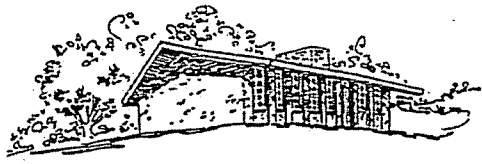


Lucy



Hidden Valley

The First 50 Years



Compiled by Mary Burchill, Karen Warner, Jackie Bogner and Jill Giele,
with help from Mary Jo Mensie, Martha Rose,
Lucy Remple McAllister and Durand Reiber

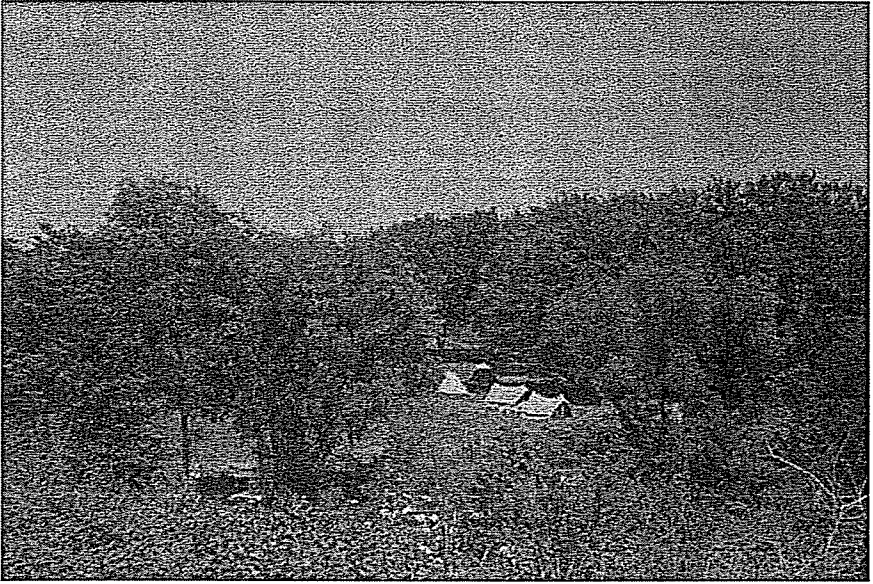
*Dedicated to
the Girls Scouts of
Douglas County, Kansas*

But we should keep Hidden Valley...for personal reasons ...the drop by drop sweat toward its development... for its wealth of natural environment...a phoebe's nesting under the eaves...for its proximity for hiking...maybe one small stretching space of green that is your world away from the world ...for its general adaptability for training, living and appreciating the tranquility of life under God's cup of blue sky...all values you can't measure.

Carol Francis, 1967

Friends of Hidden Valley Inc., 2006
Design and production by Blue Heron Typesetters, Inc.

Note: We relied on Lawrence and Douglas County records, Hidden Valley Committee, Inc, Board meeting minutes, and individual as well as collective memories to compile this history and to ensure as accurate a history as time would allow. Please bring any errors or omissions to our attention.



Preface

On October 15, 1956, Mary Hall wrote the following description of the first 20-acre purchase of land:

Location

One mile west of the intersection of 15th and Iowa Streets [now Bob Billings Parkway] Lawrence, Kansas, on the west side of Jenny Wren Road [today's Kasold Drive].

Size

Twenty and a fraction acres. The tract measures 858 feet on its east and west boundaries, 1028 feet on its north and south boundaries. The entrance lane, which is 33 by 264 feet, is attached to the southeast corner of the plot and is owned by the Girl Scouts.

Topography

The campsite is situated between the Wakarusa and the Kansas River valleys on the high rolling ground typical of Eastern Kansas. A draw runs through the area from north to the south. Side draws leave a small knoll on the east-central part. Drainage is to the south, a well, a windmill tower, and a stock tank are on the southwestern lower part of the tract.

The underlying rock is Oread limestone. Outcrops show in the sides of the knoll and scattered limestone rocks lie on the ground throughout the higher parts of the area. Also, there are some granite boulders, probably of glacial origin. The soil is black loam.

In the summer and autumn of 1956 none of the draws contained water.

Plants

Large American elm and cottonwood trees grow along the bottom of the slope and along the draws, and there are numerous, scattered smaller trees of several other species. Some small areas support brush (wildrose, sumac, gooseberry, blackberry, buckbrush). The rest of the land, approximately $\frac{3}{5}$, would normally be covered with grass. There are at least two "fields" where native prairie grasses and associated flowering plants are established. Other parts have bluegrass and foxtail. Due to heavy overgrazing and drought, the ground cover most evident now is dried weeds. We believe that after the 20 acres are fenced, excluding the cattle, grasses will gradually reestablish themselves, given a chance.

Objective

The preservation of natural conditions and natural changes for the benefit and enjoyment of Girl Scouts. It is possible both to preserve natural conditions and to enjoy them because in most years nature produces a surplus of plants and animals. By limiting the use to a number of persons which leaves some of the surplus, the area can serve its purpose indefinitely.

All life depends on the soil, and on water to make the soil nutrients usable. We must seek to improve the fertility of the soil and to increase ground cover to hold the rain where it falls. Only thus can we have natural conditions for the wildlife.

Policy

Therefore, no plant or animal life of any description should be disturbed, injured, or removed. Soil, rocks, brush and dead wood should be left undisturbed. On terrain where the soil is loose or where there is danger of disturbing plant and animal life, trails will be laid out and persons will be expected to stay on them.

Girl Scout use of the campsite will be an indication of the way the Girl Scout belief comes alive when girls act out the Promise and Laws. Have fun doing it.

Signed:

Mrs. E. R. [Mary] Hall

Mrs. I. W. [Eugenia] Hartley

Mrs. H. D. [Mariana] Remple

Mrs. M. H. Matthews

October 15, 1956

In 2006 when we spend time at Hidden Valley we know that we have come into a quiet place that is nearly in the center of a town of 90,000 inhabitants. It is a protected sanctuary that deer, coyotes, bobcats, squirrels, foxes, bluebirds and crows share with the humans who enter and treasure their world.

Since the founding of Hidden Valley many girls and leaders have come and gone. They have all contributed in their own way to make Hidden Valley what it is today. Most of the women who had the foresight to purchase the land and see it through the formative years are gone but not forgotten.

These women would be pleased that we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of Hidden Valley Camp, and perhaps surprised. They wanted Girl Scouts to have a camp close to Lawrence. As with most great decisions, several components combined in a serendipitous way. These were a source of money, a willing landowner, and these visionary women. Alfred Bromelsick furnished the funds, Clifford and Mary Davenport saw a good use for their land and the women seized the opportunity. Today another strong group of women and men are entrusted with preserving and protecting that vision.

This is the story of Hidden Valley's first 50 years.



Pre-1956

The 40 acres that is now Hidden Valley was once part of the 275-acre Jenny Wren Farm owned by R. C. Jackman. Jenny Wren was the name of a ready-mixed flour similar to Bisquick which was developed by Jackman in association with J.D. Bowersock. Tradition says the name Wren came from the name of LaWRENce. Kasold Drive was earlier known as Jenny Wren Road.

In 1949 Clifford and Mary Davenport bought the 275-acre Hereford farm from Mr. Jackman. The land was bounded by 15th Street on the south, Monterey Way on the west, 6th Street on the north and Jenny Wren Road on the east. By the late 1950's the Davenports had sold all but 5 acres that fronted on Sixth Street and had purchased 40 acres east of Lawrence (now known as Davenport Orchards). Mrs. Davenport lived on the remaining 5 acres until her death in 1997.

The Lawrence Girl Scout Council had reserved money to buy a campsite for Lawrence girls. There were several camps around

Lawrence, but none very close that were satisfactory. Alfred Bromelsick, born in 1878, was a Lawrence businessman who was interested in helping young people. He had no children of his own, and upon his death on April 4, 1950, he stipulated in his will that the net income of his estate was to benefit the youth of Lawrence: the Boy Scouts, 4-H, and Girl Scouts. The 11th paragraph of the will stated that "75% of the amount of the annual distribution to the Girl Scouts of Lawrence, Kansas should be used each year for such objects and purposes in connection with the furtherance of the work of that organization as shall from time to time be determined upon and selected by the officers and leaders of said Girl Scouts of Lawrence, Kansas."

On May 10, 1956, the Board of Directors of the Lawrence Girl Scout Council passed the following motion:
"That all monies from the Bromelsick estate be used for the Girl Scouts of Lawrence, Kansas, and that the control of these monies be vested in the adult Lawrence Girl Scout members and in the Lawrence Neighborhood Chairman."

The following is an excerpt from *Steps* in the purchase and development of Hidden Valley by Mrs. E. R. (Mary) Hall:

Second week in May, 1956.

Mrs. Hall learned that there had been some parts of the Jenny Wren Farm plat put up for sale. Mr. Cliff Davenport, owner, suggested that a 20-acre plot near the SE corner of the farm might be the place the Girl Scouts were looking for. He called it a "park-like area" and suggested that it be examined for its suitability as a camp site. It was looked at on May 22 by Mrs. Hall and on May 23 by Lawrence Girl Scout Council President, Mrs. Carolyn Blaas, together with the Leaders Association President and Mrs. Hall.

May 24, AM Council of Directors
Lawrence Girl Scout Board met and appointed a Committee of three to look into buying the property. Then the entire Board visited the site. In the afternoon Mr. Robert Oyler, attorney, was consulted as to how to go about the purchase of the 20 acres if the Board au-

Carolyn Blaas, pres, appointed
Lawrence GS Committee to administer
Bromelsick distribution

Bank administered the Endowment.

thorized it. He suggested that the title to any land should be in the name of an on-going institution such as a bank, since the Lawrence Girl Scout Council was soon to be dissolved. The same day, the NBO [National Board Office of the Girl Scouts] in Kansas City was notified that Lawrence was interested in acquiring a camp site.

May 25, 1956

Miss Mary J. Schnell, Community Adviser NBO, came to Lawrence to walk over the 20 acres. After the visit to the proposed site, and 2 or 3 hours of conference, Miss Schnell made this statement, "Since Lawrence has the money to buy the land, and the money to develop and maintain it without asking for funds from the newly developed area, she could see no reason to await Council approval for its purchase." She warned that we must be very particular about the health and safety factors at the camp in order for it to have Girl Scout approval as a camp site. For help, she referred us to *Established Camp Standard* and for development and buildings to Julian Salomon's book, *Camp Site Development*.

May 26, 1956

A letter was written and sent to Mr. Dolan McKelvey, finance chairman of the Vallehi Area Council of Girl Scouts, apprising him that Lawrence had long looked for a primitive area for a Girl Scout camp, that we had found one, and were intending to purchase it at the reasonable price of \$3 500, and that this would be a valuable addition to the Council.

May 31, 1956

At the suggestion of the NBO, Mr. Glenn Kappelman, realtor, had been asked to appraise the property being considered. He thought it easily had a market value of \$4000 at the time, and if utilities became available, as they would if the city grew to the west, the value would be several times increased.

June 2, 1956

A letter from Mr. N. J. Burris, Division of Sanitation, Kansas Board of Health, stated Mr. Burris had examined the 20 acres and had consulted the U.S. Geological Survey concerning ground water sup-

ply in the general area. He concluded that a good, natural source of water would not be found and he recommended that we erect a tank and haul city water to it.

Signed by Mary Hall

On July 26, 1956 the Lawrence Girl Scout Committee held its first meeting. Present at the meeting were Mrs. Warren Zwink, Mrs. E. R Hall, Mrs. H. B. Latimer, Mr. Morgan Allison, Mrs. H.D. Remple, and Mrs. W.M Martin. It was decided that this committee deal only with Bromelsick monies. That first year \$2507.56 from the Bromelsick estate was deposited. The campsite purchasing committee empowered to proceed with the purchase was Mrs. Karl Klooz, Mrs. Carl Althous and Mrs. H. D. Remple.

During this time there was some reorganization of Girl Scouts from the Lawrence Girl Scout Council to the Vallehi Girl Scout Council. The area council was interested in the Bromelsick monies



This photo, taken in the 1950s, shows, from left, back row, Gladys Hoofbourow, Ruth Fauhl, Mariana Remple, Mary McCalla, (unidentified), Carolee Martin, (unidentified), (unidentified); and front row, Mary Hall, (left) and Dora Bice (right).

but a legal opinion stated that only the Lawrence group was entitled to the full amount from the estate.

On August 17, 1956 during the second meeting of the Girl Scout committee, Mrs. Hall reported that the deed to the campsite should be ready for recording in about a week. They were still establishing the boundaries and building the fence as stated in the deed but the site was available for use by the girls.

The Committee did not meet again until April 4, 1957. The Bromelsick Christmas party had occurred in December 1956 and the Girl Scouts had spent \$594.72 as their share. There was considerable discussion as to the efficiency of the distribution of treats and the choice of movies.

During the elapsed time, a fence was built around the perimeter and flood gates were installed. Major problems were water supply and toilets. Water would have to be brought in even though the spring on the site was running after rains. Professor David Appel built a latrine on skids to be placed on the lowest point of the property to avoid any possible contamination of the water supply. Hedge trees were being cleared out and some hedge wood was sold for fence posts. Girl Scouts were planting native species of trees and developing pride in the land. Hidden Valley became the designated primitive site for a day camp for girls in sixth through ninth grades. Girls in the fourth and fifth grades would be at Lone Star Lake, and the third graders would have day camp at Clinton Park by Pinckney School.

There would be money left for other aspects of scouting and it was decided "leaders of the Girl Scouts" would spend the money as they saw fit "from time to time."

