in 1940, the Crisp County Scouts began using the official Chehaw Council summer camps. These locations were: 1940 – Camp Chehaw at Graves Springs, Georgia; 1941 – Camp Shehaw near Americus, Georgia; 1942 – Camp Shehaw near Americus, Georgia; and in 1943 to the present – Camp Osborn, which is the permanent Chehaw Council camp near Sylvester, Georgia.

After 1939, Camp Thornateeska continued to be used for local camping by the Scouts. According to Lamar Taete who camped there in the early 1940s, the camp also had the traditional council ring for a council fire.[1457]

1450 "Scout Camp Proves Hugh Success Here," *Cordele Dispatch*, July, 1937.
1451 "Scout Camp Proves Hugh Success Here," *Cordele Dispatch*, July, 1937.
1452 "Boy Scouts Encamp at Flint River," *Cordele Dispatch*, August 12, 1938.
1453 "Scouts Return from Camp," *Cordele Dispatch*, August 22, 1938.
1454 "Boy Scouts May Join Campers," *Cordele Dispatch*, August 15, 1938.
1455 "Local Committee Meets Local Executive - Outlines Program," *Cordele Distpatch*, June, 1939.
1456 "Local Boy Scouts Complete Camp," *Cordele Dispatch*, July 5, 1939.
1457 Teate, Lamar J., *Things I Remember*, Unknown Publication Date.

Table 1

Scouts Attending the First Summer Camp at Camp Thronateeska in 1937

Bennett, Jack
Branch, James
Calhoun, Pete
Calhoun, Earl
Childs, Buddy
Cobb, Guy T.
Crowell, Chester
Culpepper, Leon
Davidson, Donald
Dorough, Howard
Dyess, Curtis
Edge, Jack
Espy, John Lee
Faircloth, Bo
Fleming, Branch
Fountain, Laughlin
Gorman, Billy
Greene, Charles
Greene, George
Greene, Palmer
Grubbs, Victor
Hancock, John
Hatcher, Johnnie
Hawkins, Paul
Hyman, Mack
Jennings, Cannon
Jones, Bill
King, Billy
Lee, Quinton
Murray, Jim
Nesbit, Duncan
Pate, Jack
Patterson, Vergil
Perlis, Lamar
Photiano, Stephens
Varn, Gordon
Vinson, Scott
Webb, Leon
Wells, William T.
Wilson, Joe

CHAPTER 12
CAMP PATTEN

In the early fall of 1964, three men met in Lakeland, Georgia to discuss a gift which would have a profound impact on the future of the Alapaha Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America.[1458] The three men were Lawson Patten, a prominent member of the oldest family in Lanier County and a successful businessman and former mayor of Lakeland; Colonel Vincent Mogan Miles, of the United States Air Force who was then President of the Alapaha Area Council; and, John Holland, the Scout Executive for the Alapaha Area Council. The proposed gift was a piece of property consisting of approximately 184 acres located about 2 miles southwest of the town of Lakeland. The land was bounded on the east by the Alapaha River and on the south and west by a small creek which had been dammed up to form a lake of about 12 acres. About 30% of the land was in open fields which were originally planted to grow sod for the Patten Seed Company. However, the acres had recently been planted with small pine trees. Most of the remaining acreage of the property was river bottom land and was covered generally with a mixture of hardwoods and a few scattered pine trees. There was also a beautiful and substantial live oak tree grove anchoring the northwest corner of the property.

Mr. Patten had originally offered the land to the Baptist Church in Lakeland who recommended instead that he consider deeding it to the Boy Scouts of America, for the development of a Boy Scout Camp. Accordingly, Mr. Patten, Colonel Miles, and John Holland met in Lakeland on September 14, 1964. It did not take long for them to come to an agreement and the property was officially deeded to the Alapaha Area Council on December 31st, 1964 with the sole provision that the Patten-Lee-Clemens-Studstill family group be allowed to have their annual meeting on the premises. As an informal part of the grant was the request that the land be developed to provide accommodations as a Boy Scout Camp. In order to recognize and honor Mr. Patten and his family the Council named the property Camp Patten.

Scout Executive Holland initially conceived plans for facilities on the property to accommodate up to 200 boys and to include a large dining hall, health lodge, warehouse, canteen, administration building, caretaker house, two central shower units, and latrines and wash sheds for several troop camping sites. Also included in the proposed development were rifle and shotgun ranges, an archery range and swimming and boat docks. A capital fund drive was considered with hopes of completing the camp within 5 years. The camp was slated to be used by the troops of the council for weekend camps, by the council for leader meetings and training courses, and also by the region for regional training courses. The Alapaha Area Council consisted then, as it does now of 12 counties in South Central Georgia, Atkinson, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brooks, Clinch, Coffee, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Jeff Davis, Lanier and Lowndes.

Shortly after the September meeting and in order to properly plan for the development of the property, Mr. Holland requested that Frank A. Rogers, the assistant director of the Engineering Service Program Division of the BSA, to visit the camp prior to the deeding of the property, for a feasibility study. Accordingly, Mr. Rogers visited the camp on November 22, 1964. Of immediate concern to the Council at that time was a rather considerable amount of debris that had accumulated

[1458] Much of the information about Camp Patten is from the article a *History of Camp Patten* by Dan Hoffman and used here with his express permission.

over the years on the property that needed to be removed. Volunteers immediately began this arduous task which was to continue intermittently for many years.

Mr. Rogers prepared a site plan for the development of the property recommending troop sites in the area generally lying along the east and southeast of the property. There was some concern over the flooding which might occur over some of these low lying areas and he recommended that the administration facilities of the camp be placed in the far west portion of the camp where the main road entered the property. There was sufficient room for the administrative facilities there and while that area was not as attractive as the oak grove which existed on the northwest corner of the property it was more central to the property and a better all around service area. It was also recommended that the open fields that were already planted with pines would be a good area for the other buildings and that these areas also be planted in hardwoods as Mr. Rogers thought that would be more useful to the long term use of the camp.

A 12 acre Patten pond was already present on the property. It had been created in 1936 by Mr. Patten by the damming of a small creek that flowed out of Banks Lake. The pond was filled primarily by the use of a Deming diesel vertical turbine pump which Mr. Patten purchased and placed on the property and which pumped water into the pond. Many of the older Scouters in the Council remember the pump taking days to raise the pond level even a few inches. Nevertheless, over time the pond filled to a level sufficient to allow swimming and some boating.The plan called for the dining hall to be the first building at the camp. It was to accommodate 200 scouters and was to be 24x104 feet with a kitchen of 28x40 feet. The estimated cost of the dining hall was $30,000.00 and the equipment cost was estimated at $14,089.67. All of this equipment was donated almost immediately by various benefactors for use in the dining hall. However, it proved much harder to raise the $30,000.00 necessary to build the dining hall itself. Ultimately, an open-air covered general purpose shelter was constructed on the site proposed for the dining hall. It was considerably smaller than originally envisioned. It was built in the late 60's through a donation by the Montague family who owned the local Pepsi dealership. It measured only 25x40 feet and after completion was dubbed the Pepsi Shack in honor of the Montague family.

An obstacle course was also built in the late 60's principally by the Lee Street Baptist Church Troop whose scoutmaster was Tom Shelton. The course was laid out in the open field adjacent to Burnt Church Road and just west of the Pepsi Shack. It consisted of a rope bridge, several Alog walks@, monkey bars and a tripod swing

No other substantial improvements were made to the property other than general cleanup and improvement of the trails on the property to accommodate vehicular traffic, until 1968 when Chubby T. Earnest became Scout Executive for the Alapaha Area Council. Under his leadership, additional trails were made through the property with the use of scout volunteers. He requested the assistant director of the Engineering Service of the BSA to visit the camp. Accordingly, Ken Henry from the Engineering Service visited the camp on October 29th and 30th, 1968 to review the facilities. Joe Stevens, the Council President at that time also accompanied Mr. Henry and Mr. Earnest in a view of the camp.

A formal plan was developed at that time which was reduced to a schematic plat in February 1969. It located 5 troop sites near the existing lake and placed the entrance and maintenance area to the north with recommendations to make the oak grove area available as short term troop sites. The plans also included a service building, a camp office, health lodge,

combination latrines and wash stands and a Webelos overnight area. Dick Whitney of the Conservation Service recommended certain drainage of the low lying central area of the property to allow development of troop sites and a Council Ring Area centrally in the property. The plans specifically provided for the entrance to be located in the northwest corner of the property with the caretaker house to be placed there as well as a garage, storage facility and shop to be a maintenance and storage yard. Immediately to the east would be the Webelos overnight area consisting of 4 small camping sites. Four short term troop sites were planned further to the east adjoining the Alapaha River. Parking and staff offices as well as a health lodge, trading post, and staff tent area and showers were to be placed immediately south of the entrance abutting Burnt Church Road. There were also 5 large troop sites to be situated around the lake and in the open area planted with pines. A chapel was proposed immediately off the lake itself. The council ring was proposed more centrally located along a service road where the land dropped off swiftly which would allow for a tiered amphitheater. The Council Ring at this time was located immediately west of the lake which was the area designated for the proposed chapel. Finally, four more troop sites were proposed in the low lying center of the property together with an archery area and shotgun and rifle range once drainage was completed.

In 1971, the chapel was constructed slightly further off the lake and more to the north and west than where it was originally planned. It was designed by Thompson Sanders, an architect from Valdosta, Georgia and was built with the generous assistance of the Miller family as well as Dr. Lewis Chisholm of Homerville. The chapel was an A-frame open construction with a simple altar and several rows of plain log pews. It was named in memorial of Margaret Miller who had died in 1969.

