

# 1953 brings about many major relocations

In 1953, the camp expanded northward. New campsites were added and Tribal Grounds were moved to their current location in "new Camp Geiger."



1F, looking south on Tribal Grounds, as it appeared in 1953.



2F in 1953 also looking toward the south.



This is 4F as it appeared in the early 1950s. This was long before bleachers and the big back drop Tribesmen see today.

X-Fire in 1953. Notice, there are no benches yet.



# An expanded camp: A new Dining Hall



Geiger had outgrown the dining hall in the old part of camp. Annexation of 50 plus acres to the north allowed construction on new buildings and new campsites. Do you recognize this building? It is still in use today. It has had an addition placed on the front. Today, it is the Siemens Training Center, but for decades it was THE dining hall!



Adirondack type buildings were popular for campsites in the 50s and 60s



This is a cabin in Bill Hickock campsite. The campsite is long gone.



Above, left: In 1953, this was Camp Geiger headquarters and trading post. Recognize it? Today, it is the handicraft building by the corral.

Above: Amerind, Thom, Zahnd, and Jenkins participate in the Dedication Dance for "new" Camp Geiger.

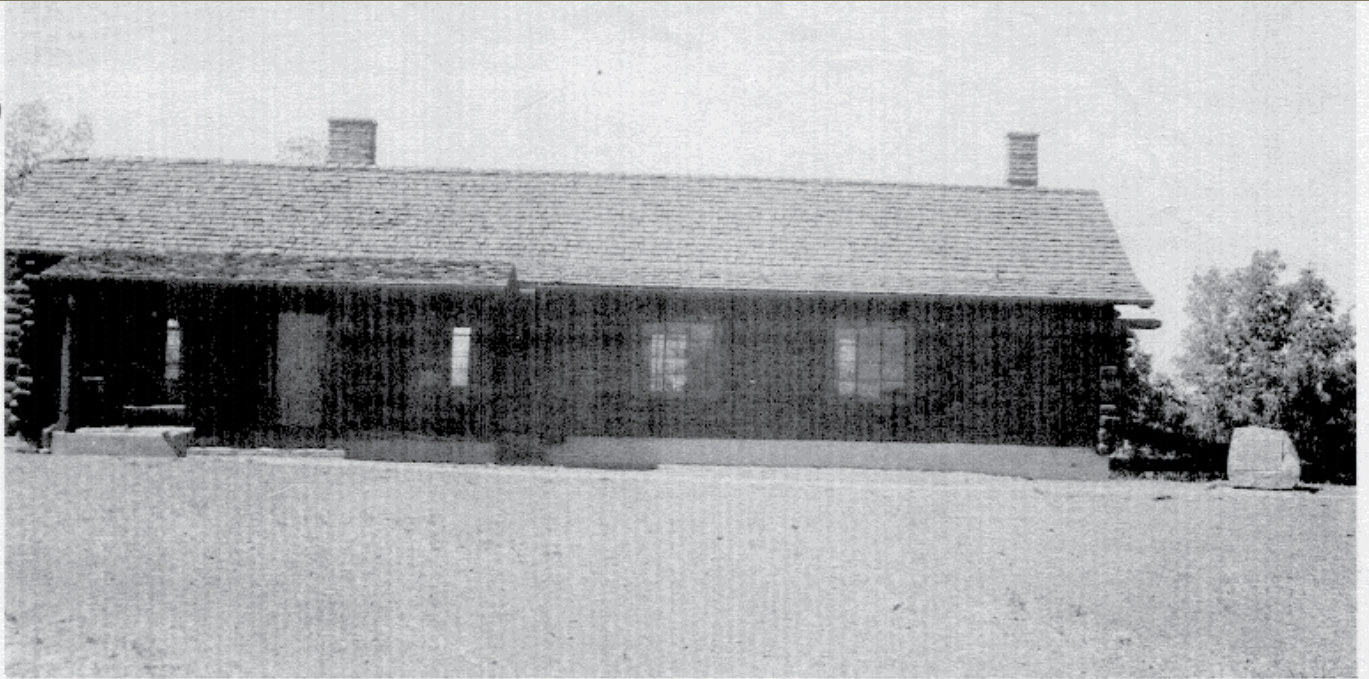
A flag lowering ceremony in 1953, the first summer that "new" camp Geiger was in use.



Below: Finley F. Fiske is named Chieftain Swift Spear in 1958 at Camp Osceola (now H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation.) Mr. Fiske would soon travel to Saint Joseph to become Scout Executive, and Chief of the Tribe.