The Vallehi Council had asked to be able to audit the accounts of the Bromelsick funds. At a meeting later in April they were referred to the annual report that was made to the Probate Court. All agreed that this was in compliance with the will.

A latrine was completed and a water tank from Bracket School was placed underground on top of the hill with city water hauled to it. Brush killer was applied on the hedge stumps and a system for making reservations for camp use was developed so families of scout troops and Girl Scouts could use the camp for cook-outs.

In June of 1957, Hidden Valley was granted a property tax-exempt status "So long as the property was used as stated, a renewal would not be necessary and the property would continue to be tax



Daycamp cooking, 1950s.

Daycampers and their kitchen box, 1950s.





Daycamp unit photos, 1950s.

exempt.” Dedication of Hidden Valley was set for the last day of Day Camp. The girls who attended camp made all the plans including placing items such as various Girl Scout pins, a program of the ceremony, an autograph book which had signatures of all present and information about the purchase of the camp in a metal box. The box was wrapped in plastic and placed in the excavation. Each person then placed a stone over the burial site which completed the cairn. It was an impressive ceremony. (Unfortunately, records do not indicate precisely *where* the capsule was buried, and numerous attempts to locate it during this 50th anniversary year have been in vain.)

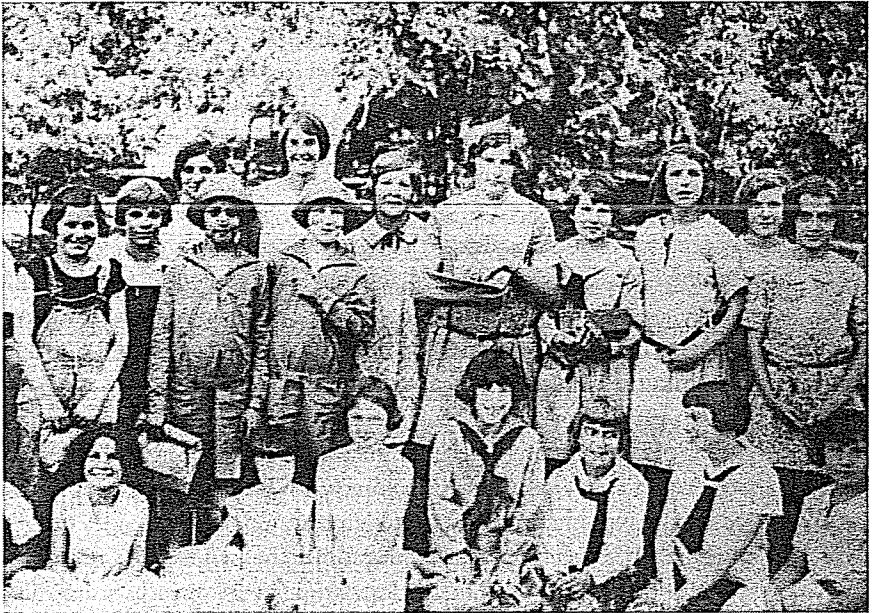
The first Day Camp at Hidden Valley was considered a fine success despite the primitive nature of the site. The new water tank had been filled by the city free of charge but there was mud to contend with on the trails and sites because of rain. The county had spread a load of gravel for \$20.00 on the road, which took care of the mud there for a time, but two more loads were needed soon after.

From June 1956 to June of 1957, \$4394.24 had been spent on the land—\$3500 to purchase the 20 acres, \$101 in fees and \$793.24 in development.

In July 1957 the three goals of the first year had been met: wa-

ter supply, fence and latrine. While the Committee still wished to keep the site as natural as possible, it was ready for older girls but still too primitive for the youngest Brownies. The needs identified for the future included grass and weed cutting, more trails (perhaps gravel), more latrines, tables, culverts, bridges, fire rings, and a permanent shelter.

At the 8th meeting of the Committee in November 1957 there was a lot of discussion about how best to make the land "user friendly". Suggestions were: cut out all the Osage Orange (Hedge) trees that were left, plant grasses, native and blue where appropriate, and make a turn around space for cars inside the gate. The need for a winterized, permanent shelter was voiced. It should probably sleep a minimum of 16 people. Mrs. Hall said two things were possible. Tents could continue to be used with no additional facilities while the Committee saved their money or the cost of building could be investigated then borrow the money to build it. This would depend on volunteer architectural and building help from University of Kansas classes. The shelter would be for primitive camping



with no electricity or gas. It was thought a fireplace would add ambiance and heat and the possibility of LP gas would be considered, if it wasn't too expensive. The cost of the building was estimated at \$4000 by Professor Appel and Mr. Riley Burcham.

In May 1958 Mary Hall reported that Mr. Davenport had offered the 20 acres west and the 20 acres north for sale at \$250 per acre either for 20 or 40 acres. Again there was discussion of purchasing or leasing land east of town for a camp. No doubt the idea of spending more money on land prompted a discussion about just what were the greatest needs of Lawrence Girl Scouts. Mrs. Latimer thought people needed to want to do Girl Scouting. Mrs. Hall wanted the girls to work together and increase stamina. Mrs. Martin wanted to stress a truly adventuresome spirit through Girl Scouting. Mrs. Bice and Mrs. Gilkerson felt the need for better qualified workers. The conclusion was that these were things Bromelsick money couldn't buy. With that discussion out of the way, thoughts turned to a shelter. Work had been done on preliminary plans under Professor Appel's direction and an advanced architecture student was willing to draw up and submit plans for \$150. Mr. Robert Channell was appointed to do that. Mr. Burcham encouraged them to go ahead with the building project now and borrow the money against their annual income. Several ideas from Professor Appel's architecture class were submitted. It was decided that one single room with a screened off cooking area, fireplace, free-flowing kitchen space, and windows with small panes would be acceptable. Estimate for construction was given as \$7 per square foot.

At the June, 1958 meeting, discussion continued on the three questions raised earlier. Should the Bromelsick money be used in different ways such as better leaders or better training? Should a cabin be built and should more acreage be acquired at Hidden Valley or should another site be acquired? The other campsites being considered did not seem to be working out. It was pointed out that the committee had paid \$187 per acre for the first 20 acres and that Mr. Davenport was getting \$500 per acre for the first strip north of Hidden Valley but was offering the land to the Committee for \$250 per acre and that he was in no hurry for his money. Perhaps Mr. Davenport would come down in his price.

At a later meeting that same month the same three questions were still being debated. The land questions were most pressing. The

other sites had been looked at but either the landowner would not set a price or he wanted to lease the land or he was just not being forthcoming. After much discussion it was decided to offer Mr. Davenport \$3500 for the 20 acres immediately west of Hidden Valley.

At the July meeting a discussion with Mr. Davenport was reported. The offer of \$3500 had been made; he rejected it but counter-offered with \$4500 for the 20 acres. He preferred to be paid in two or three payments. All in attendance thought it was a good buy and would increase in value as the city seemed to be moving west. The motion was made and unanimously approved to buy the 20 acres for \$4500 with one-third down and the rest to be paid within a three to five- year period with 6% interest.

At the same meeting Mr. Channell's plans for the shelter were revealed. It would be about 900 square feet, a square building with two porches. It would be on a slab with two end walls supporting the roof and a fireplace toward one end to screen the kitchen area.

There are no records of meetings between July 1958 and February 1959 but it is quite obvious that the Committee was not idle. A Hidden Valley day was being planned for March 8. Hedge was still being cut and other trees were being planted. A power saw would be rented and everyone would wear boots, gloves and bring tools. Plans were also being made for Day Camp.

As reported by Mrs. Martin, the building committee had submitted the plans to several contractors who in turn had made suggestions. She, her entire committee, and Mr. Channell would present the final plans, open the bids and answer questions very soon. The building could be ready by summer of 1959, a few months away. Mr. Burcham said a promissory note to the bank based on the percentage of the annual distribution from the estate would secure the loan from the bank. It was agreed this was a good use of funds and a good supplement to the Vallehi Council's programs.

As a result of the purchase of the additional 20 acres, fences needed to be moved. An access road to the new land was needed and plastic pipe needed to be laid for water access. All this could be done for about \$500.

Bids for the shelter were opened and the low bid was \$6369 from Olmsteads. It was decided to hire him to supervise the work and let the committee make contacts for material and labor. He agreed to a 10% markup for labor and materials. Haskell Institute

had been contacted and trained students could be hired for a smaller fee. They were already placed in jobs after graduation but could work full time until then and would be under the direct supervision of their instructor.

Heat, water and light elicited discussion. City water was still about 1/4 mile away so pipes would be installed at Hidden Valley to be ready for city water. A bottled gas hotplate would be installed for quicker cooking. Plans for an auxiliary heating unit would be included but not installed. No provisions for electricity were to be made. It would be flashlights and kerosene lamps for the girls. The porches would be paved with bricks. Revised drawings were to be made by Mr. Channell as well as a pen and ink rendering for publicity purposes. The cost of the building was not to exceed \$6300.

Building was to start as soon as possible!

In April with building progressing, thoughts turned to furnishings. There would be very little storage space so "things" would not accumulate. For the cooking area, the women discussed a metal cabinet with a metal sink and a two-burner hotplate. Shelves would be at each end of the kitchen for groceries and personal belongings. Collapsible tables would be used in the living area. Names for the shelter were discussed but nothing was decided and thought was given to hanging a plaque in the building in honor of Mr. Bromelsick. A dedication ceremony was discussed.

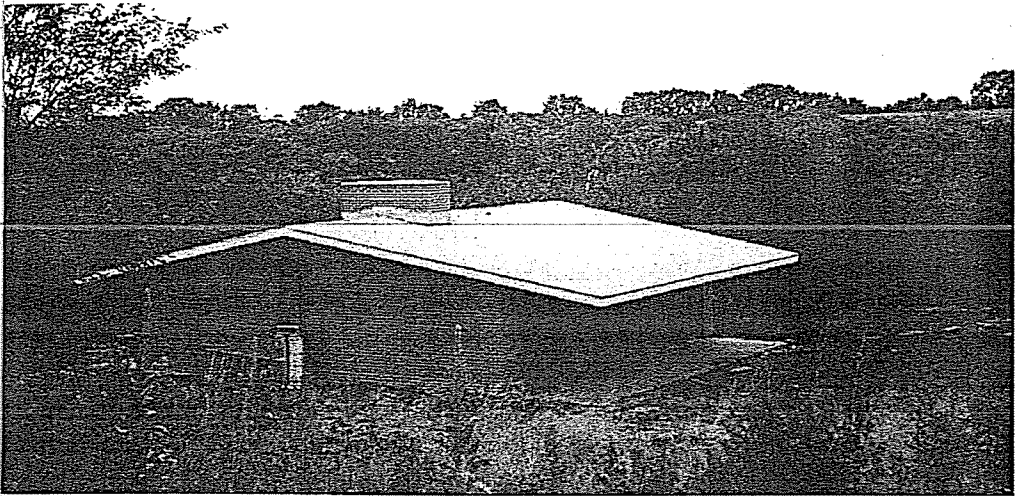
At the May meeting, with construction progressing nicely, it was reported that a complete stove could be purchased for less than the components agreed upon earlier. It was decided to buy a range as well as redwood tables and benches. Also a pot hook was approved for the fireplace. Some of the suggested names for the cabin were: Gypsy house, alcove, the hearth, Bromelhaven, troop cabin, and cairn.

By June of 1959 the cabin was nearing completion. A name had not been chosen so Mrs. Baird was appointed to do research on an Indian name that might be appropriate. It was decided the dedication would take place on Sunday, June 28, at 4:30 p.m. A plaque was discussed with the wording "For Lawrence Girl Scouts through the generosity of Alfred Bromelsick." Hidden Valley would be open to visitors from 2 to 7 p.m., with the dedication at 4:40 p.m. The committee decided to print 300 souvenir programs (later, 500 were actually printed) and would use a line drawing by Lucy Remple,



Dedication of Arcalooka, 1959. Girls in their uniforms – Mariner Cadettes, Juniors and Brownies.

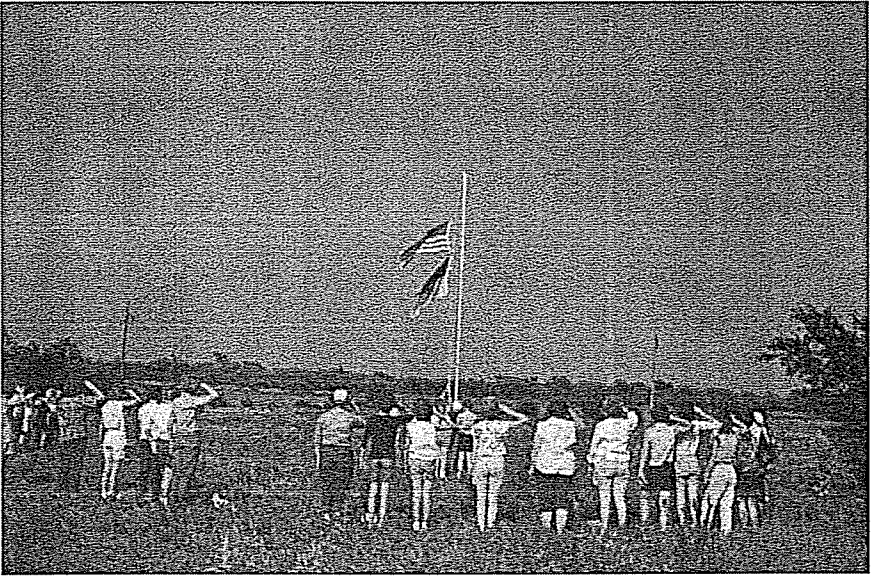
Arcalooka Cabin, when first built, in 1959.



since the architect's rendering was not available. There was further discussion of furnishings, draperies, bulletin boards and paint.