The Council Ring Amphitheater was then developed and was placed approximately where it was proposed on the site plan. Mr. Ernest convinced a local construction and excavation company to lend him a bulldozer and with the assistance of the Council President, Joe Stevens, and others, carved out the tiers in the Council Ring and placed the rows of log seating. Joe Stevens was instrumental in not only getting the Council Ring built but also in getting many of the other improvements accomplished at the Camp during this period of time. The Council Ring was named the Joseph Stevens Council Ring in honor of Mr. Stevens's efforts.

Also under the direction of Chubby Earnest, Camp Patten began holding summer camps. Immediately to the east of the lake and slightly off the property deeded to the Boy Scouts of America was a single story wood frame house originally built by Robert Patten, Lawson Patten's son, in the 40's or 50's for use as hunting and fishing lodge. The Boy Scouts were able to use this house as a staff headquarters for their summer camps. It was not long before the boys also learned to surreptitiously use the house at other times for their private get together's and it was ultimately closed down because of their unauthorized use

The summer camps were principally organized by Claude Guice, the scoutmaster for the Lanier County Troop. Staff was provided by several local troops. In the early 70's Camp Patten's Summer Camp had become so popular that several hundred boys were attending. Each troop provided their own tents and cooked their own meals. Food was handed out of the back of the Pepsi Shack to the boys. The meals were then cooked by the boys on a sheep-herders stove which is basically a large metal box with a chimney. It requires some minimal skill to use, but unfortunately many of the boys reportedly never adequately acquired that ability.

Staff tents were set up in the west central portion of the camp and pit toilets were installed in that area as well. The National Guard of Valdosta provided water trucks for the Boy Scouts use during summer camp. Although the boys had to cook their own food, a particular enjoyment of the camp was Claude Guice's fruit cobblers prepared in Dutch ovens. The special ingredients of Mr. Guice's fruit cobblers remain a closely guarded Alapaha Area Council secret to this day.

It became evident in the early seventies that facilities would have to be expanded to accommodate the growing use. Accordingly, the Pepsi Shack was expanded by building a kitchen area which also, for the first time, included a well. Claude Guice also arranged for the donation of a hot water heater from Georgia Power and had electric lines run to the staff area so at least the staff was able to have hot water for their still outdoor showers. Various water lines and electric lines were begun and added onto by Scouter volunteers as the needs arose resulting in a less than systematic or uniform electric or water system at camp.

Shortly after the addition of the kitchen to the building, Mr. Guice enclosed the Pepsi Shack with framed walls, put in a ceiling and screens and windows. A fireplace was built into the western wall of the Pepsi Shack in the early 90's through the efforts of the OA Lodge.

A caretaker house was also brought into Camp Patten around 1970. It had been donated by Dr. Lewis Chisholm of Homerville. Dr. Chisholm had purchased property in Homerville in Echols County and wished to build there. A house was already on the property, however, so Dr. Chisholm donated the existing house to the Boy Scouts and had the house moved to the area generally designated for it on the site plan of 1969 and placed in the northwest corner near the live oak grove. The caretaker area and maintenance and storage yard was completed by the addition of the pole building storage facility originally proposed. For many years the caretaker house was called Chisholm Hall in honor of Dr. Chisholm and provided housing for several of the camp caretakers. It remained as a caretaker home on the property until it became unusable and was removed in the fall of 2002

The first camp caretaker was Mr. Ralph Smith who provided much assistance to Mr. Earnest in developing the property. Ken Henry of the consulting engineers of the Camping and Engineering Service of the BSA visited Camp Patten on September 16th and 17th of 1971 and met with Mr. Smith and Mr. Earnest to further develop the site. By this time, four troop sites had been developed by scout volunteers and equipped with latrines and showers. The latrines were a combination of latrines, wash areas, and showers and were built, pursuant to plans provided by the National Scout Office, by Joe DeGange, a Valdosta contractor, and his two sons Tony and Steve. The three spent many weekends volunteering their time and efforts in building several of these combination latrines/showers around camp as well as in the four troop sites. The four troop sites were located in the area proposed for them on the 1969 plan, generally in the southwest area of the property and, around the lake. They were named Delaware, Apache, Blackfoot, and Choctaw. Both Steve and Tony DeGange later became Eagle Scouts of the Council.

In 1976 the Webelos overnight area was also developed. It was placed slightly further east and south of the area originally planned for it on the 1969 plan but it included a screened activity shelter with electric power and a latrine/shower building with flush toilets and hot showers.

It had not been possible to develop the 4 troop sites in the low lying central area that had originally been planned because the land was too swampy. It was being drained under the direction

of the Soil Conservation Service. The development of this area also required the removal of several acres of trees to open up the areas to the sunlight. In order to have this done, certain timber contractors were approached. It was several years before a productive harvest could be had and accordingly it was not until 1979 when Rayonier was granted a right to harvest certain pulpwood in the area. Three years later, Brunswick Pulp and Paper also cut 15 acres on the property to further open up the area to sunlight.

However, back in 1971, the areas that had been designated for field sports (archery, rifle and shotgun ranges) on the 1969 plan were sufficiently dry to allow development and were being used for the rifle and shotgun ranges. Because priority was given to development of troop sites, the four troop sites originally planned for the low area that was being drained were moved to these dry areas and those 4 proposed troop sites were developed.

Ralph Smith had been teaching rifle and archery at the range which had been developed in the original area designed for field sports. He was very successful with the boys, and his classes were some of the most sought after at summer camp each year. However, because the field sports area was needed for troop sites and also because the ranges were immediately adjacent to the Webelos area that had been developed, the rifle range was moved further down and to the south and east of the prior range. The 4 new troop sites which were developed were designated the Order of the Arrow camping area and an OA Ceremonial Ring was established there as well.

The Order of the Arrow also planned and developed a picnic area in the open field planted with pines in the south central portion of the camp.

Sidney Lamar Earnest, son of Chubby T. Earnest, Alapaha Area Council Executive was married at the Camp Patten Chapel on June 23rd, 1974 to Karen Ann Drennon.[1459]

Gerald Bradley took over as Scout Executive in 1977 and at his request Charles Wetter of the Consulting Engineers at the Camping and Engineering Service of the BSA visited Camp Patten again. His visit occurred on June 12th and 13th of 1977. Primarily the visit was to determine how best to use Camp Patten as the summer camp attendance had declined by this time to the point where summer camp was not being offered for long term camping that year.

Three months earlier the dam on the lake had failed resulting in the disappearance of the lake and significant erosion of the surrounding area below the dam. The swimming dock and boating dock were removed from the lake area at this time. The immediate need was of course to repair the spillway and dam, rebuild the swimming pier and replace the boat dock. It was recommended that a professional consultant and contractor be hired to perform this work but that was not immediately feasible. In May 1981, Eugene Ausley became the new Scout Executive for the Alapaha Area Council. Under his direction, a new dam was constructed with a new spillway in August, 1984.

In June 1986 it was decided that a new bathroom/shower house would need to be installed. The shower house shown on the 1969 plan was central to the planned 12 camp sites. However, because there were only four camp sites in use at that time, it was decided that the new shower house should be central to the four existing camp sites and not far from the lake itself. Ken Rickett,

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1459 "Weddings," *The Atlanta Journal*, July 11, 1974

an architect in Valdosta, Georgia prepared the plans and the shower house was constructed. Ferrell Scruggs, of the Scruggs Company, provided the septic tank and foundation for the building and Terry Hunt of Hunt Construction provided many of the other materials to build the shower house.

The spillway failed once again in the late 1980's. While the lake was completely drained due to the damaged spillway, the camp caretaker, Dana Yarnell proposed that the lake bed be cleared. In order to rehabilitate the lake, Mr. Yarnell wished to burn off the vegetation that had grown up in the lake bed. Accordingly, a planned burn was started and the vegetation was burned off. Unfortunately, the fire got out of control and burned a portion of the chapel as well. Mr. Garland Pendergraph was helping Mr. Yarnell with the destruction of a pesky beaver dam across the road when the fire flared up. Mr. Pendergraph took it upon himself to organize the repair of the chapel. Today you must look very hard to see any signs of the damage.

After Mr. Yarnell's tenure as caretaker, the caretakers house was completely renovated with the addition of a deck, new carpet and refurbishing of the bathrooms. Mr. Rob Stone moved into Chisholm Hall as the camp caretaker from 1992 through 1994. During that period the Council Ring was substantially renovated by the Order of the Arrow. Mr. Stone also build a bridge as part of Orange Trail which parallels Burnt Church Road on the western side of the camp. The Pepsi Shack was also remodeled with the addition of siding.

In 1993 the dam on Patten Pond failed once again. Due to inordinately heavy rains the overflow pipe in the lake was unable to relieve the water pressure against the dam on the northern side of the lake where the trail crossed the stream. In spite of a heroic two day effort to reinforce the dam with sandbags by Mr. Stone, the dam finally burst. The resulting erosion created a large and deep ravine below the former dam. More than one scoutmaster thereafter caught their boys diving off the portion of the former dam remaining, into the pool created at the start of the ravine. This practice was thoroughly discouraged, although not completely eliminated, by all adult leaders, as at least three water moccasins were killed in the pool in the next few years until the dam and spillway were finally repaired in the mid-nineties by Don Reames Construction Company with assistance from the Army Corps of Engineers.