# Program from the dedication of Goetz Lodge in 1956



## Dedication GOETZ COUNSELORS' LODGE Camp Geiger

*Sunday, September 30, 1956  
3:00 p. m.*

MASTER OF CEREMONIES . . . SIMON ROSITZKY

Flag Raising . . . . . Camp Geiger Color Guard  
Bugler . . . Dale Pennington

Greetings . . . . . L. D. Hawley, Council President

"America The Beautiful" . . . . . Camp Staff Chorus

Dedication of Building . . . . . R. P. Jornayvaz, Sr.  
Camp Development Chairman

Acceptance of Building . . . . . Lester B Miller, Scout Executive

"Onward for God and My Country" . . . . . Camp Staff Chorus

Address . . . . . Mayor Stanley I. Dale  
Member Executive Board

Solo "On My Honor" . . . . . Walter M. Hopkins  
Field Scout Executive

# Scouts of the mid 1950s helped in the TB fight



## *Post Christmas Seal Signs*

The campaign to sell Christmas seals opens Nov. 15. These Boy Scouts were part of a group of 20 boys, directed by Wayne Taylor, that start-

ed yesterday posting the signs and posters. The boys are Newton Courtney, left; Merlin Brown and Richard Gillip.

Boy Scouts in the Pony Express Council posted fliers about Christmas Seals. Christmas seals are sold by the American Heart Association to raise funds for the fight against tuberculosis which was a frequently encountered disease at that time. Notice the Scout uniforms show the city and state on the left sleeve, rather than the council name. That is how it was done until the 1980s. The Scout in the center is Dr. Merlin Brown who still practices in the community. (Clipping from the *St. Joseph News-Press*).

# Our first Mic-O-Say Lodge



Many Tribesmen will fondly recognize this building, the first Mic-O-Say Lodge, which also doubled as a staff quarters building for many years.

The building originally served as a chapel at Rosecrans Airport, and was transported to the camp in the 1950s for use as a camp building. The Lodge was torn down just a few years ago, and replaced by Swimming Rock Lodge.



The 1962 Camp Geiger staff. As the council entered into the 1960s, Scouting was growing by leaps and bounds, and the staff needed to be larger to accommodate the increased numbers of campers. It was during this time that the dark green uniform of Explorer Scouts (now Venture Scouts) began to be adopted by the staff.



Tribesmen pictured here are attending Na-Gaf-Ti-Da, an Indian pow-wow like event. This photo was taken in 1963, two years before the Tribe had its very first Pow-Wow. Pow-Wows have become an annual event since 1965.

# Some of the Geiger staffs in the 1960s



Pictured above, top, the staff of 1963. Above, left, 1967 staff, above right 1968 staff, and lower left the Camp Geiger staff of 1969. The '69 staff sat with the campers in the council ring on a July Sunday night and gathered around a small TV to witness, live, the landing of a man, Neil Armstrong, on the moon.

# The summer of 1969



Above left: Wednesday night campfire in the old council ring. Above right: Gherig Coleman performs the hoop dance. Left: The staff singing in the closing ceremony for the campfire.



Above: left staff skit. Above center: Staff is treated to dinner at the home of Roger Thom. Right: The 1969 staff party.



Top left: Camp staff and campers during a flag raising ceremony at the old dining hall and parade ground.  
Above: Scout views the old parade ground at Geiger.  
Left: View from "inspiration point" at Camp Geiger. The grounds from which this vista is seen served as PP when camp moved north.



The old pool continued to serve the "new" camp for many years. It was the only part of old Camp Geiger that remained in use for many years after everything else had moved north. The new (present) pool was constructed in 1971.



Pictured here is a camp program activity in the early 70s.

# The expansion of Tribal Grounds



As the 1970s got underway, the Tribe of Mic-O-Say was growing in numbers. To accommodate the growth, our current Tribal Grounds needed to be enlarged. That involved cutting the ridge *down* so that it would be *wider*.. And that is exactly what happened. Pictured above, heavy equipment is being guided down the trail to start the widening project. Tribal Grounds were widened all the way from 1F through 4F. The present width of ceremonial ridge was accomplished during this project in the early 70s.



Left: Tim Murphy, Warrior Northern Cross, teaching a Forestry Merit Badge Class. Above: The 1969 Nature-Scoutcraft staff.



The 1971 Camp Geiger staff with Roger Thom, (MM Swimming Rock), assistant Camp Director, and Rod Dixon, (MM Clear Sunset) Camp Director.