At the June 23 meeting the dedication ceremony was finalized. An excerpt from the Abstract of Title for the land had been consulted and was found to say that the land had been given in 1860 by President James Buchanan to Ar-ca-loo-ka, a Cherokee Indian warrior whose name meant "whirlwind" who had served in Captain Brown's regiment in the War of 1812. The name of the shelter, as approved, was to be Arcalooka.

The total cost of Arcalooka was \$6,775.70. It was a 20 x 30 ft brick building with casement windows on two sides, concrete floor, large fireplace acting as a divider between a general activity area and a smaller kitchen area. It had a large sloping roof overhang over tiled porches on two sides. The contents included a propane heater for year-round camping service, sink (without running water), cupboard area, redwood tables and benches, and book shelves.



The 1960s

By 1960, the really hard work of finding the property, buying it and then building Arcalooka had been completed, but it was no time for Girl Scouts to rest on their sit upons! As the decade began, the Committee was preoccupied with several projects at the camp. Mary Hall included these items among the many on her “to do” list in 1960:

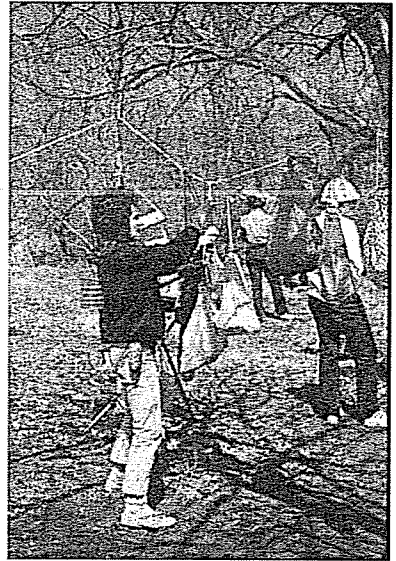
- The west fence line needed to run through clumps of very large hedge, too dense to chop with an axe. So a bulldozer and operator were hired to clear the line, and also clear some areas of hedge and brush on the west part of the second 20 acres for day camp unit sites.
- Two old latrines were to be replaced with three new – one south of the cabin, one northwest of the cabin and one on the “new” 20 acres.
- Excess water tended to collect around the cabin, so the Committee decided to lay tile underground.



Archery, 1963

- Planting of native shade trees and flowers continued on a volunteer basis.
- Rock was to be spread on the road to make it an all weather road and rock was also placed on the parking area.

In 1963, the Lawrence Girl Scout Committee- adopted their by-laws. At the same time the area Girl Scout council was changed from Vallehi Council to Kaw Valley Council. These first by-laws by the Lawrence Girl Scout Committee required that the membership would include representatives from the Girl Scout Area Council and the Girl Scout Neighborhood Associations.





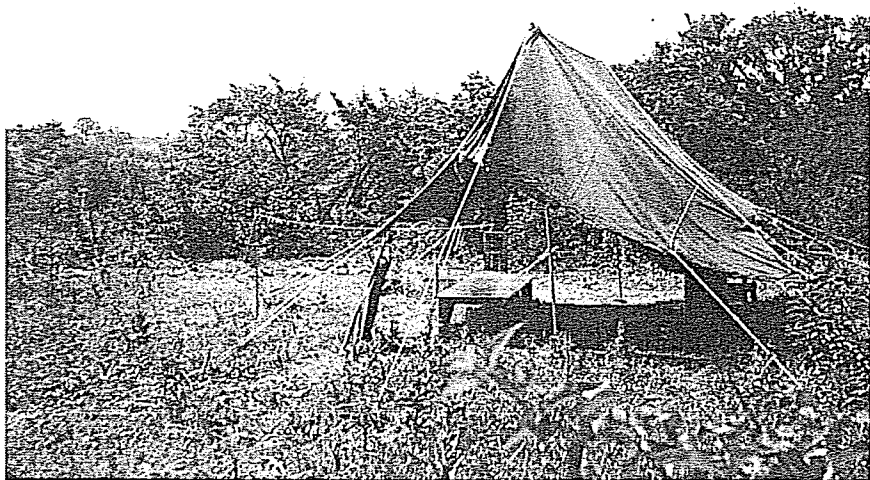
Troop camping at Hidden Valley, 1963

We all love the Hidden Valley shade, and owe much of it to the industrious scout troops in the '60s, who began filling in the former cow pasture with newly-planted trees. In 1962, troops planted 50 Burr Oak trees around the property; 25 of them survived. In 1964, Mary Hall noted the number of trees that were lost, and put out this call to troops:

“Due to the important number of shade trees that we lost, and there are more dead ones now standing on the hillsides, it is urgent that troops, adult scouts, interested groups or individuals help plant shade trees this fall and spring. A wide variety of shade trees is desirable. Locating these at campsites is vital.”

Noting that the cabin could be used year-round if it had a heater, Mariana Remple looked for a heating system that had a simple vent and could be installed in the cabin.

“Increased use of Hidden Valley on a year-round basis is in line



Kitchen Fly, 1963

with Girl Scout's aims, and incidentally would also cut down on vandalism," Remple wrote.

Following day camp in 1962, a local physician received lab results confirming that a camper had suffered a case of bacillary dysentery. The health department visited and offered advice to the Camp Committee on how to avoid such illnesses in the future.

Dale L. Clinton, M.D., of the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department, followed up with a letter:

"Since the campsite is in many respects similar to an army bivouac area, epidemic outbreaks of bacillary dysentery are a distinct probability unless a comprehensive program of environmental sanitation is maintained."

Dr. Clinton advised that transmission of dysentery occurred by fecal contamination, and that flies were a common vector. Among his recommendations was the suggestion that the cabin be fitted with spring-closed screen doors.

Unfortunately, during the '60s, the Committee had to pay a lot of attention to vandals and how to keep them out. Gates were purchased and installed at the entrance. Broken window panes at the

cabin were replaced with Plexiglas, in hopes the windows wouldn't be shot out anymore by BB guns. The Committee also purchased 10 metal signs designating Hidden Valley as a protected area, and installed them in such a way that it would have been difficult for vandals to destroy the signs.

The Committee also laid water lines to carry water from underground tanks, which were filled by a water truck. They made sure the water lines were below the frost line and that the faucet near the north cabin door was also frost proof. For many years, Mr. Galen Miller, honorary Girl Scout, husband of Celia Miller and father of Joy Miller, both Girl Scout leaders, was very generous with his time and skills as a plumber tracking down leaks and making repairs to the water lines.

By the middle of the decade, day camp had eight unit sites adequate for 32 girls each. In May 1965 the camp hosted an open house and set up a Brownie site and a primitive site for people to see.

A notice for Girl Scout Day Campers from 1965 included these highlights:

Revised Camp hours:

Juniors and Cadettes 8:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Brownies 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Remember the dates for Day Camp!

Session I is June 1-5 (Tuesday through Saturday)

Session II is June 21-25 (Monday through Friday)

Transportation

City buses will transport girls to and from day camp at Hidden Valley.

Remember, also: String bag for dishwashing with plate, cup, knife, fork and spoon. Clothespin. Insect repellent used at home.

And if it looks like rain or is dampish – RAINGEAR on each child's feet, head, and in between!

Also in 1965, the city considered zoning the strip of land between Hidden Valley and Kasold Drive for industrial use. Mary Hall, Mariana Remple and Mary Miller attended a hearing, and persuaded the city to drop this zoning plan! Luckily, we have Presbyterian Manor for a neighbor and not a factory!

In 1966, the Redbud Shelter was built for about \$900, giving girls some shelter from rain and sun when they were away from Arcalooka. A latrine was also built near this shelter.

In 1968, Mary Hall compiled a list of Kansas native wildflowers found at Hidden Valley. It included 33 flowers, which she grouped by the color of their blossoms – blue, orange, red, pink or rose, white, and yellow. Mary and Ruth Fauhl also made a summer bird list in June of 1968, consisting of 57 species of birds.

In the late 1960s, the city bisected the property with sewer lines, paved 15th Street, and assigned assessments to all property owners: about \$15,000 over 10 years for water assessments and \$8,000 for paving 15th Street.

The board struggled with how to pay for all this with the \$3,000 it received annually from the Bromelsick Trust, and discussed trading land or selling off a portion of the camp. In 1968, the Lawrence Girl Scout Committee explored the idea of donating the land to the Nature Conservancy, to keep Hidden Valley a “green and open space” in the face of rising assessments.

Chairwoman Betty Alderson also implored members and encouraged troops to plant trees. The cedars that now shelter the east end of the camp from the Western Resources power station and the tall, main building on the Presbyterian Manor property were planted late in the decade.

Building the road, early 1960s





The 1970s

Martha Rose served on the Lawrence Girl Scout Committee for many years, and remembered the 1970s time as busy and, sometimes, anxiety-ridden. What kept them going, she said, was “the physical existence of the campsite. Even when it was hard, we knew that scouts wanted to use the site and we wanted it to be there for them. We had the feeling that we were there to manage the Bromsick money, and that we needed to be responsible with it.”

As Lawrence continued to develop around the camp, the board worried about how to pay for the assessments to the property. That's when yet another of Hidden Valley Camp's heroes and benefactors, Bob Billings, stepped forward. Billings had first approached the Lawrence Girl Scout Committee with an offer to trade the camp land for the more distant property he owned further west. The Committee refused. He then visited the camp, and was impressed by the trails and the cabin. His first wife, Pat, was an elementary teacher and already a big supporter of the camp and the mission of Girl Scouts.

From a letter he wrote in May 1973, in which Billings sent a check for \$250:

“As additional financial needs come to your attention that cannot be met from regular budget sources, please let me know, for Pat and I want to help in any way that we can.”

In 1974, the road assessment bill for Hidden Valley Camp was \$15,175. Bob Billings offered to pay \$15,500. Each year for ten years the Committee paid the assessment with a donation from Bob. In 1975, Pat died of cancer at the age of 37, and a tree was planted in her memory. The beautiful redbud tree near the cache is a visual memory of the generosity of Bob and Pat Billings, and is a welcome spot of shade for day campers when they are checking equipment in and out of the cache.

Also providing monetary assistance to the camp in the 1970s was the Ethel and Raymond F. Rice Foundation, which granted the Lawrence Girl Scout Committee \$500 almost every year.

In 1974, Eudora resident Lucy Kaegi died and left money through her will to the Girl Scouts of Douglas County. The Kaegi Fund was established to select recipients of her trust and still exists today. Troops in Douglas County can apply to the Kaegi Committee for troop funds. Many troops and overnight campers at day camp still enjoy camping out in the Kaegi tents, the first of which were purchased in 1977. These are the small, green pup tents that sleep 2 to 3 girls. Mariana Remple established guidelines for using, cleaning and taking care of these tents. While many of them have been replaced over the years, the Kaegi tents are still very much in use today! The Kaegi funds also purchased a filmstrip projector, backpacks, archery equipment and provided support for Eudora and Baldwin City day camps.

In 1975, a Mounted Troop asked for permission to bring horses to day camp, and to use the Windmill Site for a couple of hours on four days of camp. In previous years, the Mounted Troop had used land adjacent to the camp for the horses, but by 1975, that land was being developed and was no longer available. Committee members discussed whether to allow horses right on the camp land, wondering whether that would be detrimental to the “practice of conservancy” that the Committee had established. The Committee

talked about using the area near the parking lot but there was a tie vote and the motion died.

The 1970s also brought a new brand of vandalism to the camp: motorcyclists who would cut the north fence to get in and then ride around the camp.

In another incident, a gong that had been used to call campers to the cabin was stolen. Ed and Marguerite Bishop, faithful Girl Scout volunteers, were able to find a cast iron bell to replace the missing gong. That bell couldn't be heard at the most distant campsites, so Marguerite investigated other bells. She settled on the idea of mounting one on a light pole outside Arcalooka at day camp in 1976, and this bell is used to this day to call all scouts.

Also in 1976, the 20th anniversary of Hidden Valley Camp, the Committee established the Arcalooka patch, still earned today by troops who use the camp and complete service projects. The following patch requirements were established:

1. Outdoor Service Project (minimum 3 hours)
 - A. Clean a campsite
 - B. Clear trails
 - C. Trim hedge shoots
 - D. Dig musk thistles, etc.

and :

2. Fun Day (minimum 8 hours, may do 2 days, 4 hours each)
 - E. Cookout
 - F. Hiking, etc.

or:

3. Overnight

In 1977, the committee established the smoke puff, designed to be sewn on above the cabin patch. Smoke puffs were earned by girls who continued to use and serve Hidden Valley Camp after they had earned the Arcalooka patch.

By 1977, the significant help from Bob Billings, the Rice Foundation Grants, and the availability of the Kaegi money for troop use and other Girl Scout purchases, were factors in a brighter financial picture for the Lawrence Girl Scout Committee. That year they didn't have to spend the entire Bromelsick distribution and were able to start saving, setting aside \$3,000.

The Committee began exploring ways to supply power to the cabin, and wrote camp use instructions, detailing how to make reservations and take care of the camp. A camp map at that time showed 15 unit sites, including some long gone or now renamed : Pioneer Point, Sherwood Forest, Fairy Ring and Grassy Glenn, and some familiar today: Lonesome Pine, Rocky Road, Locust, Mulberry, Osage Orange, and Coralberry.