In 1993 the Camp received an unexpected donation of 10 canoes and a 10 canoe trailer from Gerald Lawhorn which had been used at the Lawhorn Canoe Base near Camp Thunder in west central Georgia. On a late Thursday afternoon Garland Pendergraph received a phone call at home from Mr. Lawhorn asking him what he was doing Saturday. Mr. Pendergraph and Jerry Jennett, Council President at the time, met Mr. Lawhorn at Camp Patten and officially accepted the generous gift of the canoes and trailer. In order to properly commemorate the receipt of the canoes, the three men, together with Rob Stone, the camp caretaker, and John Maddox the Council Executive piled into the canoes and paddled down the Alapaha River. Rob Stone contends to this day that the tipping of his canoe and subsequent dunking of Executive Maddox was nothing more than an unfortunate accident

Later that year another unfortunate incident occurred at Camp Patten, only this time the Order of the Arrow and the Lanier County Sheriff's Department were involved. The camp caretaker was continually improving the property by the removal of dead trees and downed tree limbs and brush. In the fall of that year Mr. Stone had pushed up a large brush pile into the cleared field adjacent to Burnt Church Road across from Union Church Cemetery. It was Mr. Stone's

intention to burn the brush pile over the Ordeal Weekend which was coming up and he got the necessary burn permit. The OA dance team asked him if they could have their performance around the bonfire which would result rather than down by the lake. Mr. Stone saw no problems with this and readily agreed. The weekend came, the fire was lit, and the OA members in full Native American garb began their dancing, unmindful that it was Halloween weekend and curious, and soon to be terrified, local residents saw nothing but half-naked people dancing around a bonfire at the local cemetery in what looked to them to be a satanic ritual. Thankfully the Lanier County Deputies were soon convinced that while the dancing was perhaps not up to national OA standards it probably did not fall under the category of devil worship.

Mike Hurt became the camp caretaker in 1994. Mr. Hurt was the last caretaker to live on the property. He lived in Chisholm Hall with his family until 1999.

In 1999 the children and heirs of A.G. and Roline Little made a generous contribution to the Alapaha Area Council for repair and upkeep of the pond and construction of a new boat and swimming dock which was soon completed.

Lee Smith took over as the camp caretaker on November 28th, 2000 on a part-time basis. In that year a new obstacle course was started on the property. The obstacle course of the 1960's had fallen into disrepair and was not being used. It's remnants were removed, and plans for ten new obstacles were prepared. Troops were encouraged to adopt an obstacle and build it at Camp Patten. Ultimately four obstacles were built including a new log walk, an incline barrier, an over/under obstacle and a spider web.

By 2000, no rifle or other field sports had been carried out at camp for several years. A search was begun to find a suitable area for a new rifle range and trap shooting range. It was determined that the area to the east and north of the lake was securable and sufficiently accessible to the current troop sites to be feasible and construction commenced in 2001. With principal excavation and construction donated by Brooks Welding Company, the efforts of the Order of the Arrow and under the general guidance of Andy Smith, the shotgun and rifle ranges were developed.The rifle range consisted of a concrete pad with cover and it was surrounded on three sides by a large earthen berm. The shotgun range had three stations with racks and holders for the shooters and also skeet throwers. The shotguns and rifles were all donated by various individuals.

Since 2002 under the guidance of a new, young, and dynamic Council Executive, Matt Hart, Camp Patten once again thrived with many new projects and construction. A large multi-purpose pavilion was begun in 2003 with generous donations of time, effort and money from several local and area businesses and individuals. The initial structure was donated by Vulcan Steel Structures in Adel, Georgia, owned by Brian & Steven Browning. The structure alone constituted a gift valued at over $20,000.00. The funds to erect the building were provided in honor of Garland Pendergraph's mother. She enjoyed visiting camp and always remarked that the camp needed a building such as this. After her passing, $5,787.00 was contributed to begin the project. Ken Ricket, of Ellis, Ricket, and Associates, architects, worked tirelessly to draw up the plans that would provide the roadmap as the project began. Hunt Construction Company erected the building and finished the concrete for $5,000.00. The concrete and its installation cost $7,065.00. This was completely paid for and the cost was split between Bob Roquemore and Patten Seed of Lakeland. Ben Copeland, President of Patten Seed and member of the Executive

Board of the Alapaha Area Council, BSA remarked we are ready to make Camp Patten a better place for our youngsters.

Additional financial support came via the Valdosta-North Rotary Club who designated $8,750.00 from its Annual Charity Auction to assist in the building project. Additional support came ($5,000.00) as well from the Langdale Family Foundation after Donnie Warren, CPA for Langdale visited the camp and was excited about the progress at camp. One of the biggest surprises came on behalf of the electrical work. After Valdosta Electric bid the pavilion job at $12,000.00 they elected to donate all the materials as well as the labor for the electrical in the new pavilion as well as the Council Amphitheater project. This has allowed for the project to proceed actually quicker then anticipated. President of Valdosta Electric Ashley Paulk has personally worked numerous times at camp in an effort to support our Scouts. Through the dedication of Bob Roquemore, the entire septic system and its installation were provided through Circle K Concrete and Roundtree Construction at no cost to the local council. Doors were secured thanks to Andy Smith and Tom Stump at Valdosta Commercial Doors. The doors were secured for just under $3,000.00 and Tom donated the associated hardware. Thanks to John Dukes III and his company, Orvis Doors and Windows, the doors were installed. Floor joists were donated by Truss Joist, compliments of Tom Cooker, Plant Manager, and Jeff Wooley, Human Resources Manager.

The plumbing has been completed thanks to Steve Dansereau, owner of Master Plumbing out of Lakeland. Steve has been a very active Scouter with both the Lakeland Pack and Boy Scout troop for years and has always kept Camp Patten running at peak efficiency. Outdoor lighting was added to the Council Fire Amphitheater in 2004.

In early 2005 the main electrical line running into the camp was buried. The overhead lines running from Burnt Church Road to the Pepsi Shack were removed and electrical service was also run to the new Pavilion. Also in 2005, a new gateway was built with a new entrance constructed in the middle of the property along Burnt Church Road to address access and security concerns.

In conjunction with the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America, the Council unveiled plans for a modern Conference Center on February 8, 2010 to meet the needs of the council for years to come. The final product was the Ben Copeland Conference Center, a 6,000 square foot modern conference center complete with audio and visual, a catering kitchen and additional restrooms, and Air Conditioning!. Below is the cost breakdown of the facility. This in addition to landscaping, sod compliments of Patten Seed, and a host of other donations, this building is by far the single largest capital project in the history of the Alapaha Area Council. The building's first event (and test run) was the Eagle Scout Ceremony of Dalton Hart, the oldest of the Scout Executive's boys.

Since the Copeland Center has been completed, a host of events and functions have been moved to camp including program kickoffs, numerous trainings, and even Council Banquets. The facility has become a favorite of Cub Scout Packs needing larger space for Blue and Gold Banquets and other events.

In October of 2010, the end of the road for the Pepsi Shack was apparent. Due to its deterioration and now with the addition of the Copeland Center, the Pepsi Shack was removed from Camp Patten. Numerous Scouters collected the bricks from the old fireplace to keep as a

memento from the facility that had “been a part of so much of our council”. It was not a surprise to many at how easy the Pepsi Shack came down.

Construction on a ranger house began in January, 2016. Funding for the ranger house was provided by Sallie & Harmon Boyette. Dedication of the Boyette Ranger House was held on May 1, 2016.

In February of 2020, construction began on an 8 unit bathhouse which was needed in order to host the Section Conclave in April. Due to COVID the Section Conclave was concelled for 2020 and Withlachoochee hosted it in 2021. The new bathhouse was completed in April, 2021 just before the Conclave.

In August of 2023, the dock at the lake was completely rebuilt.

Camp Caretakers

The first caretaker for Camp Patten was Ralph Smith who was employed in 19__. Dana Yarnell was caretaker from the late 1980 through 1991. After Mr. Yarnell’s tenure as caretaker, the caretakers house (Chisholm Hall) was completely renovated with the addition of a deck, new carpet and refurbishing of the bathrooms. Mr. Rob Stone moved into Chisholm Hall as the camp caretaker from 1992 through 1994. Mike Hurt became the camp caretaker in 1994. Mr. Hurt was the last caretaker to live on the property. He lived in Chisholm Hall with his family until 1999. Lee Smith took over as the camp caretaker on November 28th, 2000 on a part-time basis.

After a gap of over 10 years, Rusty Redshaw became caretaker of Camp Patten in 2016. He and his wife Angie moved into the new Boyette Ranger House. Rusty Redshaw retired in 2022(?). In 2023, Jerry and Sonya Freeman became the Camp Patten Caretakers-Ranger.

CHAPTER 13
CAMP KINCHAFOONEE[1460]

Prior to the donation of Camp Potter, Chehaw Council operated a segregated summer camp for black scouts at a different location and on a different week from camp for white scouts. Some or all of these camps were held on the Kinchafoonee Creek in Lee County. Two years have been documented, but they most likely continued until all scouts attended Camp Osborn in the 1960s.

The earliest known camp was in 1942. It was held the last week in August and was located 8 miles north of Albany in Lee County. Troop 200, which was the first black troop in Americus, had just been formed and attended the 1942 camp.[1461] The cost was $3.50 per scout.

