

HISTORY OF GIRL SCOUTING IN BEAMAN

Mrs. Ronald Kaufmann organized the Beaman Girl Scouts on May 1, 1941. Nine girls joined at the first meeting, with one visitor, Marilyn Keefer of Vienna Township. The nine girls, who joined the troop were Erlene Rattray, Ilean Johnson, Betty Hamilton, Betty McTurk, Joann Simms, Virginia Simms, Donna Lynch, Dorothy Huster and Ruth Connor. They decided to study nature first.

They met every week at first and then later, once a month.

On May 14th the girls went on a picnic in Evans Grove. Mrs. Donald Kaufmann led the lesson on plant life. Ardis Walter joined the group.

On May 21st- The Brownie Scouts were organized with five girls attending. Mrs. Ronald Kaufmann was the one who also started this group. The girls attending this meeting were Lorraine Rattray, Frances Neff, Dorothy Gard, Ora Mae Vint and Nancy Jacobs. They were told the Brownie story and then played games in the Park. They went for a nature hike. Lillian Thomas served refreshments.

On May 23rd- The Girl Scouts met at Donna Lynch's. They had a study of trees. Erlene Rattray and Donna Lynch served delicious refreshments. Donna made the cake herself.

On May 28th- The Brownies had their second meeting, and since they still did not have a leader, Mrs Ronald Kaufmann acted as leader again.

On May 29th- The Girl Scouts planned a program to be given in the fall. It was a story of the seasons. They practiced songs. Then put on a short program for Leon Webb's mother, whom the girls referred to as Grandma Webb, a woman who had been an invalid for a number of years. After that, they went to the school house to study trees. They ended the afternoon at Hamiltons' for refreshments.

On July 3rd- Dorothy Huster and Ruth Connor served lunch. We had a visitor from Melrose, Mass, Doris Thomas, who was brought by Erlene Rattray. Dorothy Dillie Thomas assisted as leader.

On July 18th, Margaret Kaufmann and Jean Kaufmann took two car loads of Girls Scouts to Pine Lake. They left at 8:00 o' clock, hiked, went swimming, and ate a picnic dinner in the park. In the afternoon, they visited The Boys' Training School.

On Sept. 24th- The Girl Scouts gave their program of the Seasons. The girls had beautiful costumes of their own creation with colored lights on many scenes. They were a talented group with good singing and speaking voices. All the Girl Scouts had an important part in the program. They were Betty McTurk, Erlene Rattray, Ilean Johnson, Ardia Walter, Betty Hamilton, Jo Ann Simmas, Virginia Simmas, Donna Lynch, Ruth Connor, Dorothy Huster, and Roberta Sharp. The Brownies also had an active part. There were nine Brownies. Frances Neff served as mistress of ceremonies. The others were, Barbara Thomas, Nancy Jacobs, Marlys Thomas, Ora Mae Vint, Dorothy Gard, Dorothy Thomas, Lorraine Rattray, and Joan Hawley. Mrs. Donald Kaufmann accompanied the group and assisted in other ways.

On Oct. 11th, The Girl Scouts were taken on a picnic to Gard's Grove and later visited the gravel pit. They played Hare and Hound.

On Oct. 25th- Mrs. Donald and Ronald Kaufmann took thirteen Girl Scouts to the Girl Scout Convention at Marshalltown. We were proud of our delegation. We were met and welcomed by Mrs. Sorenson, the Marshalltown leader.

On Nov. 6th- The girls met at Ardis Walter's where we had three join our troop that day. They were Lois Harris, Ardis and Arlene Boll.

On Nov. 15th- The Girl Scouts had a cooky sale and made \$5.75. They began their sale of Christmas cards as well.

On Nov 20th-- Awards were given both the Brownies and the Girl Scouts for their accomplishments.

On Dec. 15th- The girls had a dinner at the church where they made \$23

On Dec. 18th- Mrs. Paul Johnson assisted the leader in measuring nine girls for uniforms.

On Dec. 22nd- The girls had their Christmas party at Mrs. Clayton Thomas, Sr. Gifts were exchanged.

On Jan. 10th-The leader bought nine Girl Scout uniforms at less than \$5.00 a piece from Brintnalls of Marshalltown. They already had red kerchiefs and their gold neckerchief holders.

We met with Doll Simms in the early spring where a new member joined us, Mary Jane Kale.

By May 30th 1942 there were twelve girls in uniform, including three Brownies old enough to join the senior group. They were Barbara Thomas, Marlys Thomas and Leona Holl. For the Memorial Day afternoon program, the Girl Scouts gave a fine marching flag drill.

On the fourth of July, the Girl Scouts conducted a carnival and pet show on the main street of Beaman. Barbara Thomas, Erlene Rattray and Betty Mc Turk, in identical red sailor suits with white trim, gave a singing and dancing routine on the stage called "The Three Little Sister" act. It was cleverly arranged and originated by the girls. The girls took in \$23.19 on this afternoon.

Now the girls had enough money to buy four more uniforms. They bought one for their leader that was identical to the girls.

In the summer the twelve girls went on a picnic and swimming party to Grundy Center. Besides their leader, they were chaperoned by Lillian Thomas and Ruth Neff. At night they attended the motion picture "Sergeant York".

In the fall of 1942 and the spring of 1943, the girls had an extensive study of home making hints, Home Nursing and First Aid. For recreation they often practiced basketball in the school gym. Marion Heyer acted as assistant leader.

On Feb. 16th, 1943 they were asked to give a program at the church. They sang "The Sweetheart of Sigma Chi", "The Hike Song" and Barbara Thomas gave a reading entitled "Ain't Life Hard on a Gal".

In the spring, the had a farewell party for two of their members who were moving away. They were Betty Hamilton and Ilean Johnson. These girls were given farewell presents.

On July 8th, 1943, the leader, Mrs. Ronald Kaufmann found Miss Lois Lee, the minister's daughter, to take over the scouts. However, this fell through. So she continued with them until Sept. 16th when Geneva Elliott promised to take them over. But on Sept. 30th, the old leader had full charge of the meeting as the new leader never showed up.

On Dec. 18th- Mrs. Ronald Kaufmann was invited as a guest to the Scouts' Christmas party and Mrs Elliott's. The girls went Christmas caroling after the party.

On April 1944, Jean Kaufmann was invited to a scout meeting and ~~was~~-presented a locket from the troop for her new baby daughter, Bonnie Jean.

Later, when the troop was broken up, it was discovered there was over \$30.00 in the Beaman bank. These funds were given to the Cub Scout troop that was active in the community at that time.