A huge event, called the "Green Scene Event" was held on Oct. 1, 1977, to honor Mary Hall for her many years of service to the Lawrence Girl Scout Committee and to Hidden Valley Camp. At that time, the meadow below the cabin was officially named "Mary's Meadow." More than 450 Girl Scouts attended Green Scene for a day of games, songs and hikes. Lori Malott, a Lawrence artist who has since moved to Santa Fe, N.M., painted a scene from Hidden Valley - a wild crabapple tree - as a gift to honor Mary and all the work she had done at Hidden Valley.

In 1978, there was talk that the land just to the west of the camp was being developed for 12 homes. The Committee noted this with a bit of trepidation, but as it turned out the camp neighbors have been our friends and allies through the years.



Brownie Play Day, 1984

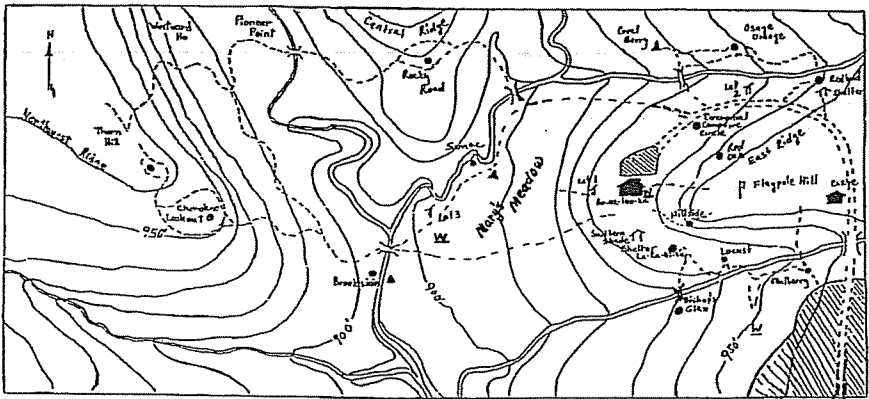
The 1980s

The physical make-up of the camp changed considerably during the 1980's. It was a time of building, site development, construction right outside our western and northern boundaries, policy making, and dreaming of building a much needed Lodge. It was a financially lucrative time thanks to the growing Bromelsick Trust annual distribution, the Rice Foundation and our generous friend, Bob Billings. As the city of Lawrence grew by leaps and bounds, so too did the need for improvements at Hidden Valley.

Vandalism occurred three different times in 1980. The cabin was broken into on two occasions. Windows were broken at a cost of \$560 and other damage was found. Padlocks were finally added to the shutters. In an effort to thwart this destructive activity, the Board sent out letters to surrounding neighborhoods asking for help: help to watch and alert us to suspicious activity, and help by discussing our concerns within families. A letter to the editor of the Lawrence Journal-World newspaper was also written. Vandals returned in 1986, breaching the north fence line. In 1988, the prob-

lem escalated. Lonesome Pine bridge was dismantled, Brookside bridge was damaged, and the bridge to Rocky Road was badly vandalized. In addition, sexually explicit graffiti appeared on the walls of the latrines. During a cookout at Coralberry, girls were harassed by onlookers outside the fence. The police were contacted in each case, but Board members, frustrated by the incidents, sought solutions to safeguard the girls and the campsite.

New unit sites had been requested by day camp directors. Red Oak and Sumac sites were developed. Locust, which had been reclaimed by nature, was relocated and opened. The western trails were reestablished and a new Deer Run Trail was blazed by Boy Scouts, west of the creek that extends from Pioneer Point to Brookside.



Construction of Southern Shade shelter took place in 1981. Bill Barnes, husband of Board member Jo Barnes, provided materials and labor for a cost of \$4,340. In addition, in 1989, a new latrine dubbed Running Waters was installed near Brookside.

In August of 1983, Girl Scouts of America sought legal action concerning the use of the Girl Scout name in our corporation title. They also felt they could claim the Hidden Valley property as theirs. Our lawyer advised us to change our name. The Articles of Incorporation were amended to change the corporate name from Lawrence Girl Scout Committee, Inc. to Lawrence Hidden Valley Committee, Inc. (LHVC). In connection with the name change, new by-laws were written.

Kaw Valley Girl Scout Council (KVGSC) had demonstrated a

desire to own Hidden Valley Camp from the very beginning. At times the relationship between Hidden Valley and Council had been compromised over our unique ownership of the land for use by Girl Scouts. In January of 1985, an understanding was reached and a document titled "Kaw Valley Council Agreement" was signed. The agreement allowed Hidden Valley and Council to "clarify responsibilities that each will take in the use made of this land by Girl Scouts." Council formally recognized Hidden Valley as a privately-owned campsite intended for use predominately by Girl Scouts. However in 1987, KVGSC once again questioned the role of LHVC as proper recipients of the Bromelsick Trust fund monies. Louise Silber, acting as Board liaison, was able to explain the situation and help Council fully understand how Hidden Valley functioned as a privately-owned corporation.

The continued westward growth of Lawrence brought new construction. Presbyterian Manor, constructed in 1976, decided to expand their services by building five duplexes along Hidden Valley's northeast boundary. With concern about drainage issues still at hand, the Board took action to prevent problems from escalating. Much to the surprise of the Board, Presbyterian Manor requested to buy the Redbud area. Their request was denied, but there was discussion at this time about installing a gate to allow access to the camp by the Manor residents.

The land directly west of Hidden Valley between the camp and Monterey Way and along the northern fence line became a prime area for single family development. Donald Tiffany owned the land adjacent to our northern fence line and built his home at the northwest corner. His intention was to plat the land and sell lots. Subsequently, he built a road, Tiffany Drive. In 1988 he even offered to trade some land he owned farther out for part of our western tract. The Board declined. In 1989 Mr. Tiffany platted the land between Hidden Valley and Dad Perry Park. Throughout the decade, other offers were made to buy or trade land. Tim Fritzel made an offer to trade land in 1989. With each offer the Board reaffirmed its mission to preserve all 40 acres for the girls.

Hidden Valley was used regularly by Lawrence troops for camping. As the usage grew, so did the need to maintain camp sites, mulch trails, mow grassy areas, and remove dead trees and fallen branches. The cost of hiring camp maintenance workers was be-

coming a financial drain. The Board's Site Committee, chaired diligently by Mariana Remple, continually looked for ways to recruit volunteers to help out. In August of 1986, Gary Guinn, Site Committee member and a Reserve Seabee from the Topeka Unit, requested a list of construction projects that his unit could undertake on a volunteer basis as community service. The Site Committee developed a list of six items that had been "identified off and on for years by all levels of volunteers." Included on the list were more storage space, an amphitheater, bridge repairs, completion of road repair, and building a "Scout House." The Site Committee felt the "Scout House" should be a priority.

Throughout the 80's, storage of Day Camp supplies and equipment for troop use was a huge problem. Day Camp stored many supplies and equipment in Arcalooka - filling space much needed by troops who camped overnight in the cabin. The old wooden cache east of Flag Pole Hill was packed to its limit. It was during this storage dilemma that talk arose about building a larger and more modern cabin. A new building would provide space for troops, trainers, and service unit leaders to meet, a storage place for equipment, an archival preservation area, and a workbase for the Council. From 1985 until 1994, the Board dedicated many hours planning for the Scout House.

Other Events:

- 1980** Rice Foundation Grant totaled \$1,000
Pop cans with bullet holes found on site
- 1981** Rice Foundation Grant totaled \$2,000
Post Office Box rented
Baby tee shirts given to all girl babies born in March during Girl Scout Week.
\$2.50 paid for each girl attending day camp and financial assistance was given to any girl enrolled at an established Girl Scout camp.
- 1982** Rice Foundation Grant totaled \$2,500
Cosmos Club built a new staircase from the cabin down to the meadow.
- 1983** A house was offered to Hidden Valley. The offer was rejected because moving expenses would have been \$13,000.

- 1984** John Solbäch hired as Hidden Valley's attorney
- 1985** Sub-committees added on the LHVC's Board: Bromelsick, Site Committee, Finance, and Bylaws. Investigation of the possible need for increased liability insurance because of neighboring developments at Perry Park, Presbyterian Manor, and Tiffany land.
Alfred Bromelsick's remains were moved from a crumbling mausoleum to a regular grave site at Oak Hill Cemetery, site of an annual memorial service in his honor.
- 1986** Glenn Kappelman appraised property at \$290,000 Ruth Brown Memorial Fund established. Ruth organized the first Girl Scout troop in Lawrence in 1929. In 1930 there were five troops. A reunion was held in 1980 and they decided to start a memorial fund.
Talk of adding electricity to Arcalooka, purchasing a primitive site further out, and building a scout house near the gate.
Stationery ordered with Arcalooka as letterhead. Funds from the Ruth Brown memorial were used to cover expenses.
Alfred Bromelsick Fund's annual distribution was \$9,178.80.
Suggestion made to consider crop plantings to encourage wildlife.
"Hidden Valley Hunt" scavenger hunt prepared from Mary Hall's 1968 native wildflower and Mary and Ruth Faulh's summer birds lists.
Girl Scout memorabilia buried in a cairn during Day Camp. (Attempts to locate this time capsule in 2006 were unsuccessful.)
30th Anniversary celebration at Lawrence Public Library
- 1987** Curt Finfrock, architect, submitted proposal for \$7,500 to design and prepare construction documents for a Hidden Valley Scout House. Seabees volunteered to construct lodge, road, bridge, and amphitheater.
Douglas County Landscape Association volunteer project. Richard Wolf (Wolf's Landscaping), Ann Peuser (Clin-

ton Parkway Nursery), and Ron Baker (Willow Ridge) worked on roads, stumps, gate, pruning and planting red-buds. The Earl May Garden Center participated as well.

1989 Jo Barnes prepared "Planning Process" for building Lodge. Tiffany platted his property west and north of Hidden Valley

Historic underground water tank became a nuisance

Question if Lodge would jeopardize Hidden Valley's non-profit status

Kansas Power & Light utility company punctured water line

Mary Jo Mensie presented good in-depth report on cost of Scout House. Could easily cost \$250,000.

Discussion of selling lots to finance the proposed building
Scott Thomas suggested Scout House be built in phases to spread out cost. Cautioned Board to know who donors were before starting the project.



Fall Frolic, 1997, Coralberry

The 1990s

The 1990's were packed with enthusiasm, dreams, many Arcalooka improvements, commitments to problem solving on many levels, and unfortunately, vandalism on a grand scale. Board meetings were held in homes, the Public Library, Lawrence Memorial Hospital, Presbyterian Manor, and Arcalooka. Board members were seen in an official capacity at City Commission meetings, Chamber of Commerce gatherings, the United Way Building, engineering firms, architect offices, the Judicial and Law Enforcement Center, and City Hall. It was a decade filled with exciting highs and dreadful lows. As we were becoming more comfortable with advancing technology, changes needed to be made and we adapted heartily. This was a time of tremendous growth and change. Those who served on the LHVC Board got a feeling of what it must have been like in the middle to late 1950's when the dream of owning a camp site became a reality due to hard work and determination.

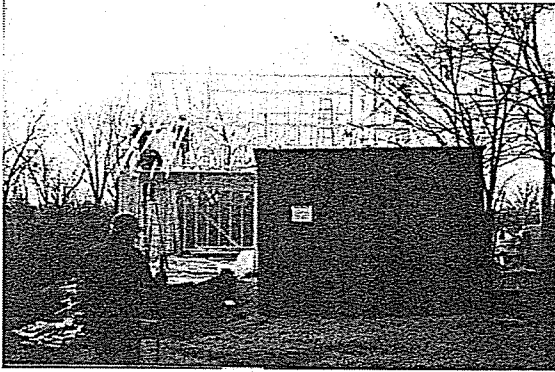
Improvements to our campsite were abundant during the 90's. Starting in 1990, a much needed turnabout gravel road was con-



Troop #660 adds a walkway from Presbyterian Manor to the Redbud Shelter, 1993.

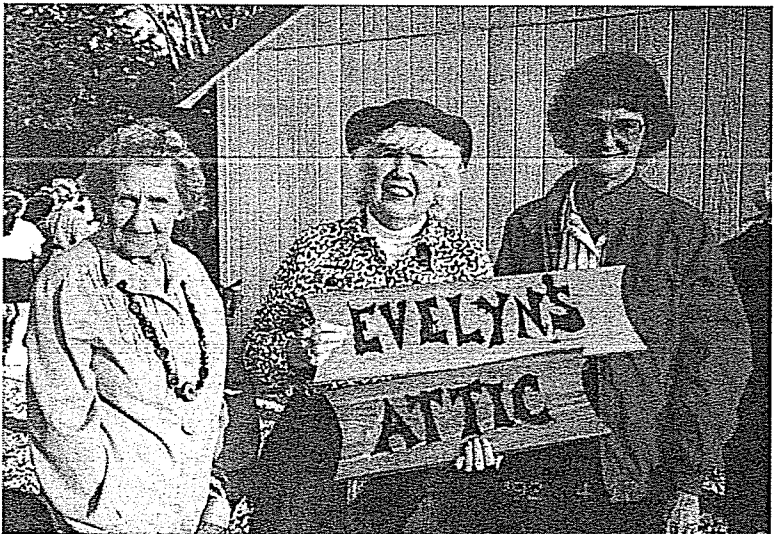
structed right off 15th Street, for \$960. The road, the Committee believed, would decrease many of the traffic problems during day camp. The road was a wise decision. However parking for day camp staff was still an issue, so in 1993, the gravel parking strip north of the cache and east of Flag Pole Hill was added for a cost of \$1,200. In addition to annual unit site renovations, the Site Committee had two bridges built at Mulberry. One created a new access from Mulberry to Flag Pole Hill, while the second connected the Mulberry trail to Arcalooka, where mud was a constant problem.