The next documented segregated camp was the week before Camp Osborn opened in 1944. Ralph Ellis, Field Executive for Chehaw Council, was personally involved with the camp and developed appendicitis on the last day of the camp while moving the left-over supplies to Camp Osborn. There were 90 scouts from 11 troops and camp ran for only one week.[1462] The Camp Director was the scoutmaster of the Albany troop who may have been a Methodist Pastor.

According to Mr. Ellis, the camp in 1944 was on private land between Albany and Leesburg on what is now New Century Road. The camp property adjoined the Kinchafoonee Creek on the west side of the creek and was near or adjoining New Century Road. There were no buildings on the property except for one old, abandoned house.

1460 The name Camp Kinchafoonee is not found in the literature, but was assigned by the writer for identification purposes. It is a shorteded version Camp on the Kinchafoonee.

1461 "Colored Scouts to go to Camp for One Week," *Americus Times-Recorder,* August 24, 1942.

1462 "Camp Chase S. Osborn Boy Scout Camp Closes Session, *Macon Telegralph,* July 30, 1944.

CHAPTER 14
CAMP ROBERTS

Camp Roberts was developed in 1955 while the area was still a part of the Okefenokee Area Council as the "Irwin County Boy Scout Camp."[1463] Prior to the formation of the Alapaha Area Council the camp was primary used for the scouts in Irwin County. Buildings were donated by the Irwin County Board of Education and by W. B. Henderson and consisted of a recreation hall, mess hall, barracks, and camp building.

The camp was named for two Irwin County men who had died in the service of their country.[1464] Ssgt. James Clifton Roberts who died on Iwo Jima on March 14th, 1945 and is buried in Irwin County; and, Sgt. Randell Charlie Roberts who was killed in combat in Korea on July 14th, 1950 and is buried at Andersonville.

Camp Roberts was the Alapaha Area Council camp prior to the opening of Camp Patten in the mid-1960s. The Alapaha Area Council used Camp Osborn, the Chehaw Council Camp, for the first two years and then Camp Roberts for the three years prior to the opening of Camp Patten.[1465] Alapaha Lodge held its Ordeals at Camp Roberts.[1466]

Camp Roberts is in the very southwest part of Irwin County near the Alapaha River between Ocilla and Tifton and just west of Highway 35.

1463 "Work Begins on Boy Scout Camp," *The Ocilla Star*, May 19, 1955.
1464 "Work Begins on Boy Scout Camp," *The Ocilla Star*, May 19, 1955.
1465 "A History of Alapaha Area Council," Unknown, Unknown.
1466 According to Jim Halter who did his Ordeal at Camp Roberts.

CHAPTER 15
CAMP COLEMAN

Camp Coleman was a local camp in Lowndes County which operated from at least the early 1950s, if not before, until most likely the early 1960s. It was located off Val Del Road north of Valdosta on land provided by D. E. Coleman. The River Chase subdivision is now located on the property. It had a dining hall, kitchen and six to eight small wooden cabins with bunk beds.

CHAPTER 16
THE ORDER OF THE ARROW

The Order of the Arrow is a youth-lead organization, even at the national level. Scouts are considered "youth" for purposes of the Order of the Arrow until they reach the age of 21 rather than 18. Each lodge elects a Lodge Chief. Each council has one Order of the Arrow lodge.

Prior to the merger of Alapaha Area Council and Chehaw Council Alapaha Area Council was served by Alapaha Lodge and Chehaw Council was served by Immokalee Lodge. With the formation of South Georgia Council in 2012, Withlacoochee the successor lodge to both.

The photos of past events, patches, newsletters, and much more history of Alapaha Lodge, Immokalee Lodge and Withlacoochee Lodge can be found at the Withacoochee website which is WITHLACOOCHEELODGE.ORG.

ALAPAHA LODGE

The History of Alapaha Lodge

With the 1960 formation of Alapaha Area Council out of Okefenokee Area Council, Alapaha Lodge (#545) was formed from Pilthlako Lodge (#229). Alapaha Lodge served as the council's lodge until its merger with Chehaw Council in 2012.

At its initial chartering in 1960 Alapaha Lodge was assigned to Area 6E where it remained until the creation of Area 5 in 1973. In 1974 it became a member of Section SE4. In 1993 it was transferred to Section S4, in 1999 to SR-4, for 2000 and 2001 to Section S-4, for 2002 to 2008 to SR-4N, in 2009 and 2010 to S4, and from 2011 until 2013 to S9.

Alapaha Lodge hosted the 1982 Area 5 Conclave at Moody A.F.B., the 1991 SE-4 Conclave at Moody A.F.B., and the 2008 SR-4N Conclave at Camp Patten.

Pilthlako Lodge, Alapaha Lodge's predecessor lodge was originally formed as Chippewa Lodge (#229) in 1943 as the Order of the Arrow lodge for Okefenokee Area Council. In the same year 1943, the lodge changed its name to Chawtaw. Then the lodge changed its name to Pilthlako Lodge in 1950. Pilthlako Lodge served the Valdosta area until the formation of Alapaha Area Council and Alapaha Lodge in 1960.

IMMOKALEE LODGE

The History of Immokalee Lodge

Immokalee Lodge (#353) of the Order of the Arrow was officially chartered in Chehaw Council on January 17, 1947.[1467] It remained the chartered Order of the Arrow lodge when the Council changed its name to Southwest Georgia Council and when the Council changed its name back to Chehaw Council.[1468]

Immokalee Lodge was actually organized in 1945, although it was not officially chartered until 1947.[1469] The known charter members were: Luther Wood, Jr. (Albany), Jimmy Buchanan (Americus), Billy Morton (Tifton), Henry David "Sonny" Collier (Tifton), and a scout with the last name of Williams (Colquitt). There were possibly one or two more members in the initial group. These members were selected by the Council and went through their ordeal at the Area J Conclave in Jacksonville, Florida, the weekend of November 2nd to 4th, 1945.[1470] Luther Wood, Jr. was lodge chief from 1945 through 1947.

According to Luther Wood, Jr., the first Lodge Chief, the Council professionals gave the Lodge the name of Immokalee with no input from the boys. No one who was interviewed knew if the staff had researched the meaning of the name or if they just picked the name out of a book on Seminole history.

The word "Immokalee" originated from the Miccosukee Indian word "Ah-mo-glee" which means "my home" or "my place." The Miccosukee language was not a written language, which made it easier for the words to change pronunciations over time. As the Miccosukee and Seminole tribes began to merge in the 1800s, the word became "Immokalee." Thus, Immokalee is considered a Seminole word. The word "Immokalee," nor anything with a similar spelling, is found in the Creek Indian language.[1471] In the Creek Indian language, "house" is "Cuko" rather than something similar to Immokalee.

Active membership in Immokalee Lodge varied over time, but averaged 200 scouts at any time, including both youths and adults. The earliest recorded lodge membership was from December 1960, when the Lodge had a total of 98 members. These 98 members consisted of 65 Ordeal members, 31 Brotherhood members, and 2 Vigil members.[1472] In 1997, *The Owl Hoot* reported an all-time high total membership of 194.[1473] The highest membership was 225 members in 2001.[1474]

1467 The charter date is from the National Order of the Arrow records.

1468 In 1984, Chehaw Council changed its name to Southwest Georgia Council, but the name Immokalee Lodge remained unchanged. Southwest Georgia Council returned to the name Chehaw Council in 2005.

1469 The information in this paragraph was provided by Luther Wood, Jr.

1470 Exact date of Area J Conclave is from the neckerchief slide given to participants.

1471 Creek Language Archive, www.wm.edu/linguistics/creek.

1472 Owl Hoot, Vol. 1, No. 1, December 27, 1960.

1473 Owl Hoot, Vol. 98, No. 2, March 1998.

1474 This information was provided by Sam Thompson, Lodge Advisor.

Lodge news was published in the *Owl Hoot.* The first *Owl Hoot* was published on December 27th, 1960 by Bob Wallis, Editor. *Hoots* can be viewed at the Lodge website at WITHLACOOCHEELDOGE.ORG. The last *Owl Hoot* was published in December 2011. In 1998, Ben Horton took Immokalee Lodge into the internet age by starting the Immokalee Lodge website.[1475] The website was one of the first for an individual lodge.

The Order of the Arrow is a youth-lead organization, even at the national level. Scouts are considered "youth" for purposes of the Order of the Arrow until they reach the age of 21 rather than 18. Each lodge elects a Lodge Chief. A list of past Immokalee Lodge Chiefs can be found at the end of this Chapter. In addition to the Lodge officers, at the yearly conclave each Section elects officers from the Scouts in attendance. Over the years, Immokalee Lodge has had three members hold the position of Section Chief. These members are: Jason Adams in 2002 for Section S4N; Troy Golden in 1990 and 1991 for Section SE4 and Ben Horton in 1987, 1988, and 1989 for Section S4. Additionally, a number of Immokalee members have held other Section offices such as Vice-Section Chief, Secretary, Treasurer and Historian.

While the arrow sash is the identifier of a member of the Order of the Arrow, a patch for the right shirt pocket (usually with the totem and lodge name) was used as an identifier for the individual lodge into the 1950s. In the late 1950s, a patch designed to fit on the flap of the right pocket became the standard Order of the Arrow identifier. These patches are commonly referred to as "flaps." During the first Tap-Out held by Immokalee Lodge, a long-eared owl gave its dire hoot of warning and flew down across the dance area as the Tap-Out team selected those chosen for the Ordeal. As a consequence of this, the lodge adopted the large, long-eared owl, the *óbo* of ancient Creek warriors, as lodge totem.[1476] The first patch Immokalee Lodge used was an hourglass-shaped right pocket patch with the owl emblem. In 1958, under the direction of Miles T. Clements, a member of the Lodge, Ken Hancock, a talented Tifton artist (but not a scout), designed the first flap patch and it featured the owl totem.[1477] The first flap is commonly known as the S1 flap. The "S" means that the flap has stitching covering the backing fabric rather than using the backing fabric as the background. The "1" means that it was the first flap from the lodge.