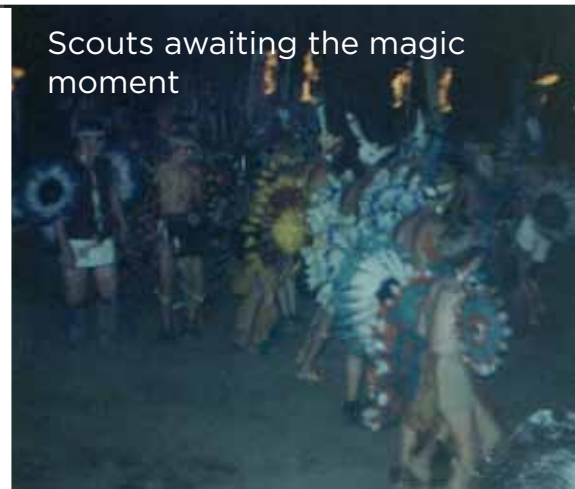
Corral and Trading Post in 1971. The Trading Post then is the Handicraft building now. To the right is a view of the kitchen in the old dining hall.



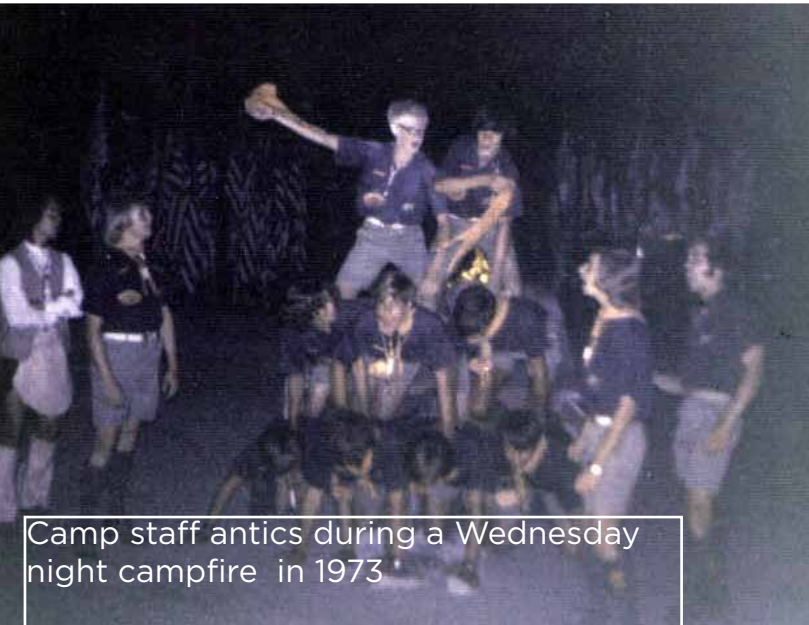
Tapping Fire, 5th session of 1973



Same fire, underway



Scouts awaiting the magic moment



Camp staff antics during a Wednesday night campfire in 1973



Ken Paden weighs in candidates for King Pee Wee in 73

1973 Camp Geiger Staff



Steve Leichti with the 73 King Pee Wee Winner

# Council Scouts at the '73 Jamboree in Idaho



The 1973 Jamboree was held in two places. It was the only Jamboree that had east and west contingents. Our council went to the western encampment in Farragut State Park, Idaho. The Jamboree used to be held in a different place every four years. In the center, back row, notice Mike Parnell, our current Presiding Chieftain.



Scene from a 1975 Wednesday night campfire



Above: Scouts gather at the water fountain in front of the Health Lodge (now Maryville Lodge).



Left: A special gathering of former and then current staff members, the illustrative "Green B Club." (1982)



## The most influential and revered figures in the history of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say

No history of Scouting in the Pony Express Council nor of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say would be complete without an acknowledgement of two of its most important figures.

Finely Fiske, Chief Swift Spear, came to us from Camp Osceola and became the Scout Executive of the Pony Express Council, and with that position, he also became the Chief of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Known to Scouts, Scouters, and Tribesmen as "the Chief," he presided over Mic-O-Say ceremonies for nearly two decades. For many, he was the Chief "they grew up with." A memorial to him marks the entrance to the trail to Tribal Grounds.

And Roger Thom, Directing Medicine Man of the Tribe for 30 years and then Ceremonial Chief of the Tribe for 20 years, is perhaps, the best known Tribesman in Mic-O-Say history. For many Tribesmen, he was the personification of Mic-O-Say.

The new Mic-O-Say Lodge, deemed Swimming Rock Lodge, is named in his honor.



(Left) A Lone Bear Council induction ceremony in 1986



1987. (Right) This is a view of all the attendees at the Tribal Feast. Photo taken from the roof of the dining hall (old).



Many well known Tribesmen is this photo from 1987. Back row from left to right: Lon Edwards, Pat Newman, Jim Hower, Dick Boehner, Ken Paden and Kirby Paulman. From Row from left to right: Rick Gerhardt, Roger Thom, Ken Baker, Bill McMurray.

The Camp Geiger staff from 1987. For a period of several years, the camp staff wore the traditional BSA uniform instead of the dark green Venturing uniform.