Presbyterian Manor requested a new access to Hidden Valley. The residents wondered if a gate could be installed in the fence between the two neighbors. Mariana Remple's Mariner Troop 660 built the gate and had it installed in 1993. A concrete path leading to Redbud Shelter was also constructed by the girls. Later in the year, handrails were added for the safety of the residents. This project turned out to be the beginning of a great partnership between Hidden Valley and Presbyterian Manor.



One of the greatest problems that never seemed to have a solution was storage of camping equipment. The old wooden cache east of Flag Pole Hill had outlived its usefulness.

It wasn't large enough, weather-proof, nor adequately lighted. In 1992, the Kaegi Committee was desperate to find a permanent home for their 23 camping tents, tarps, and other supplies, and suggested that they would be willing to donate \$700 to help build a new storage shed at Hidden Valley. The land had to be zoned and platted, which added an extra \$2,388 on top of the costs of a building. Evelyn Lenzen donated the first \$300 for the project. By 1993, the old wooden cache was removed and a new cache, a modular garage, was installed. Additionally, a water line and pump were laid



Dedication of Evelyn's Attic, with Evelyn Lenzen holding the sign.

north of it. The Kaegi Committee ended up paying \$3,000, LHVC paid \$9,560, and private donors gave \$1,000. The building was named Evelyn's Attic to honor Evelyn Lenzen for her service to Hidden Valley.

Arcalooka also experienced many improvements. In 1991, the idea of installing skylights was proposed. The cabin was always too dark, especially in the kitchen. It took two years to accomplish, but thanks to an anonymous donation of \$1,000, the two skylights became a very welcomed improvement. Day camp staff members were thrilled. The fall and winter months presented another problem. Heating the cabin was, at best, difficult. The flue pipe had deteriorated in the fireplace stove that was installed in 1979 and the stove was determined to be a fire hazard. It had to be removed, as it was too expensive to fix. We needed a low cost and efficient source of heat. In 1997, the Board voted to install two propane heaters. Overnight campouts in the cabin became the rage. Now the cabin was a place to hold meetings even during frigid weather.

Discussions of installing electricity in the cabin were hot topics even back in the 1960's when power lines became accessible. Our Founding Mothers felt the cabin should be a primitive area. The additions of running water, a propane stove, and heaters seemed like basic necessities, but most of the Board members felt electricity would only make Arcalooka much too ordinary and the girls would have little understanding of the more self-sufficient lifestyle. The thought of curling irons and hair dryers, not to mention microwave ovens, made advocates of "primitive only" shudder. And then the cry was heard: "It sure would be nice to have lights for our evening meetings." Lanterns of every shape and fuel source had been used over the decades, but none seemed to be adequate. Pulling out a splinter by lantern light was too much of an adventure! Batteries were much too expensive and ran out of power way too soon.

When energy efficient solar panels were available, the Board decided to investigate them. Westar Energy had a volunteer group, known as the Green Team, who performed community service work. The LHVC Board voted to purchase two panels. The Board allocated \$3,000 and the newly formed Friends of Hidden Valley donated \$1,000. In 1999, the Green Team installed them. There was a big dedication party, and Dean Pearson, a representative from Kaw Valley Girl Scout Council attended. Everyone was amazed when he



Arcalooka, crowned with solar panels!



Members of the Western Resources Green Team, who installed the solar panels at Arcalooka, from left, Dave Cowser, Brad Loveless, Will Coon and Tom Cowser.

presented us with a check for \$300 from the Council. A photograph was taken of the four men known as the Green Team, and today hangs on the fireplace wall in Arcalooka cabin. Some scout leaders were disappointed that no electrical outlets were installed, but “keep it primitive” guided this decision.

Spring Fling 1992 was a celebration of the 80th Anniversary of Girl Scouts, the 35th Anniversary of Hidden Valley and a way for girls to earn the new multifaceted “Girl Scouts Care for the Earth” badge. At the event, a time capsule was buried. Unfortunately, again, the location wasn’t adequately recorded, so it hasn’t been found. The good news was 335 girls and 133 adults attended (56% of the Lawrence troops) and it was a huge success. Everyone feasted on a supper of Arcalooka Ham and anniversary cake. The Care for the Earth badge was well earned!

The expansion of Presbyterian Manor in 1986 had some inadvertent effects on Hidden Valley in regard to drainage. Rain water pouring off a huge slab of elevated concrete onto dirt caused erosion problems. As duplexes and more paved parking were added to

the Manor during the years, the erosion and muddy sites expanded. Thankfully, our neighbor responded positively to the Board's concerns and measures were taken to diminish damage to the campsites. Our relationship with the Manor residents was strengthened and the beautiful urban wilderness was preserved..

The beauty of Hidden Valley and its location in the heart of Lawrence made it even more attractive to developers. In 1994, a Wichita grocer asked the Board to enter into a lease agreement for six acres on the southeast corner. The financial offer was tempting, but losing our only access road to the property, the only curb cut, would negatively impact the camp. The only other flat area where a new road could be built was at the lowest elevation point at the camp. Would a gravel road withstand the drainage problems? We would have to relocate Evelyn's Attic, lose Redbud and Mulberry, and clear out trees and bring in dirt to reestablish Flag Pole Hill. The decision to keep the camp "as is" was unanimous. The grocer's request was denied. Requests also came in 1996 from Christ Community Church, on the corner of 15th and Kasold, to buy or share land in order to enlarge their space. In 1999, a request was made to trade Hidden Valley for land near Wells Overlook. Both requests were considered at Board meetings and both were denied.

In the 90s vandalism continued. In May of 1990, vandals broke into the cabin through one of the skylights. A fire extinguisher was removed and its contents dispensed outside. Additionally, ten small cedar trees were destroyed and the latrine was damaged. The insurance report was filed. In 1992, several planks from the bridge at Pioneer Point were torn off and thrown into the creek and part of the north fence was pulled down. The Navy ROTC voluntarily made repairs at Rocky Road and Brookside.

In 1994, Brookside Bridge was burned and made inaccessible and Rocky Road bridge was damaged. The frame of the latrine near Brookside was badly damaged. A police report was filed and a \$100 reward was offered for information leading to identification of the vandals. Neighbors were notified. At school, one of the boys who caused the damage was overheard discussing his exploits to friends. Four students came forth with the boy's name and received \$25 each. The parents of the boy were contacted by the police and it was discovered that the two sons of the family were the perpetra-

tors. The boys were charged in Juvenile Court and restitution in the amount of \$5,942 was made. The boys were also required to perform 30 hours of service at the camp. The latrine was not repaired because the LHVC decided not to spend money on it. So, the vault was filled in and the latrine was removed. Kansas Power and Light donated telephone poles for the rebuilding of the bridge.

Hidden Valley was blessed during the early years to have a large group of volunteers who were willing and able to care for the camp. Mariana Remple, who chaired the Site Committee since the middle 80's, was instrumental in finding volunteers to take on large tasks but struggled to keep up with basic camp maintenance. Forty acres is a lot to manage. Camp sites became overgrown when neglected for even one year, and open spaces like Flag Pole Hill and Mary's Meadow became smaller with encroaching plant growth.

In 1991, the idea of a Friends of Hidden Valley volunteer group was conceived, to broaden support for the camp. A subcommittee was formed in 1992, chaired by Judy Wilson, and began formulating goals and action steps. For several years, names and addresses were gathered in a database, however, membership solicitation was put on hold until after the feasibility study for a new lodge (see next chapter). Results of the study gave the Friends committee new goals, such as more public outreach and fundraising. In 1995, the



Controlled burn of prairie area at Flag Pole Hill, 1999



Scouts planting trees, 1998

Friends co-sponsored their first event, an Open House at the camp in conjunction with Kaw Valley Earth Week celebrations.

By 1996, the Friends Committee had 40 Founding Members, and the first membership drive began that fall. The first Annual Work Day sponsored by the Friends was held on May 3, 1997. As the membership grew, so did the number of workdays. By 2004, the Friends were sponsoring four annual workdays, plus co-sponsoring many special events each year with LHVC, such as Spring Fling and Fall Frolic. Annual solicitation letters were mailed out to names in the Friends' growing database and the membership continued to grow. By 1999, the Friends Board was established, the organization broke away from LHVC, and incorporated. Their mission was to provide a volunteer task force for Hidden Valley Camp, to raise money for large projects and maintenance, and to focus public attention on the camp's usefulness to Girl Scouts, other youth, wildlife and the community as a whole.

The 90's were a time of highly successful Brownie Play Days, Junior Jamborees, and Day Camps. Great strides were made in strengthening the relationship between Kaw Valley Council and the Hidden Valley Board. Girl Scout programming flourished as camp

improvements continued and the Bromelsick Trust provided larger disbursements. The dream of building a Lodge on site came to an end after eight frustrating years. (See next chapter.) Visibility in the community became a new goal and measures were taken, as noted below, to share our successes with the community at large. The following were notable events:

Other Events

- 1990** Bench installed at Southern Shade Shelter in memory of Ed Bishop's sister, Wilma Weidlin.
Jo Barnes began writing a Procedures Manual for the LHVC Board. Troop camping overnight at Arcalooka found four fraternity men asleep on the roof when they awoke the next morning .
Navy ROTC repaired Rocky Road bridge, tore down lat #4 due to an inability to get a "honey dipper" across the bridge, and made other repairs to site.
First issue of "Hidden Valley Happenings," a newsletter for scout leaders published
Red gates installed at entrance to camp
Larry Good hired as architect for the "Lodge"
Wood stove in Arcalooka banned for use this winter, re: city code
Decision made not to allow overnight camping by Brownies
- 1991** Memorial tree planted for Jack Rader, Trust Officer at Lawrence National Bank, who managed the Bromelsick funds. His daughter, Lee, was in Mariana Remple's troop.
Windmill site chosen as location of Lodge
Flag Pole Hill has a controlled burn assisted by Douglas County Extension and Lawrence Fire Department
- 1992** Presbyterian Manor downspouts caused damage to road
Need for Public Relations person on LHVC Board
- 1993** Dora Bice died
Lonesome Pine campsite reopens after it had been abandoned due to overuse and elms dying
- 1994** Presbyterian Manor accepted LHVC's offer of a gate and access to camp
LHVC joined the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce
-

- RMC hired to conduct Feasibility Study for lodge fund-raising.
- 1995** Guided tours of camp conducted during Earth Week Open House
Procedural Manual readied for review by Board
Mission Statement re-approved by Board
Participated in Eagles Day event at downtown mall
- 1996** \$1,000 donated to KVGCS Council for their Capital Campaign
Hidden Valley hosted Chamber of Commerce event
The first membership drive for the Friends of Hidden Valley occurred and ID cards were issued to all new members
Tree planted in memory of children killed by Oklahoma City bomb
- 1997** Office space rented at United Way Building for \$462 per month
Land appraised at \$878,660 by the county
Site Committee restructured to assign members to Reservations, Equipment, Grounds, and Buildings
The need for a storm shelter discussed and researched
Scholarship Committee reorganized to earmark ten percent of the
Bromelsick distribution for financial assistance.
- 1998** Presbyterian Manor built duplexes which caused drainage problems at Osage Orange
New Banners provided for Kansas University Band Day Parade
Purple Leaf Plum tree donated by grandparents of Kajaa Mullenix
Bromelsick party held at Lied Center, 1,200 children in attendance
- 1999** Mary Burchill, Chair of Board, interviewed on KLWN about history of Hidden Valley
Bishop's Glen Trail relocated
Board hired Evelyn Senecal to manage \$50,000 of its savings earmarked for building a Lodge
Key pad lock added to Arcalooka
Karen Warner, board member, surveys eleven troops (119 girls) about their impressions of Hidden Valley. Only 63

percent of the girls had been to Hidden Valley, and most went for day camp. Of the eight Junior and Brownie troops, 33 percent had never been there for a troop event. About 80 percent of the leaders indicated troop usage could be improved if a trained Girl Scout could help them plan a hike, cookout or campout. Most leaders liked organized troop-wide events.

In honor of the 40th anniversary of Arcalooka, a burr oak grove was planted and dedicated to Carolee Drake Martin, who was the 1959 Chair of the Building Committee, and her committee. The grove is southwest of the cabin. Board member, Flora Wyatt, falls through broken planks on Rocky Road Bridge during a work day. Joe and Suzanne Collins hoisted her up as she was clinging to remaining boards avoiding more injury if she had fallen through. A few weeks earlier, a landscaping company had been paid to inspect all bridges.

Joe Collins contacted to conduct a biological survey to learn why Hidden Valley was losing wildlife.

Many archival documents, which had been stored in various locations, were moved to the LHVC office in the United Way building.

Mariana Remple addressed the City Commission with a petition signed by thirty-eight LHVC adult members, requesting "stringent control" of drainage from the Hy-Vee development at 6th and Monterey Way to avoid damage to Hidden Valley.



Scholarships for graduating senior girls who wish to further their education established. Additionally, application forms are developed to award camperships for individual girls and financial assistance for troops .

Carolyn Blaas and Mariana Remple, 1995. Each of these women has a sycamore tree planted in their honor in Mary's Meadow.

The Dream of a Lodge

During the middle 1980's, the need for more storage space escalated. Day Camp equipment was being stored in the cabin taking up space needed by troops who were camping overnight in Arcalooka. The old wooden cache had exceeded its storage limits. A long-term plan for the future was needed. The Board decided that a large building would provide the necessary storage and serve many purposes.