Immokalee Lodge traditionally provided Camp Osborn with much of its maintenance and most of its summer camp staff, both youth and adult. In keeping with the tradition of service, in 1994 the Lodge initiated a service flap, which was the standard flap (S21, S22 & S23) with a gold Mylar border (S29). The Lodge Executive Committee initially ordered 50 of the flaps, but later ordered 200 more for 250. The requirements to earn the special flap were: (1) 50 hours of community service, (2) attend 75 percent of lodge and chapter functions, and (3) bring the spirit of Order to the scout's troop. In 2000 the lodge issued a second service flap (S37) based also upon service during the year.

Lodges are subdivided into chapters much like councils are subdivided into districts. Prior to 2004, the Immokalee Lodge's Chapters corresponded to Chehaw Council's Districts.[1478] Each Chapter had its own set of officers. The first recorded mention of chapters in Immokalee history is in the November 1965 Owl Hoot. Known Immokalee Chapters with traditional names over the

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1475 Year provided by Ben Horton.

1476 This information was provided by Gordon Smith.

1477 This information was provided by Gordon Smith.

1478 From the personal knowledge of J. Michael Greene.

years were Achewon, Chehaw, Gischhatteu, Gokhotit, Kinchalee (Thronateeska District, 2004), Kuwewanik (Central District, 1965) and Wulihan. Many times chapters simply went by the name of the Chehaw Council District such as "East District Chapter." In 2004, Immokalee Lodge did away with its Chapters. The reason was the small size of the Lodge itself made chapters meaningless. In 2009, Immokalee Lodge reinstated Chapters. Two Chapters were formed, a North Chapter and a South Chapter.

At the end of 2012, Immokalee Lodge had 108 registered members.

The Legions of Immokalee

The following legend was found on the original website.
Its origin is unknown.

Native Americans living in Southwest Georgia during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries believed that a spring called Skywater (now Radium Springs, near Albany, Georgia) had magical healing powers. During the sixteenth century, these natives heard news that strange men with pale faces who dressed in hard, shiny clothing were in the land south of Skywater searching for a spring that would give long life. With this news also came tales of terrible deeds that these strangers were inflicting upon the land and natives in that area.

Afraid that these men would hear of Skywater and come north, a council of chiefs was assembled. After much discussion, the Great Spirit appeared before the council with a solution. Taking the form of Immokalee the Spirit Owl, he would fly south, appear in a dream to Ponce de Leon their leader, and instruct him to follow a flying owl, which would lead him to the magic spring. Ponce de Leon had the dream and followed the owl further south into Florida, away from Skywater.

Spanish legend mentions a great owl that guided Ponce de Leon and his men on their journeys. The image of an owl can be found on the tombstone of Ponce de Leon. Our lodge takes its name from Immokalee the Spirit Owl, which protected the springs called Skywater.

The following legend was provided by Gordon Smith.[1479]

During the first tap-out held by Immokalee Lodge, a long-eared owl gave its dire hoot of warning and flew down across the dance area as the tap-out team selected those chosen for the Ordeal. As a consequence of this, the lodge adopted the large long-eared owl, the *obo* of ancient Creek warriors, as lodge totem.

1479 From Gordon Smith and confirmed in 2014 by Henry Helton.

Immokalee Tap-Outs and Ordeals

The first "Tap-Out" and "Ordeal" to be held at Camp Osborn was in 1946.[1480] Through 1949, each troop voted at summer camp for which of its members would be elected to the Order of the Arrow.[1481] Beginning in 1950, troops have voted at a regular meeting prior to summer camp.

The "Tap-Out," which took place on Friday night after dark, consisted of members of the Order of the Arrow dancing in full regalia among the scouts and striking those elected on the shoulder with an arrow to signify their election. These ceremonies were attended by the Scouts and Staff only.[1482] At some time in the 1950s, the "Tap-Out" was moved to Wednesday night to coincide with Family Night.

In the 1940s, upon being "tapped-out" the Ordeal (or initiation) began immediately thereafter with the "night alone under the stars." Saturday was the workday, which ended at 5:00 pm and was followed by the traditional supper and ceremony.[1483] In about 1950, the Ordeal was changed from each weekend of summer camp until the last weekend of camp. All candidates came back on that Friday to begin their Ordeal.[1484] At some time in the mid-1960s, the Ordeal was moved to a weekend after summer camp.[1485] In the early 1970s, the practice of using arrows for the "tapping" was prohibited at Camp Osborn due to a severe injury to a scout's ear.[1486] By the 1980s, the use of arrows was prohibited in all lodges and the "Tap-Out" became known as the "Call-Out."[1487]

In 1986, Immokalee Lodge adopted the Elangomat program for use during Ordeals. The first Elangomats were Christopher Merritt, Jim Vinson, Jr., Cleve Roland, Mark Tippins, and Ed Oendroski, Jr. and were used at the Fall Ordeal in 1986.

Tap-Outs were held at the Blue Hole for many years. Scouts, parents, and guests were seated on the south side of the Blue Hole. The Ceremony Team canoed across the Blue Hole and proceeded to dance up and down the rows of scouts tapping the elected scouts on the shoulder. Especially honored scouts had the arrow broken over their shoulder. The taped-out scouts were when canoed across the Blue Hole to the location of the council fire. Once all scouts had been taped-out the scouts were lead off to the north to be registered. Sometime in the late 1970s or early 1980s, tap-outs (or call-outs) were moved to fire bowl at Lake Keenan.

1480 Information is directly from Luther Wood, Jr.

1481 "BSA News," Americus Times-Recorder, May 29, 1950. The article reported that Troop 21 elected OA candidate at a regular meeting in advance of camp.

1482 My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts, Iva J. Adams.

1483 My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts, Iva J. Adams.

1484 My Love Affair with the Boy Scouts, Iva J. Adams.

1485 Based upon the letter to Rick Waitsman informing him of the date and time of his ordeal in 1965.

1486 Information is from the personal knowledge of Gill Tripp, a District Executive and Camp Osborn staff member at the time.

1487 "Scout Camp Going Into Third Week," The Albany Herald, June 1957.

Sometime in the early 1980s, the lodge moved its Ceremony Ring to a new Ceremony Ring further back onto the 700 unused acres of Camp Osborn. The 1987 photos are the first from the new Ceremony Ring, although the 1987 ceremonies were not the first to be held at the new ring.

In the early 2000s, the Ceremony team adopted traditional Creek Indian regalia rather than the "Hollywood" style Indian dress that had previously been used.

Due to the merger of Alapaha Area Council and Chehaw Council in November of 2012, both Alapaha Lodge and Chehaw Lodge held both joint and individual events through the Section Conclave of 2013. Both held their own Winter Banquets. A joint ceremony team was used for Alapaha's Ordeal at Camp Patten during the weekend of January 12 to 14, 2013, and Randall Whitman of Immokalee Lodge completed his ordeal and was inducted and Carmen Richard also an Immokalee member obtained her Brotherhood

Immokalee Lodge Member Records

As of 2007, there were over 2200 known past and present members of Immokalee Lodge. Most members were initiated into the Order of the Arrow in Immokalee Lodge, but some were initiated in other lodges and transferred into Immokalee Lodge in the course of their scouting life. The lodge is missing all official records from before 1968 and from 1989 to 1994. Therefore, very little information is known about members from those years except for what has been obtained from oral history, issues of the *Owl Hoot*, and recently found members.

From what appears to be approximately 1968 to approximately 1987, Immokalee Lodge kept the records of its members on the official cards issued by National for that purpose. Examples of the cards can be seen in the Appendix. At some point, a very nice box was built for storing the cards of the inactive members. Some cards are missing for persons who are known to have been members (even lodge chiefs) during this period. According to Ben Andrews, past Lodge Chief, the current members were kept in a separate book, which was last seen at the scout office in the 1990s. Most likely, the book and the cards of those members who were active when the card system was discontinued were destroyed or lost.

There are members whose ordeal pre-dates 1968 with cards, but these were probably members who were active in 1968 or became active again later. Each card has a place for a member number and over half of the cards have numbers. Most are ascending by ordeal date. However, about 45% of the cards do not have a number and there seems to be no pattern to the failure to assign numbers as it includes all years. Some cards have duplicate numbers followed by an 'A' or a 'B' to distinguish it from the other.

At some point in the 1970s or early 1980s, someone compiled much of the card information into a typed book. However, the member numbers in the book do not match those of the cards. In some cases, exact dates of ordeals are given in the book where the card only has the month and the year. The lodge continues to add pages to the book but does not number new members. The last number assigned in the book was 1315, which was assigned to Mike Wohrley, Jr. who completed his ordeal in August 1986.

As of 2010, there are 2435 past and present members of Immokalee Lodge 353 in the database. Most members were initiated into the Order of the Arrow in Immokalee Lodge but some

were initiated in other lodges and transferred into Immokalee Lodge in the course of their scouting life.

The lodge is missing all official records from before 1968 and from between 1989 to 1994. Therefore, very little information is known about members from those years except for what has been obtained from oral history and Owl Hoots.