Group of Tribesmen  
at the 1987 Pow-Wow

These are individual camp boxes  
constructed for contingent mem-  
bers of the upcoming jamboree.  
Lonnie Edwards, MM Little Will-  
ing Talker oversaw this project.



The 1991  
Camp Geiger  
staff.



The new entrance to camp is completed in 1992

(Right) The first COPE pavilion is built on the site of the old dining hall in old Camp Geiger



This is the new dining hall (the present dining hall) under construction in 1992. Below, left: The new headquarters and health lodge building being built and sided



# Preparation for new bleachers at 4F in 1995





The finished new Headquarters Health Lodge building as it appeared in 1995

Goetz Lodge was damaged extensively by a fire in 1995. The sturdy timbers, however, withstood much of the damage. The outer layer was sandblasted away to reveal intact wood beneath.



The new COPE tower was also finished in 1995, replacing the former one which had been built in old camp.

Much of old Camp Geiger now makes up the current Remington Shooting Sports Complex

# Improving the entrance to Tribal Grounds



Since the original Mic-O-Say Lodge was placed on Tribal Grounds in the 1950s, the entrance was marked with two totem poles (which were actually painted telephone poles).

In the late 90s, two new totem poles were carved from walnut. The entrance to Tribal Grounds was pushed out about 10 feet and the berm with white rocks was added in 1996.



A group of Runners from the summer of 1997



Scouts working on lashings at camp in 1998

Below: Tapping firs of 5th session in 1998.



Scouts and visitors at Wednesday night' campfire in the old council ring. (1998)

Camp Geiger offered trail rides with horses in the latter 1990s. The old Cayuse Ramuda corral can still be seen in Scoutcraft Valley



Cycling Merit Badge was first offered in the 1990s and continues to the present day.

# Council enters the 21st century



Cub Scouts and the public watch Mic-O-Say Dancers at the East Hills Scout Week show in February, 2000..



John Helmick, Warrior Snake Dog, performs for the crowd at East Hills

# Working on the new entrance to Tribal Grounds



The berm is built and white rocks are being placed. One totem pole is up. Tim Murphy (Medicine Man Northern Cross) and Lon Edwards (Medicine man Little Willing Talker) pause to assess the progress.



Rocks were gathered on the newly acquired quarry south of old camp. These were taken to the entrance of tribal grounds to be placed and painted. Below: After completion of the berm and rocks, fir trees were planted in front.





Some of the Tribal Council officers in 2000



The 2000 Camp Geiger staff.



The hole is dug, ready for placement of Mic-O-Say time capsule



Mike Lowe, Camp Director in 2000



Foxman line up and await instructions from their Runners in 2000.



Campers having fun in a Handicraft activity.



The new entry way to the Chapel area.



(Above) Thinking upon those things that are near and dear to one's heart. (Summer, 2000)

(Left). The new chapel at Camp Geiger.

## *Chartering Partners Honored*

In 2015 four Chartering Partners were honored for their long time continuous service to Scouting. These include: Trenton Elementary PTO- 70 years, Albany Rotary Club- 85 years, Gallatin Lion's Club-80 years, and Princeton Rotary Club-75 years. Together these four organizations have sponsored a Scouting Unit for 260 years.

The Relationships Committee has honored all Chartering Partners with a plaque from the Council for their service every five years after the 70th year of continuous service. Several other Chartering Partners have already received this honor in past years. Our longest serving Chartering Partner is Huffman Memorial United Methodist Church in St. Joseph. They have served youth for 98 years, starting just two years after the Council started Scouting .

# The White Sands Trail is created

The White Sands Trail is familiar to all Scouts at Geiger. It leads from the main part of camp to the dining hall and keeps Scouts off the camp road for their safety. Did you know the entire trail was a Foxman project? It took several summers to complete.





Lon Edwards, MM Little Willing Talker conducts a session with new Firebuilders in 1999, instructing them in the ancient art. Below: Tim Murphy, MM Northern Cross conducts the first "Trail of the Brave," a Saturday morning event during Pow-Wow to walk new Braves through the ceremony they experienced and discuss the meaning of what happened at each point.





The old Quonset Hut was the storage place for all camp equipment. The building was torn down and in its place is now Flaming Crow Trading Post and the council museum.



Basil Hoehn, long time Scoutmaster of Troop 47 and Chief-tain Laughing Eyes during an interview in 2000.



Roger Thom as Directing Medicine Man of the Tribe



The newly redesigned entrance to Tribal Grounds was completed in 2000. Two new totem poles were carved, a berm was built, trees were planted, and white rocks were placed to mark the division between Tribal Grounds and the rest of camp.



The monument dedicated to 1HR on the trail to 4F. The stones used to build it during the 75th anniversary of the Tribe were taken from the remains of the council's first camp dining hall at Brinton.