First, they felt the town was continuing to grow and more diverse services were needed beyond camping. Second, the Kaw Valley Council was having difficulty finding a suitable permanent workbase for the Troop Services Director. The proposed building would have an office for the manager and Council could pay us rent. Third, vandalism was a constant problem and if the camp was used more, that might deter vandals. A caretaker could even reside at the building, with reduced rent as payment for services. Fourth, the loss of the cabin at Lone Star Lake was still being felt and the new building would offer more overnight opportunities. And, fifth, the 75th year of Girl Scouting was near.

Curt Finrock, KU Architectural Design II class instructor, contacted the Board about having his 1986 class draw plans for a 1,000 to 1,500 square foot building as their final class project. Under the direction of the Board, the building would include an assembly room, office, restroom, kitchen, and lots of storage. These designs were later presented to the LHVC Board.

In January of 1987, Louise Silber, longtime member of the Hidden Valley Board, delivered the following proposal, the "Consideration of a Building Project at Hidden Valley," which said:

In this, the 75th year of Girl Scouting, we, as scouts and other adults interested in the welfare and development of girls through scouting, are faced by many challenges. One of the major challenges involves the balance between increasing urban and technological influences and the more traditional orientation toward outdoor education. One of the reasons for the continuing success and growth of Girl Scouting has been the development of programs and direction which addresses the changing needs and interests of girls while remaining true to the values which scouting has always represented . . . The strength of our local organization depends in part on the resources which are available in our community and Council which make scouting attractive to girls. Hidden Valley is among these resources and it is our intention to maintain Hidden Valley as a site which can be used by local troops as a resource for learning how to appreciate and care for our fragile environment.

It became apparent over the thirty years that we have had responsibility for the land known as Hidden Valley that in order for (it) to be effectively used for the education and enjoyment of Lawrence Girl Scouts that some changes would have to be made to the site. Development of the site has included improving drainage and inhibiting erosion of the road and creek beds, building and maintenance of trails, bridges, lats, and fire rings, planting of trees and native grasses. An additional improvement to the site is Ar-Ca-Loo-Ka, a building which has served as a gathering area and center of indoor activities at Hidden Valley. All of these improvements have been made for the purpose of providing an appealing and useable site where girls can learn to enjoy and appreciate the outdoors in a natural setting.

Over the past few years, we have attempted to encourage increased use of Hidden Valley by local troops and have been successful in that regard. However, we hear frequently from leaders of older girls that the area would be much more useable if a more modern indoor shelter were available for the girls to use in case of emergency or inclement weather. We hear from the leaders of younger girls who would like to provide a secure and relatively comfortable camping experience that electricity and indoor plumbing would make the transition to outdoor life more appealing to the girls and that successful early experiences are vital to a continuing interest and love of the outdoors.

It is the opinion of the Site Development Committee that the construction and maintenance of a new building at the Hidden Valley site is an appropriate development, which would enhance the value of Hidden Valley as a resource to the Girl Scouts of Lawrence. We believe that this facility should be equipped with electricity and running water, a kitchen, resource library, office area, storm shelter and adequate storage to contain the equipment needed for Hidden Valley maintenance and programs.

In January of 1987, the Board was instructed to gather data through a Needs Assessment Survey from all adult (over age 14) registered Girl Scouts. This data was given to the KU architecture class. The estimates for the building (which will be referred to as the Lodge) ranged from \$40,000 to \$60,000.

On May 20, 1987, the Site Committee was contacted by the Topeka Seabees who offered volunteer work and asked them to prepare the yet to be determined site and construct a 1,900 square foot building. In June of 1987 a wish list was developed and design criteria was sent to Finrock. He was asked to prepare construction documents for a \$75,000 Lodge. The Wish List that was derived from the Needs Assessment Study included: an assembly room, classroom, office, bathroom, kitchen, showers, storage vestibule, porches and storm shelter. Finrock's fee would be \$7,500.

In May of 1988, Finrock moved to Chicago and the Site Committee had to start all over. By July, a timetable was set to choose a new designer and design through August, raise money from Sep-

tember on, use Seabees to break ground in March of 1989, raise the framework in April, and finish by June.

What went wrong? According to the records of the LHVC Board, a "basic rift developed within the Building Committee. Our Needs Assessment and Board discussions emphasized the *separation* of the lodge building from the camp activities. We needed an Urban center, meeting place, and storage facility to replace increasingly rare, and expensive usable space in the community. We also recognized changes in the feasible use of the camp for overnight camping, because of its proximity to an increasing number of people." One committee member "would work only on a project to increase the numbers and quality of camping services available to campers." Then in September of 1988, the Seabees backed out of the project asking to do multiple smaller ones.

In the fall of 1988, KU architecture students were given another project of the proposed lodge under instructor Steve Padgett. By January, Ann Walton, serving on the Building Committee, investigated projected land-use patterns, consequences of platting and zoning decisions, appraisals, surveys, and costs involved. By May of 1989, Landplan Engineering was chosen to do the preliminary plat and survey. Their study indicated that the development of the land, depending on the site that was chosen, would run high, between \$40,000 and \$100,000. Additional cost would be about \$600 for platting and \$800 for zoning. At this time discussion arose about the possibility of selling some land to raise the money. The Board decided the next move would be to hire Landplan to do a survey to have better site development cost estimates.

In September, Louise Silber reported on a meeting she had with Rosemary Kurtz, Kaw Valley Girl Scout Council Executive Director, concerning the building project. The following three points were challenging developments:

1. The proposed caretaker option (at the building) may jeopardize Hidden Valley's tax exempt status.
2. Proposed move of Workbase to new building would need the vote of the entire Association. Kurtz felt the Hidden Valley location was not convenient and could present a hardship to many.
3. Council would write a statement in support of our fundraising campaign if the LHVC would refrain from approaching foundations the Council was planning to contact for their own Capital Campaign.

The Board did not feel this information should deter their progress. In November, the Board began to discuss income projections from Workbase rental, confident this could be negotiated with Council, and investigated insurance and maintenance costs. The thought of fund raising was ever prevalent, but little had been done to begin the process. At this time, the Board considered a "phased plan" for building. The project could be undertaken in stages over an extended period of time as funds were acquired. Phase 1 would be the parking lots and curb cut, Phase 2 was building a shell with roof, walls and floor, Phase 3 would add heat and plumbing, and Phase 4 would be finishing the interior. Convinced that fund raising would be doable in Lawrence, the Board wrote up a timetable that platted, surveyed, chose a design, developed blueprints, raised funds, and then constructed the building. Still, there was no plan for fund development.

In January of 1990, the Board selected the site near the old windmill with close proximity to 15th St. Landplan was contacted to do further surveying and site planning. Landplan surveyed a 250 foot by 250 foot building site. They estimated the cost of developing the windmill site was \$31,300 and \$39,550 for the parking lot, with a possibility of \$50,000 for a stricter city code requirement. The fees for the site survey were \$2,540. The Fund Raising Committee was activated.

In September of 1990, three architects were selected to submit bids and proposals. By November, the bid from Lawrence Good and Associates for architectural fees of \$14,700 was accepted. The Board rethought their initial goal of acquiring a new building for \$90,000. In January of 1991, Larry Good was paid \$750 to begin a preliminary design. The Building Committee worked with the design team to build a "Dream Lodge" with no regard at this time for cost. What would the cost be for the ideal building? Then, the committee could scale it down to fit their budget. The committee now felt this Lodge should be 5,500 square feet. Landplan felt a 14,000 sq. ft. parking lot was needed and site infrastructure costs at the windmill site were estimated to be about \$100,000. Board member Glenn Kappelman stressed the need for a funding committee to investigate grants, fund raisers, etc. A Fund Development Committee was formed. Glenn Kappelman met with KU Endowment and obtained great suggestions for fund raising.

The Building Committee members were unwavering in their belief that the windmill was the best site. Suggestions to build at Flag Pole Hill were carefully considered but rejected. Their decision was that the windmill site would necessitate fewer changes in the current use of the camp and have a lesser impact on the camp as a whole. It would also cause minimal disruption of vegetation and wildlife. It could be seen from 15th St. and provide a visible presence of Girl Scouts in the community.

As the Building Committee continued to work with Good and Associates, they also looked at the cost of maintaining the Lodge. The estimated annual cost of utilities could be \$2,700, insurance would run between \$3,000 - \$4,000, and basic upkeep at \$3,400. The Committee recommended the "establishment of an endowment fund to provide for the cost of building ownership." The Board voted in January of 1992 to explore a feasibility study for raising adequate funds for the Lodge and contacted several professional companies. Four firms were contacted and the cost of the studies ranged from \$10,000 to \$12,000. Because they thought this was too much money to spend, the Board voted to table the formal feasibility study. Instead, the Fund Raising Committee could contact key people to assess their attitudes.

In September of 1992, Louise Silber resigned from the Board due to other demands for her time. She hoped that the Board would "get some assistance for funding for the Lodge... and felt that there was a need for fund raisers and planners." By the end of 1992, more than \$10,000 had been spent on the building project. Two more Board members tendered their resignations during the year. The Building Committee stopped meeting until the Funding Committee could develop a plan. High turnover in Board membership, including three newly elected positions during the year, made it difficult to carry on with the project.

In February of 1993, Larry Good was asked to consider a smaller design. In March, the Board determined what the primary needs for the Lodge would be. First: troop meeting space, second: space for training of adult leaders, third: office for the KVGSC workbase, and fourth: storage for tents, training materials, day camp gear, and archives.

The Fund Development committee reported in September, that it did not have the contacts, the manpower, or the time to conduct

a feasibility study. Grants could not be requested until the exact amount of money that was needed to build the Lodge was determined. The Board moved to set \$500,000 as the goal for a capital fund drive and \$500,000 as a goal for an endowment fund drive. The Board also moved to contact companies to do the feasibility study and also talked about a second cache to solve the storage problem. Two firms were contacted about the feasibility study and were interviewed in November.

By March of 1994, a new Building Committee was formed when the design and model for the Lodge was rendered with projected costs of \$760,000 for the Dream Lodge. Now, the task at hand was to put all efforts into scaling down the costs to a reasonable and possible figure and begin fund raising.

Also in March of 1994, Bill Gaut of RMC was hired to conduct the feasibility study for a fee of \$8,200. The first task was to develop a Needs Assessment Questionnaire with a cover letter which would be mailed to various city leaders, government officials, Lawrence civic leaders, Kaw Valley Girl Scout Council management, and the Hidden Valley constituency made up of Girl Scout representatives of Douglas County. The purpose of the Study was "to provide a basis of acquired knowledge and information on attitudes, opinions, beliefs, and perceptions about Hidden Valley in order to enhance decision and policy making responsibilities." The Building Committee worked directly with Gaut to acquaint him with Hidden Valley and its unique relationship to Girl Scouts. The appropriate questions to ask were developed and on June 16, 1994, Gaut mailed the questionnaires. He also scheduled personal interviews with community leaders whom the Fund Development Committee had determined were possible sources of future monetary gifts.

The Feasibility Study Report was submitted in August of 1994. The first sentence of the Executive Summary was, "At this time, it is not feasible for Hidden Valley to launch a capital campaign." The report went on to say, "The public perception of Hidden Valley is Girl Scouts. Therefore, any fund raising would have to come from the Girl Scout constituency. To create a capital campaign referring to Girl Scouts, approval must be obtained from the KVGSC." If agreement is reached with the Council, the estimated amount that could be raised from the Hidden Valley constituency would be approximately \$250,000 with five year pledges. The conclusion was

reached from data gained from 144 community leaders and those who were identified as the Hidden Valley constituency.

Some of the statements made by the 42 who were interviewed were:

“Never heard of it. I thought that this property belonged to the Girl Scouts.”

“Don’t see this as a project that rises to the top of community priorities. It is not a community need.”

“If you ask the parents of the Girl Scouts, they do not think of Hidden Valley. No one knows of a different organization that is supporting the Girl Scouts. The Hidden Valley Committee is a mystery.”

“Girl Scouts have not been successful in raising money around here. They serve the more affluent. Our needs are for the low income areas.”

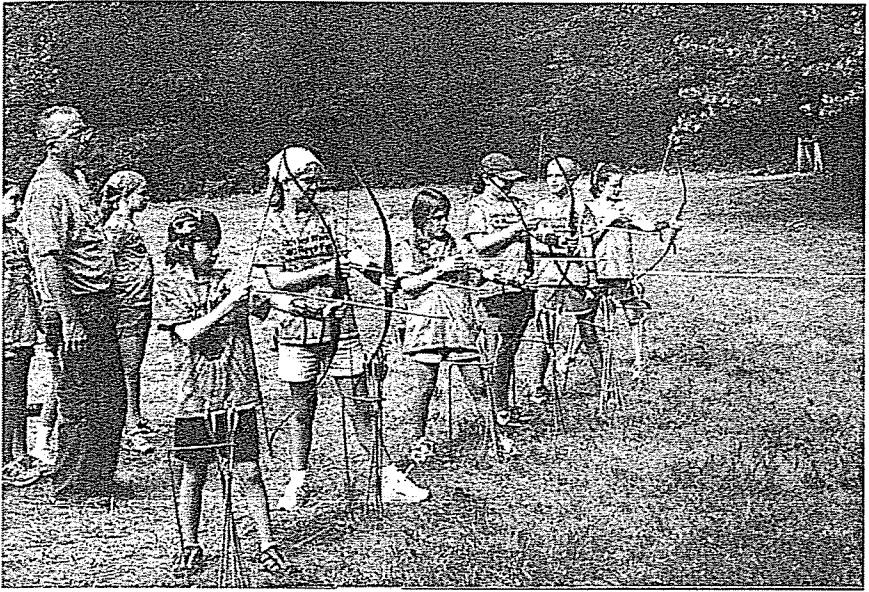
The study found that there was strong opinion among those surveyed that:

- Competition for fund raising is sharp.
- Hidden Valley’s relationship to Girl Scouts is not understood
- The proposed Urban Lodge is not considered a community priority; therefore, any fund raising must be conducted within Hidden Valley’s constituency.
- Open space within the community is perceived to be well-planned by the Parks and Recreation Dept.
- Hidden Valley’s 40-acre location is in an affluent neighborhood; therefore, it does not serve the low-income areas where the need exists for community type centers.
- Girl Scouts in general serve the middle- to upper-income families who can provide many opportunities for their children.