From what appears to be approximately 1968 to approximately 1987, Immokalee Lodge kept the records of its members on the official cards issued by National for that purpose. At some point, a very nice box was built for the purpose of storing the cards of the inactive members. Some cards are missing for persons who are known to have been members (even lodge chiefs) during this period. According to Ben Andrews, past Lodge Chief, the current members were kept in a separate book, which was last seen at the scout office in the 1990s. Most likely, the book and the cards of those members who were active when the card system was discontinued were destroyed or lost. Consequently, they are not in the database except as their membership comes to our attention thought other means.

There are members whose ordeal pre-dates 1968 with cards but these were probably members who were active in 1968 or became active again later. Each card has a place for a member number and over half of the cards have numbers. Most are ascending by ordeal date. However, about 45% of the cards do not have a number and there seems to be no pattern to the failure to assign numbers as it includes all years. Some cards have duplicate numbers followed by an ‘A’ or a ‘B’ to distinguish it from the other. The numbers are shown for those members whose cards have numbers. A number of known members from before 1968 who were not active in 1968 have no card. Therefore, the card numbers do not represent the order of induction or the number of members in the lodge. The word ‘Blank’ is inserted in the field for members who have cards but whose card does not have a number so that as new members are added it can be determined if the member has a card in the box.

At some point the 1970s or early 1980s, someone compiled much of the card information into a typed book. However, the member numbers in the book do not match those of the cards. In some cases, exact dates of ordeals are given in the book where the card only has the month and the year. The lodge continues to add pages to the book but does not number new members. The last number assigned in the book was 1315, which was assigned to Mike Wohrley, Jr. who completed his ordeal in August 1986.

The computer database from which the website member lists are compiled combines and corrects the information from both the book and the cards as well as other sources. Only a limited amount of information is shown on the web site due to size limitations. For a few members some information conflicted between the card and the book. Sometimes it was impossible to tell if the card and the book were referring to one person or a father & son. Also, whoever did the original cards had an amazing talent for making a '4' and a '9' look alike and this caused many errors in the inputting of the data, which is still being corrected. Any errors or corrections would be appreciated and should be emailed to Mike Greene

Immokalee Lodge Section History

Each year the Order of the Arrow Lodges in a designated area or section, gather in the

spring for a conclave. Immokalee Lodge has been part of a number of sections over the years. They are: from 1945 through 1949, Area J; from 1950 through 1952, Section 6C; from 1953 through 1972, Section 6D; from 1973 through 1982, Area 5; from 1983 through 1992, SE-4; from 1993 through 2001, S4; and, from 2002 through 2008, SR-4N. In July of 2008, Lodges were realigned and Immokalee Lodge returned the new S4. The new S4 was the same S4 that had existed in the 1990s, except that Georgia Lodges 119 and 358 were not included. The first function was the Section Seminar in the fall of 2008 although no Immokalee members attended the event. The new Section S4 consisted of eleven of the prior S4 lodges, which are 85, 200, 229, 237, 239, 265, 326, 340, 353, 545, and 564. Only Lodges 119 and 358 were placed in other Sections. In June 2010, Immokalee Lodge, Alapaha Lodge and Pilthlako Lodge were transferred from Section S4 to Section S9. Section S9 contained most of the other Georgia and north Alabama Lodges. Immokalee Lodge was scheduled to host the Fall Seminar for S4 in 2010; however, due to the lodge's move to S9 the Seminar was moved to a Florida Lodge. A list of the camps and lodges attending each of the conclaves in which Immokalee Lodge has participated can be found at the end of this history.

In addition to the annual section conclave, Section S4 held a "Section Seminar" each year. The Section Seminar was a fall gathering of the lodges. The Council of Chiefs met all day Saturday and the other members of the lodges had seminars on Indian culture and other matters relating to the Order of the Arrow. The Section Seminar concept is unique to Section S4 (now S4S) and one other section in the country.

Immokalee Lodge has hosted six Section Conferences at Camp Osborn over the years in 1956, 1961, 1967, 1983, 1992, and 2003

According to Carl Hancock, who was Immokalee Lodge secretary in 1956, it was never determined if the 1956 Area 6-D patch was a day time design with the sun or a night time design with the moon. Either way the shadows are pointing in the wrong direction based on the location of the sun or the moon.

The 1967 Section Conference at Camp Osborn one of the first to have a neckerchief. Unfortunately, neither the lodge nor the camp names were spelled correctly. The 1983 Section S4 Conference was a major milestone, as the lodge had suffered through several lean years, including being on probation from the National Lodge a few years earlier. For the 1992 Conclave Immokalee Lodge issued a black border regular issue patch and a 200 while border for Immokalee Lodge members. A neckerchief and hatpin were also issued. The 2003 Conclave was the only Conclave hosted by Immokalee Lodge during the existence of S4-North.

In 2001, the Section Seminar was hosted by Immokalee Lodge and held at Camp Osborn for the newly reformed and divided Section S4.[1488] In 2001, Section S4 was enlarged to include southern Alabama and west Florida and divided into south and north subsections. At that time, Echeconnee 358 and Tomo Chi Chi 119 lodges were reassigned from Section S4 to other sections. The 2001 Section Seminar at Camp Osborn was the only Section Seminar ever held for all of the new Section S4 (both north and south). All fifteen lodges of the new Section S4 and Echeconnee 358 and Tomo Chi Chi 119 (for a total of seventeen lodges) were invited to attend. Consequently, it was called the "Great" S4 Section Seminar. Section S4S continued to

[1488] The exact dates of the Section Seminar were November 2, 3 and 4, 2001.

hold fall seminars while S4N did not adopt the practice.

Immokalee Stories

The 1952 Snake Dance

In 1952, a severe drought was destroying crops across South Georgia. Area farmers had jokingly asked the scouts to use their knowledge of Indian lore to perform a rain dance. On Thursday night, June 26, Hugh Ector, Mack Williams, and Jack Duskin dressed in Hopi Indian regalia and performed the "snake rain dance," including the traditional water snakes held in the dancers' mouths. It started raining 23½ hours later.[1489]

1973 Lake District Tap-Out

In 1973 a Camporee was held at the Americus fairground just in May just before summer camp. Each of the three districts in Chehaw Council held a camporee that weekend, but Lake District was the only OA Chapter that had its own dance team and that held its own tap-out

The lodge did not want the Chapters doing their own ceremonies. The District adults told the ceremony team to go ahead and do it. The District was going through one of those rebellious periods with the Council. The Ceremony Team had to write its own script as it could not get any ceremony books from the Lodge. The ceremony included a shortened version of the legend, which was taken from the little printed sheet that we got when we bought one of the legend patches for the back of our sashes.

The District never intended the District tap out to take the place of the ceremony at summer camp. The adults just thought the candidates would be called out twice. However, when the Scouts who we had tapped-out went to summer camp, the Lodge would not tap them out again. At the end of the Camp Osborn's tap-out, the Lodge simply announced something like, "Would the following Scouts who were called out at a previous event come forward and join the new candidates for the Order," and then marched them all off together. The Lodge got its revenge and the chapter did not do it again.

The Ghost Owl at the Ceremony Ring

In the mid-2000s, the Ceremony Support Team purchased an Owl from a local hunting store. They removed the yellow eyes, painted it white, and replaced the eyes. Since then it has roosted on a post behind the alter at the Ceremony Ring during ceremonies. Emory Greene and Patrick Johnson were members of the setup team that painted the Ghost Owl. There were others whose names have been lost to history.

Scout Flambeau

Long ago when Miki Hutchinson of Sylvester was Ceremony Team Advisor it was decided that we needed a Ceremony Setup Team and I (Mike Greene) was named the Team Advisor. No one had shown the scouts setting up the ceremony ring how to make torches and they did an

1489 "Scouts Make Like Hopi Indians, Produce Deluge at Summer Camp," The Albany Herald, June 29, 1952.

admirable job for a first time. Except they did not hang the torches upside down to let the excess diesel fuel run off. As was tradition, we had two young scouts dress in regalia to serve as unnamed guides for the candidates to the ceremony ring. The ring was far back on the unused and dark 700 acres of Camp Osborn. Each had a torch, which after about 5 minutes began having diesel fuel run down the handle and set the handle on fire. Dutiful to his role, the lead guide held on to his torch until an older scout snatched it from his hands and tossed it away, thus, averting "Scout Flambeau." As a result, the lodge had a specialty machine shop in Atlanta custom make 10 torch heads of titanium, each with a shield to catch any runoff. The torch heads were sized to fit onto standard wooden curtain rods for easy replacement. Several other lodges in Georgia also purchased the torch heads.

The Missing Vigil

All Immokalee Vigils have taken place far on the backside of Camp Osborn. At the conclusion of one Vigil, a person who shall remain unnamed became turned around and walked for miles winding up far off Camp Osborn property. He was located later that morning after seriously delaying the Vigil breakfast.

Sam's Two Ordeals

Long-time Lodge Advisor Sam Thompson did his ordeal and brotherhood here in Chehaw Council in the 1980s when his son was in Scouting. He kept his Vigil later after he became Lodge Advisor. While he was Lodge Advisor and a Vigil Member he returned home to Louisiana. In discussing scouting with a childhood scouting friend, the friend told him that they had both already done their ordeals and brotherhoods as youth in 1950 and 1951 in Lodge 254. Therefore, Sam had done them twice.

WITHLACOOCHEE LODGE

The photos, patches and other history of Withacoochee Lodge can be found at the Withacoochee website.

The Formation of Withlacoochee Lodge

On November 1st, 2012, Alapaha Area Council merged with Chehaw Council to form South Georgia Council. BSA policy required the lodges to merge within six months of the Councils. On March 9th, 2013, at the joint Immokalee Lodge and Alapaha Lodge Ordeal and Fellowship, the lodges voted to take the new name of Withlacoochee and the number 98, which was the council number of South Georgia Council. According to ALA Rick Green, lodge number 98 was selected not only because it was the number of the council, but also because it was an unused lodge number at the time. Navajo Lodge the former lodge number 98 had been merged in 2006. The gopher tortoise was chosen as the totem.

The lodge was named for the river, really a creek, of the same name which runs through the South Georgia Council. It was not named for the creek of the same name in Florida or the literal meaning of the word. The name "Withlacoochee" probably stems from the Muckhogean dialect. It is a compound of the Creek words “we” (water), ”thlako” (big), and “chee” (little), or “little big water.” The word combination signifies little river in the Creek language. “Welako” or “wethlako” may also refer to a lake or a river of lakes.

The Withlacoochee River in Georgia originates northeast of Valdosta and flows south through Berrien, Cook, and Brooks counties in Georgia and into Florida. It eventually merges with the Suwannee at Suwannee River State Park west of Live Oak. The river is 115 miles (185 km) long.

The lodge is not the first local BSA group to use Withlacoochee as a name. According to the BSA records, from 1926 until 1930 the council in Waycross was named Withlacoochee Council (some spellings are Withlacoochee, but that is probably a typo in the later historical recordings). In 1921, the Georgia Plan created Okefenokee Council in Waycross, which lasted only until 1922. From 1923 until 1925, troops either registered directly with National or with one of the larger surrendering councils like Savannah or Jacksonville. In 1926, Withlacoochee Council was formed and closed in 1930. In 1930 Okefenokee Area Council was formed. There was no name change from Withlacoochee to Okefenokee Area as these are specifically denoted in the records.

The gopher tortoise was selected as the lodge totem because it is indigenous to the part of the state that makes up South Georgia Council. There are active gopher tortoise burrows at both Camp Osborn and Camp Patten. The gopher tortoise is also the Georgia State reptile. Its range includes small parts of southern Alabama, South Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, and a larger area in north and central Florida. A gopher tortoise can live up to 60 years.

The lodges voted on officers for the new Withlacoochee lodge at the 2013 SR-9 Section Conclave in April. The election was led by Andrew Smith a member of Alapaha Lodge and past Section SR-9 Secretary. The new officers and lodge were effective May 1st, 2013. The lodges

attended the Conclave as the last official acts of the separate lodges. The first officers of Withlacoochee Lodge were elected at the SR-9 Conclave and were: Jay Turk, Chief; Dakota Kirkland, Vice Chief of Programs; Saul Crumpton, Vice Chief of Administration; David Stokes, Lodge Secretary; Noah Phillips, Lodge Treasurer. Merrill Dickinson was appointed the first Lodge Advisor and Rick Green and Dale Wilson were appointed the first Associate Lodge Advisors. Preston Parker (Chehaw District Executive) was appointed the first Staff Advisor. A list of the OA members attending the Conclave and voting on the merger can be found in Table of this Chapter.

At the time of chartering, the initial lodge roster had 279 members with 135 Ordeal members, 95 Brotherhood members, and 49 Vigil members. The lodge consisted of 112 adults and 167 youth members. The initial roster was released on May 1st, 2013, but then revised on May 9th, 2013 to include members omitted due to technical errors and the final Charter member roster was finalized after the August Fellowship.

During the six month period after the councils merged and before the lodges merged on May 1st, 2013, the lodges held two joint Ordeals. The first was held in January at Camp Patten. The second was held in March at Camp Osborn.

In addition to the joint activities, the lodges held separate banquets at the end of 2012. The lodges also attended the Section SR-9 Conclave as separate lodges. The Conclave was the last official function of the separate lodges.

The Withlacoochee Lodge Membership throughout the Years

The lodge rechartered in 2013 with a total of 361 members.

For 2014, we rechartered with a total of 363 members consisting of 121 Ordeal Members, 169 Brotherhood Members, and 73 Vigil Members. We inducted 58 new Ordeal members in 2014. Our Brotherhood conversion rate was 41% (43) and we awarded 7 Vigil Honors.

For 2015, we rechartered with a total of 257 members consisting of 101 Ordeal Members, 99 Brotherhood Members, and 57 Vigil Members. We inducted 34 new Ordeal members in 2015. Our Brotherhood conversion rate was 18% (15) and we awarded 6 Vigil Honors.

For 2016, we rechartered with a total of 233 members consisting of 81 Ordeal Members, 98 Brotherhood Members, and 54 Vigil Members. We inducted 38 new Ordeal Members in 2016. Our Brotherhood conversion rate was 35% (23) and we awarded 8 Vigil Honors.

For 2017, we rechartered with a total of 195 members consisting of 67 Ordeal Members, 70 Brotherhood Members, and 58 Vigil Members. We inducted 31 new Ordeal Members in 2017. Our Brotherhood conversion rate was 27% (13) and we awarded 4 Vigil Honors.

For 2018, we rechartered with a total of 195 members consisting of 111 youth and 84 adult.

For 2019, we rechartered with a total of 160 members consisting of 87 youth and 77 adults.

For 2020, our recharter number are not known.

For 2021, we recharted with a total of 117 members consisting of 60 youth and 57 adults of which 35 were Ordeal, 46 were Brotherhood, and 36 were Vigils. In 2020, we inducted 25 new members, 10 members became Brotherhood members, and 3 members kept their Vigils.

Also in 2021, we hosted the lodge's first Conclave which has been postponed from 2020 due to Covid.

For 2022, we recharted with a total of 118 members consisting of 61 youth and 57 adults of which 38 were Ordeal, 46 were Brotherhood, and 34 were Vigils. In 2021, we inducted 25 new members, 11 members became Brotherhood members, and 3 members kept their Vigils.

We began 2023 with 109 members consisting of 61 youth and 48 adults of which 40 were Ordeal, 41 were Brotherhood, and 28 were Vigil. In 2023 we inducted 26 new ordeal members and 8 new brotherhood members. No Vigil inductions were done.

We began 2024 with 107 members consisting of 61 youth and 46 adults of which 45 were Ordeal, 38 were Brotherhood, and 24 were Vigil. We inducted 26 new ordeal members and 8 new brotherhood members. No Vigil inductions were done. In 2024, we inducted 13 new Ordeal members, 14 new Brotherhood members, and 6 Vigil members.

We begam 2025 with 103 active members consisting of 59 youth and 44 adults of which 34 were Ordeal, 38 were Brotherhood, and 31 were Vigil.

We begam 2026 with 103 active members consisting of 61 youth and 42 adults of which 32 were Ordeal, 41 were Brotherhood, and 29 were Vigil.

Important Events

The Ordeal Name Change

In 2015 the LEC voted to change to name of The Ordeal to The Induction. In March, 2018 the LEC voted to return the name The Ordeal.

The 2017 Tornado

The two January 2017 tornados destroyed 500 of the 600 acres of undeveloped woodland where the OA Ring is located. The 75 acres containing the OA Ring with its beautiful, massive oak trees was undamaged.

The 2020 S9 Conclave

The 2020 Conclave was scheduled to be hosted by Withlachoochee Lodge at Camp Patten. However, due to the Pandemic on March 16th, Section S9 announced the postponement of the

2020 S9 Conclave until later in the year. On April 18th, Section S9 announced the cancellation of the 2020 S9 Conclave and that Withlachoochee Lodge would host the S9 Conclave in 2021.

The First Female Youth Members

On November 14th, 2020, Withlacoochee Lodge inducted its first youth female members at the Fall Ordeal in Camp Osborn. There were Lucy E. Davis, Alexandra Patten, Annilyn G. Serina, and Isabella A. Serina, all of Troop 13 of Albany, Georgia.

The 2021 S9 Conclave

The rescheduled 2020 Conclave was successfully held at Camp Patten in April of 2021.

Memories of Our Ordeals

O the Scouts of America. We are members of Scouting's National Honor Society all of whom were chosen by our fellow scouts to receive that honor. We are a service organization aiding and assisting camping in the council whenever and wherever needed. We are bound together by a unique experience in the lives of young men, one of the last true tests of both physical and mental endurance, which is known as The Ordeal.

We share memories of nights alone under the stars, of arduous tasks for the betterment of others, and of the feast on Saturday night. We share memories of torches seen moving afar off in the woods, of the smell of council fires burning bright and of ceremonies late at night and deep in woods of camp. We share memories of joining together with others brothers for Fellowships, Conclaves and Conferences.

In time, our brothers move on and some leave us forever, but we will all forever be the *Wimachtendienk, Wingolauchsik, Witahemui!*[1490]

Individual Recollections and Stories.