Gaut suggested, “Hidden Valley must show the marketplace, through its actions and its public relations, that it can produce results worthy of support. All of HV’s decisions must be guided by its

stated responsibility. To manage the corporation and to provide supplementary support to the Girl Scout movement.”

The Dream of a Lodge came to an abrupt end. The Board set out immediately to become more visible in the Lawrence community. Examples were given in the 1990's section of this book. Many members of the former Building Committee and the LHVC still feel the Lodge would be a great resource for Hidden Valley. The idea may resurface again. And if it does, the lessons we learned from the past endeavor will guide us toward making the goal successful.



2000-2006

The decade of the 2000s is marked by a strong emphasis on looking back to preserve the rich history of Hidden Valley, on experiencing its present wealth of flora and fauna as one of Lawrence's unique locations - an urban wildlife area - and on looking forward to ensuring its viability under the stable stewardship of hundreds of volunteers. In the first six years of this decade, Board members of both the Hidden Valley Committee, Inc, and the Friends of Hidden Valley, Inc, have demonstrated a keen sense of responsibility to protect this valuable resource for the girls of Douglas County, Kansas.

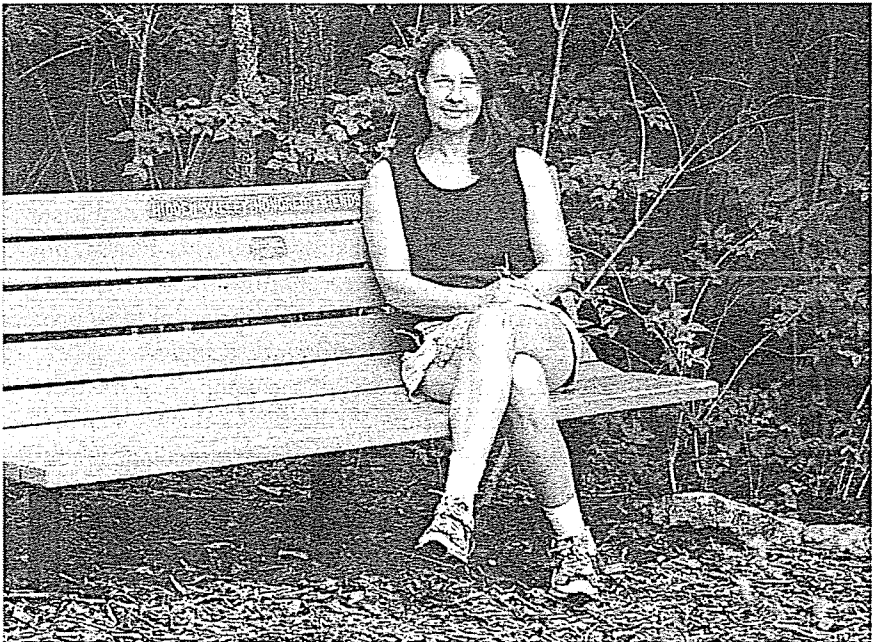
Preservation of both archival records and of the camp were major concerns at the turn of the century. A permanent home for the Hidden Valley Archives was established at the University of Kansas Kansas Collection located in the Spencer Research Library. A portion of the archives remain at the H.D. Remple home where Mary Jo Mensie, Ellyn Owen, Lynne Bodle and Jean Martin have spent many hours organizing them. Carol Francis, Carolee Martin, Martha Rose, Dora Bice, Mary Hall, Sue Dary and Marguerite Bishop have added their historical records to the collection as well.

Preservation of the camp itself then needed to be addressed. Vandalism

of the latrines and Arcalooka cabin prompted a request to the police and to Hidden Valley's neighbors to keep a closer watch on the camp. The Friends implemented a Hiking Procedures Brochure for its members to follow. In response to the vandalism, the hiking system evolved into a successful Hiking Patrol program to help monitor the camp and deter vandalism.

Gwen MacPherson became the site chair the year following Mariana Remple's death in September of 2000. She diligently learned all she could about the camp, and wrote a comprehensive Site Manual with the help of Mariana's draft. By the end of the year she was convinced the position of managing the camp was too time-consuming and demanding for a volunteer, which led to discussion for the need for a site maintenance caretaker. By 2002 a site manager, Durand Reiber, was contracted for a 1-year trial period at \$8,000 per year. Four years later, at the current salary of \$8,400 per year, the position is well-established and integral to the successful daily operation of Hidden Valley Camp.

During this decade, phenomenal growth of new sites occurred at the Camp. The Friends of Hidden Valley established the Memorial Butterfly Garden southeast of Arcalooka Cabin, in honor of both Terrell Malott Gra-



Durand Reiber, Hidden Valley Site Manager



Our beautiful Brookside Bridge, rebuilt by older girls in 2002.

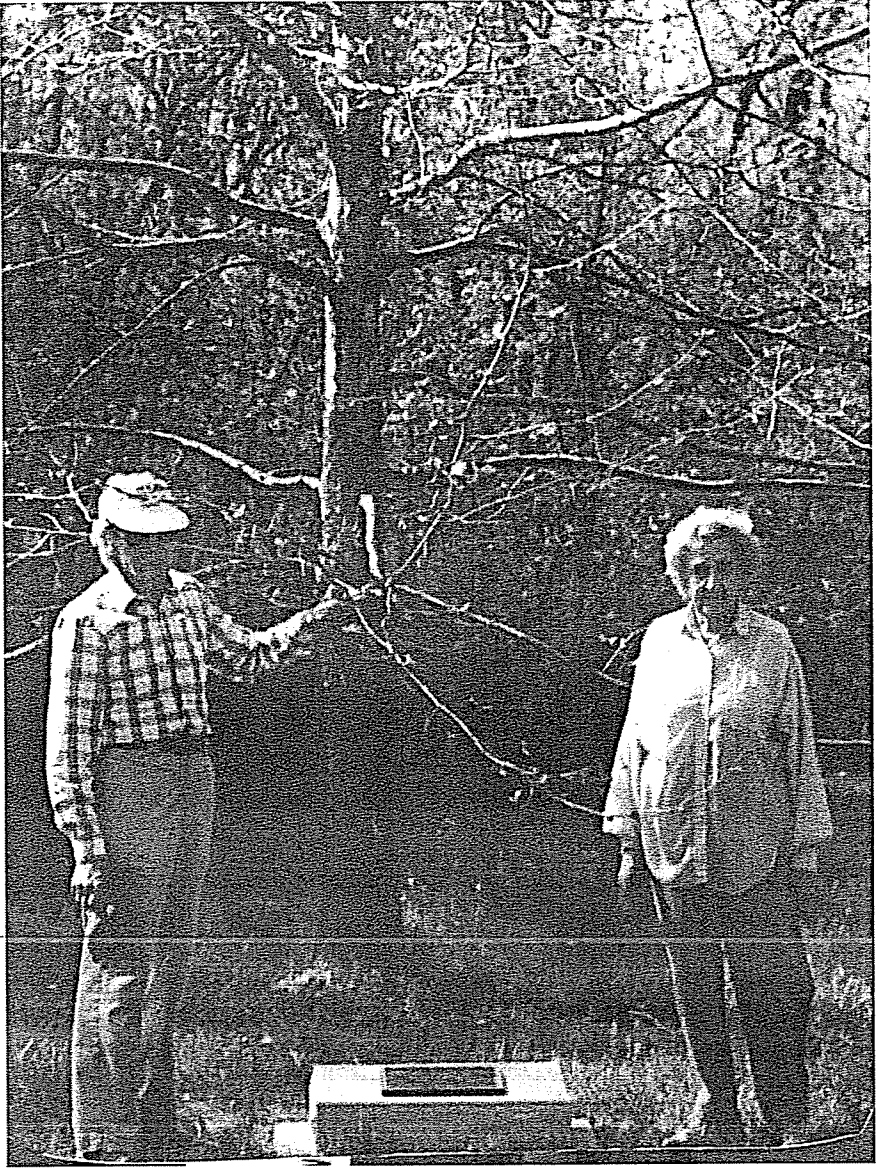
ham, well-known for her floral plantings at Hidden Valley and Bishop Seabury Academy, and Ruth Fauhl, naturalist and Girl Scout leader.

An exciting addition to Hidden Valley, Adventure Programming, provided girls with a new experience to challenge their leadership skills and their physical boundaries. Taking less than a year from the initial proposal to the completion of a Beginning Level Adventure Course, it can be set up in Mary's Meadow for camp events, including day camp.

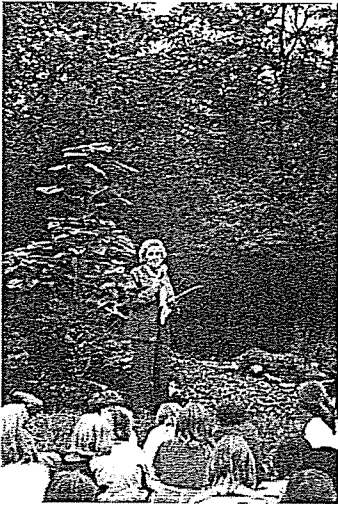
Two new fire ring sites were established: O-ga-na-li (meaning "My Friend"), near Flag Pole Hill and the Gathering Space, in Mary's Meadow; while two remote western fire ring sites were reclaimed in this decade: Thorn Hill and Cherokee Look-out. An abandoned unit site, Lonesome Pine was moved and restored by Mariner Troop 660. The marshy southwest corner of Mary's Meadow was an ideal site for a wetland, aptly named The Vernal Pond. Friends of Hidden Valley's Bob Russell and his crew constructed a berm and then let nature take its course. In its first full year of use, the Vernal Pond is one of the most popular teaching sites for the girls and the adults.

The number of construction and maintenance projects was equally impressive in the first half of the decade, aided in large part by the significant contribution of labor and funds by the Friends of Hidden Valley, Inc.

Construction included a new bridge over Brookside Creek, built by older scouts under the direction of Gwen MacPherson; a Universally Accessible



Henry D. and Mariana Remple, near the sycamore planted for her in Mary's Meadow.



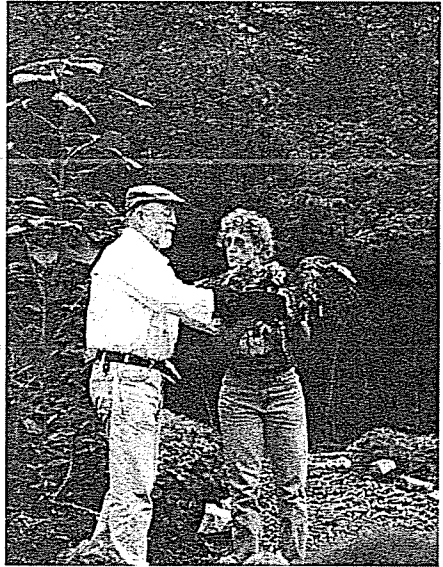
Mariana Remple at the dedication of the Friends Memorial Butterfly Garden, 2000

trines, repairing barbed and rail fencing, controlling erosion, run-off and pollution near streams, filling in and plugging the well, taking down and disposing of the windmill, repairing the broken water hydrant outside Arcalooka, repairing the heaters in the cabin, overlaying a new roof at Southern Shade, removing the huge brush pile from Mary's Meadow, removing a significant amount of poison ivy, purchasing gravel to grade roads and parking areas, installing 2 wind turbines on Evelyn's Attic,

Composting Toilet (UACT) located directly west of Arcalooka cabin, picnic tables added to the gathering place in Mary's Meadow, a bench in the Butterfly Garden which honors those Friends who have made significant contributions to Hidden Valley Camp, and Memorial Markers in Mary's Meadow, honoring two founders, Mariana Remple and Carolyn Blaas.

Maintenance projects included replacing the fascia boards and roof on Redbud Shelter, the City of Lawrence covering exposed sewer pipe with concrete, repairing Rocky Road footbridge, painting the entrance gates red, emptying the la-

Joe Collins, Friends board member, and Nancy Schwarting, of Wild Care, release a red tail hawk.



clearing fence and installing new fencing along the west and north boundaries of camp, converting latrine #2 into a storage shed, and posting NO TRESPASSING signs.

The sheer numbers of projects listed above resulted from the hard work of many dedicated volunteers working to continually improve the girls' outdoor experiences. Funds for the improvements continued to come from the Bromelsick Trust, from grants, and from a \$10,000 gift from an anonymous donor.