Henry (Harry) Helton 1947

I had been tapped out a couple of weeks prior and had to come back the Camp Osborn for my ordeal. All of us who had been tapped out before would be tapped again that night at the final camp fire for the summer camp. It must have been the summer of 1947 as I was not on the camp staff that year, but became a counselor the next year. I got to camp early in the afternoon and a couple of us started to throw the baseball around. I had a catcher mitt on, and I am not a catcher, I played first base. Anyway the person I was playing catch with decided to become a pitcher. I fell into the catcher role and got down in the catcher position. After a few pitches my pitcher threw a high fast ball to my right. I reached up for the pitch and the ball hit the left side of the mitt and the ball came back right on my nose. Blood was all over the place. I broke my nose. The Scout Executive wanted to take me to the hospital, but I told him that I would be OK. My parents and sister would be coming out soon for the campfire and my mother and sister were both nurses. They could take care of me. I did not want to miss the evening supper. Both my mother and sister thought that I could stay, beside there is nothing much you can do for a broken nose if there is nothing wrong on the inside. I could breathe through my nose, so I passed the nose test.

I was tapped again and taken out into the woods with a blanket, only. I was place in an area and told not to move from that spot until the morning when the leaders came to get me. "Have a good night, and do not make any noise or talk." My nose still had some blood in around it and the mosquitos had a field night. On top of all that the farmers thought it would be a good night to run the coon dogs. I had dogs running all around me and the mosquitos buzzing around my face. I rolled up in my blanket, covered my face and I believe I got a few hours' sleep.

[1490] From the Dedication to the Withlacoochee Lodge Centennial History.

The next day I dug a six foot by 4 foot by six foot hole for the septic take that would be for the new bath house. Bread and water for breakfast and lunch, but the dinner that night was out of this world. We had a big steak with potatoes and green beans. What a meal!

The next year when I came to camp to be on the staff the new bath house was completed and I felt so good that I had dug the hole for the septic tank.

Jack Duskin 1950

I remember my ordeal very well. It was in the winter, cold and wet and miserable. We were left out on the wet ground with nothing but a sleeping bag, while it rained and rained. It was indeed miserable but memberable.

Reuel Hamilton 1950

I do recall that it was very difficult to remain speechless and that I felt extremely fortunate to be able to light a fire with one of the two matches that we were given so that I could boil my egg and to eat with the slice of white bread that constituted my breakfast. I also recall some difficulty with nonverbal communication because we had to use a two-man saw to fell some trees and then to cut them into smaller lengths. This was long before the days of chainsaws.

Bob Ivey 1954

Anyway, yes, I know exactly when I was initiated: Your site shows an article about our 1954 Troop 21 camping trip to Smokemont, N.C. We broke camp in a pouring rain, got aboard an air-conditioned bus (wet), and drove back to Americus. I went home (five or six blocks from the scout hut) only long enough to change into dry clothes and pick up my blanket and flashlight, and went immediately back to the scout hut to be driven to Camp Osborn for the Ordeal. That was the same weekend as the Great Mosquito Convention, held at Osborn in conjunction with the Ordeal. Those very mosquitoes were a large factor in my decision, years later, to settle in California.

Michael S. Meyer von Bremen 1970

I was accidentally tapped out at Camp Osborn the first time. They broke the arrow over my shoulder as the spotter had stood between me and the boy who was to be tapped out. I was shocked as I thought I did not qualify yet. I got in the canoe with others and went across the pond. Cole Powell was one of the leaders dressed in the Indian Costume reading the ritual followed by the others doing the hand on the shoulder thing. He came up to me next in line and his eyes widened. He leaned to me, quickly thinking what to do, and he whispered he was sorry but they accidentally tapped me out and asked me to be a good sport…as a consolation he said something about they would not lower the hands on my shoulders too hard. I was. It was pretty cool to go through the ceremony by accident.

The next year was the real thing. Tom Seegmueller led off with one of those fantastic flaming hoop dances. I officially was tapped out. No broken arrow this time though. Then came Ordeal. When I went through Ordeal, we had to remain silent for the entire weekend. We also wore a stick symbolic of an arrow from what I recall tied around our neck like a necklace. We

were required to carve a notch in the stick if we slipped and spoke during the ordeal. Not speaking was difficult given that we were doing a lot of work tasks and verbal communication was almost a necessity. At the same time, not talking during these efforts taught us to learn how to communicate by other means. There were talks that some of the members of OA would attempt to trick us and say "it's okay---I will not make you carve a notch or turn you in" and also that they would follow us around to determine if we talked in private groups. So generally most of us just zipped our mouths. You were allowed, I think, 3 notches---maybe it was 2. When you reached the maximum, you had to carry the stick in your mouth (similar to when you see an old western and the tough cowboy bites a stick when removing a bullet). I was doing real well and was on the last day. Many others had one or two notches already and a few were carrying the sticks in their mouths. For breakfast we were provided a raw egg and a glass of milk. I was really hungry due to the calories burned from working all day the previous day. I had been told ahead of this that we might get the raw egg and the trick to consume it was to break the egg and dump it into the milk and gulp it quickly so you would not barf the raw egg if consumed alone. Russell Davis was nearby and watching me. I cracked the egg on the edge of the cup and overdid it…the egg slipped out of the shell and dumped onto the ground. I had a pure reaction: "oh no" I muttered to myself. Realizing I had spoken words, I looked up hoping that they were so low no one heard. I glanced at Russell, and he had the most sympathetic, understanding look on his face, but slowly shook his head, almost with regret, left and right. He did not have to say anything else. I pulled out my pocket knife and carved my one and only notch. I kept that stick for years to remind me of a discipline that many probably would have a problem these days in carrying out---even though the equivalent now may be no texting for three days or carve a notch. Oh---and a couple of years later, the arrow was not laid across our shoulders when we were tapped---it was presented. I guess I was among the last to get the swung arrow preceding the phrase which I still remember instilled pride: "Rise and accept the arrow".

Ben Andrews, Jr. 1970

I was a nervous 12 year old First Class Scout when I spent my night alone under the heavens at Camp Osborn. The year was 1970 and I was going through my induction during the Make-up Ordeal weekend in September. We candidates had been spaced out along a firebreak on Horseshoe Ridge. I found myself on the far side of the present day campsites, along the fence line with a farmer's field. Our troop camped in the lower part of Osborn during summer camp, so I wasn't familiar with the ridge. Not really knowing where I was just added to my anxiety.

I had heard stories of how the Arrowmen would terrorize the candidates during the Ordeal, so I was expecting the worst. The full moon rising over the neighboring field gave me no comfort. Its brightness made it easy to imagine that every shadow was an older boy or some wild animal out to get me (There's not any bears on the ridge, are there?). Facing that bright moon was like having a flashlight shining in my face, and it was almost as bad facing the other way because of the moonlight reflecting off the nearby tree line. There was no breeze and it was deathly quiet. It also was stiflingly hot; too hot to stay for long in my Coleman sleeping bag. But when I crawled out of the bag, the blood-thirsty Osborn mosquitoes kept chasing me back inside.

In and out of the sleeping bad, tossing and turning - I couldn't sleep. It was too bright, too hot, too quiet and I was too nervous. I was expecting an attack from something even worse than the dive-bombing mosquitoes. Maybe the guys playing Indian (between dragging me around all over camp with my hand on the shoulder of someone twice my height) told us why I'm stuck out

here in Camp Osborn Hell, but I missed that. I just knew it was because the worst was soon to come!

I doze off eventually, but I awake with a start. It's dark! Just the trees in front of me are dark - the ones to either side look bright as day! It's a shadow. And there's a noise behind my back. Someone is behind me, between me and the moon. I can't get up and run; I'm stuck inside my sleeping bag. Nothing happens immediately, so I gather my courage and slowly roll over to face my doom. It's not a Boy Scout - IT'S HUGE! And it moves toward me. And then it softly speaks: MOO. It was a cow. On the other side of the fence. In the field next door. The next morning I had a raw egg and half a glass of milk for breakfast. And later that night I wore my new sash proudly. I had passed my Ordeal, but I did flinch a little bit.

Mike Ellis 1970

In 1970 I was tapped out by the hard wrap of an arrow. The entire camp including all the parents was on the back side if the blue hole in a small set of bleachers. The Indian team came across the blue hole in a canoe to tap us out and then take us back to the dining hall side. Joel Abernathy dressed only in paint and a loin cloth and bells on his ankles did an excellent fire hoop dance. He actually stored Kerosene in his mouth to spit in and stoke the flames of his hoop. I will never forget this.

Mike Greene 1972

I have my own great memories and stories about my ordeal in 1972. “My ordeal was on a hot July night in 1972 at Camp Osborn. The line of candidates was marched along the ridge with sleeping bags in hand. Someone (either Tom Seegmuler or Ned Newcomb in full regalia and by troch light) would grab the next candidate’s sleeping bag and throw it as far down the steep ridge toward Mill Creek as he could. You had to find your sleeping bad and sleep there for the night.”

Richard Greene 1978

I remember my ordeal there was much talk from the arrowman about all the big rattlesnakes they had seen on the ridge. I had stuffed a big piece of plastic down in my bag and I put it over me instead of under my bag. The mosquitos were for the most part on outside and the condensation was on the inside. I figured wet was better than being eaten alive. After the Ordeal ceremony there was a cracker barrel and it was a fantastic feeling to talk with all my new brothers.

Troy Golden 1989

I believe mine was a Fall ordeal, though Camp Osborn in September doesn't really feel like fall. It was hot and sunny. The year was 1989. We took our bedrolls up to the ridge past the lake, and were sorted out wherever a place could be found. Saturday's breakfast and lunch were a biscuit and a cup of milk. Our service project was to clear a bunch of branches and small trees that had blown down in a recent storm. My induction ceremony featured Troy Golden (I think) as Allowat Sakima and Trey Causey as Meteu, and was the highlight of my young life, especially with the light of the campfire illuminating the massive oak at the head of the council circle.

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