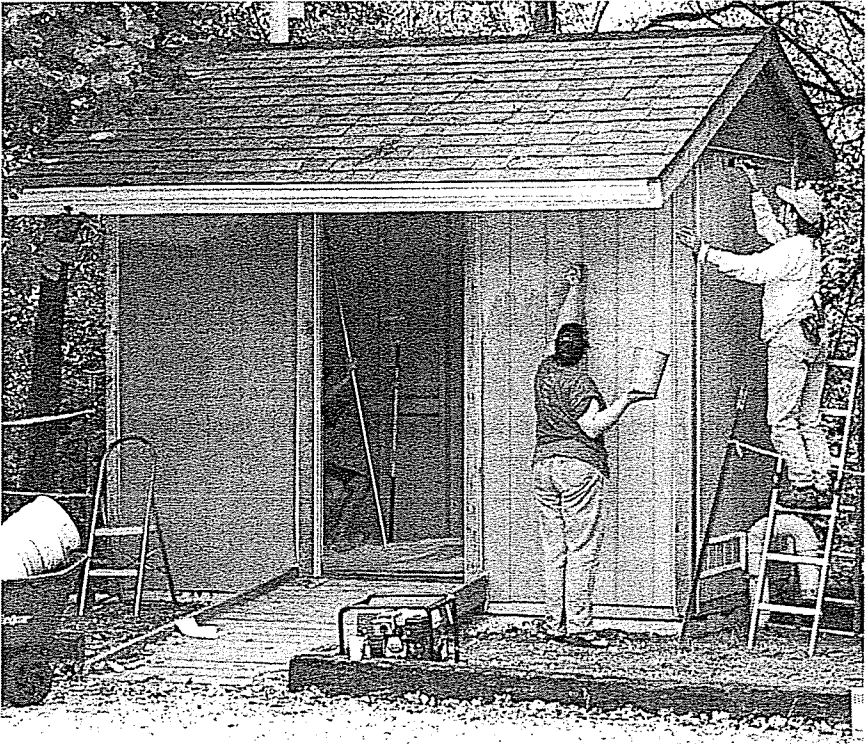
In addition, a Hidden Valley Committee-initiated Task Force Study surveyed the Girl Scouts of Douglas County to determine where our efforts and dollars should be expended. Overwhelmingly, the responses indicated that our labor and our finances were to be used to keep, improve, and enjoy Hidden Valley Camp. In 2003, 3,603 individuals visited the camp; in 2004 visitors numbered 3,572 and in 2005 there were 4,656 visitors to camp. Not counted are Presbyterian Manor residents who regularly hike the camp.

Lawrence's growth also continued to impact Hidden Valley. The City's expansion placed the camp in the middle of the city; changing it from an outside-the-city-limits campsite to a true urban wildlife area, complete with wild turkeys, bobcats, coyotes, red foxes, and deer. The steady growth continued to impact re-occurring issues: the necessity for a storm shelter, the redrawing of camp maps, the efforts of STREAMLINK to check erosion and health of streams, the changing use of phone communication – from pay phones, to calling cards, and currently to cell phones. Communicating news of our virtual campsite with the city of Lawrence was enhanced via the link to the Lawrence Public Library's CyberVillage website to our own www.lawrencehiddenvalley.org and www.friendshv.org websites.

The idea of leasing space for a cell phone tower and the income the camp would receive from this partnership, as well as the availability of the Church property at the southeast corner of Bob Billings Parkway and Kasold Drive, have been recent items of discussion. And of course the city of Lawrence continues to march west. What has quite literally become Lawrence's true "Central Park" may one day be known as East Lawrence's native prairie campground.

Other Events:

- 2000** Ruth Fahl died. Ruth established the Sumac campsite and along with Mary Hall, compiled the "Summer Bird List of Hidden Valley".
Hidden Valley sponsored a display at Douglas County's "Eagle Days".
Boy Scouts decided to spend *only* \$1000 from on the annual Bromelsick Christmas Party, given each year for Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and 4-H youth. The will requires 25% of the distribution be spent on the party each year.
KU's Kansas Biological Survey of Kansas conducts an inventory of Hidden Valley to update the bird and plant lists, at the request of Mariana Remple.
Friends of Hidden Valley suggest adding bird feeding stations, bluebird and bat boxes.
\$400 allocated for new hand-made Kansas University Band Day Parade banners.
Bird released by Wildcare
Mariana Remple suffered a stroke on Sept. 17, on the way home from a Hidden Valley workday. She died on Sept. 19, and on Oct. 22 a Memorial Service was conducted at Hidden Valley.
United Way storage space subleased when Spencer Research Library space is approved to hold Hidden Valley archival materials.
-
- 2001** \$3.00 previously charged to scouting troops for using Hidden Valley is eliminated. Tiered fee structure for other groups is created.
Hidden Valley Committee Board manuals updated.
A financial review was conducted, which included records from July 1, 1999 to August 31, 2001.
- 2002** Guest book is placed in Arcalooka cabin so users could contribute to a written record of who uses the cabin and for what events.
Three \$300.00 Hidden Valley Merit Scholarships awarded from Bromelsick Trust Funds.
Changed phone provider in Arcalooka cabin. Need to use calling code or calling card.
-



Putting the finishing touches on our Universally Accessible Composting Toilet

Neighbors on Hidden Valley's west side are concerned about dead trees and overgrowth, leading to a large and costly fence clearing project.

Discussion of "Big Bear" area to allow older girls to practice this type of camping with a site to be recommended. Crack in tank of Latrine #2 led to abandonment due to underground contamination concerns. Friends, with the help of volunteers, remodeled the latrine to make a tool equipment shed.

Water well renovation in progress.

Marguerite Lockwood died March 19th.

Website development continued.

Kaegi Funds—over \$15,000 is distributed in the last 25 years.

- 2003** Discussion of creating shared website with Friends of Hidden Valley, Inc.
Controlled burn discussed. A forester visited site and recommended against controlled burn in wooded areas.
Possibility of storing mariner troop's canoe rack at Hidden Valley discussed. Not done.
Funds moved in American Express Financial portfolio investments.
Pay phone is removed from Arcalooka. Troop leaders are told to bring personal cell phones on outings and overnights.
Friends host Wildlife Diversity Day on May 10, 2003, and several hundred people attend for a day of fun and learning about the wildlife that lives at Hidden Valley.
Insurance provider stated that only registered Girl Scouts and others who are working to benefit the camp can now use Hidden Valley, changing the open policy the camp had for 48 years.
Letters are sent to neighbors of Hidden Valley Camp stating that only those who are authorized (who have a connection to the camp, through scouting, Friends, etc.) are welcome to use Hidden Valley.
- 2004** Attendance at Annual Bromelsick Christmas Party decreased to 700. The Committee decided to plan a more participatory party next year: a party at the Lawrence Indoor Aquatic Center.
Grants are received from Kriz Foundation: \$8,000 for a composting toilet and \$5,000 for new perimeter fencing. Rice Foundation granted \$2,000 to Hidden Valley to be used for fencing and the composting toilet.
Review of commercial property and general liability insurance issues conducted.
Lucy Remple McAllister presented a portrait of her mother, Mariana Remple, for placement in Arcalooka cabin. Portraits of Dora Bice, Carolee Martin, and Mary Hall are future planned gifts. Following Mariana's wishes, Lucy designed and oversaw commissioning of a bronze plaque honoring Arcalooka. In a dedication ceremony, the plaque is installed on the western outside wall of Arcalooka.

Green Thumb Garden Club donated \$100.00 for a maple tree, replacing the dead, large elm near the Ceremonial Fire Ring. The Tree was dedicated at Spring Fling 2004, in honor of the 50th anniversary of Girls Scouts of Kaw Valley Council.

Meeting with forester to discuss woods health and management. Non-native species such as honeysuckle are taking over the woods. Forester also determined there is not enough leaf litter to support a controlled burn.

Meeting to discuss the relationship between Friends of Hidden Valley, Inc and Hidden Valley Committee, Inc. Archive Committee ready to deliver first load of historical documents to Spencer Research Library.

Motion to Douglas County District Court to interpret terms of the Bromelsick Trust with regard to the stipulation of 25% of funds to be distributed for the Annual Bromelsick Christmas Party.

Site visit by Friends members to Boy Scout's Camp Bromelsick to see new shelter and outhouse and discuss how it was funded. Friends considering proposing shelter project to LHVC, to ease heavy use of cabin and Southern Shade Shelter and increase camp usage to the west.

Task Force activated to assess whether Hidden Valley is meeting the needs of Girl Scouts in Douglas County.

- 2005** Honoree bench is installed in the Butterfly Garden. Durand Reiber and Ellyn Owen are first two honorees
Property Valuation for 2005: \$933,400.

Website is operational at www.lawrencehiddenvally.org. Friends of Hidden Valley, Inc to raise funds for an endowment with consent of Hidden Valley Committee, Inc. Marguerite Bishop died and memorial contributions were made to the LHVC.

- 2006** Planning for the 50th Anniversary of Hidden Valley began with events scheduled throughout the year:
"Get Spiffy for the 50!"—a clean-up day of work projects to ready the camp for a community Open House.
At day camp 2006, the girls and leaders buried a time capsule near the gathering place in Mary's Meadow. This time, very specific instructions for locating the capsule

were written down and included in LHVC records.

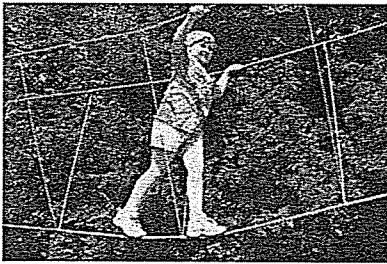
“Honoree Dinner”—recognition of volunteers who have greatly contributed to the treasure we know as Hidden Valley.

“Birthday Bash”—an Open House to show off Hidden Valley to the citizens of Lawrence.

The First 50-Years historical booklet is written and an oral history video is produced

Celia Miller, mounted troop leader, died, and a memorial to Hidden Valley was established.

Proposal for trading land on the western border of Hidden Valley for the church property at Bob Billings Parkway (15th St.) and Kasold Drive is discussed with church property owner Garth Terlizzi. Proposal is not accepted. T-Mobile made an offer to construct a tower NW of the entrance to Hidden Valley. A five year contract for \$1,000 per month was proposed.



On the rope bridge at daycamp, 2006.

The Vernal Pond, established by Friends of Hidden Valley in 2006



A Tribute

We would not be celebrating the 50th year anniversary of Hidden Valley if it were not for those women who worked so hard from 1956 through 1959 to realize a vision.

Those of us who enjoy Hidden Valley in 2006 owe a large debt of gratitude to them.

We also are indebted to the many, many people who have helped make Hidden Valley Camp a Lawrence treasure. Those designated as Hidden Valley Camp Honorees' were recognized at a Dinner on September 7, 2006 and included the following men and women:

Betty Alderson
Opal Allison
Hazel Anderson
Jo Barnes
Mary Alice Barr
Sandra Berman
Ed Bishop
Lynne Bodle
Mary Burchill
Janis Bunker
Debra Burns
Sue Dary
Sandy Dolezal
Carol Francis
Rebecca Gant
Christine Graves
Phoebe Godwin
Nancy Hawkins
Evelyn Leitzen
Gwen MacPherson
Jean Martin
Ralena McCurdy
Mary Jo Mensie
Lori Michel
LaVonne Nauman
Ellyn Owen
David Owen
Mary Kay Ridgway
Mary Beth Petr
Durand Reiber
Henry D. Remple
Cindy Riling

Ronna Robertson
Robin Robertson
Martha Rose
Janiece Scribner
Louise Smith
Lucy Smith
John Solbach
Mary Kay Stephens
Karen Warner
Marcia West
Judy Wilson

In Memoriam:

Marilyn Ainsworth
Dora Bice
Bob Billings
Marguerite Bishop
Carolyn Blaas
Ruth Fahl
Delores Haas
Mary Hall
Emily Latimer
Margarite Lockwood
Carolee Martin
Celia Miller
Jack Rader
Mariana Remple
Anna Stouffer

No history of Hidden Valley Camp would be complete without a special mention of Mariana Remple. One of her former scouts, Teresa Bratton Peterson, from Mariner Troop 660, wrote this in a letter to the Lawrence Journal-World, soon after Mariana died on Sept. 19, 2000:

“Being a Mariner Girl Scout of Troop 660 was one of the most important times of my life, and the things she (Mariana) taught me and the friendships I made are still as strong today. . . I remember her enthusiasm, the smile on her face and the sparkle in her eyes, her passion for Girl Scouting and for life, her “can do” attitude . . . but most importantly her family and their involvement; Henry D., Lucy, her love for them and all her extended family of “daughters.”

Someone had to lead the charge for Hidden Valley, and Mariana pushed and pulled all of us to where we are today, the proud caretakers of a wonderful camp, a place where many memories have been made and will continue to be made. To say that we are all lucky to have this place is very much an understatement. We are blessed.

Looking Forward

As the caretakers of this property and as Girl Scouts, we are constantly presented with new challenges and opportunities to expand our horizons and dream our dreams. The Lawrence Hidden Valley Committee Inc. and Friends of Hidden Valley Inc. leave you with this: To the next 50 years . . . at Hidden Valley Camp!

**Lawrence Hidden Valley Committee elected
members from 2000 to 2006**

Lynne Bodle	Kris Hernamson	Gayle Sigurdson
Jackie Bogner	Judy Inverarity	Susan Sloop
Adra Burks	Jean Jamison	Lisa Spencer
Anna Callan	Karen Lewis	Tom Squier
Mary Elizabeth	Jeannie McClure	Terrie Summers
Debicki	Gwen Macpherson	Audrey Taylor
Cindy Dunham	Sandra Moran	Lissa Terry
Tammy Galloway	Mary Beth Petr	Marcia West
Rebecca Gant	Cindy Riling	Lauren Yoshinobu
Christine Graves		Buskirk
Lori Hanson		Lily Yu

**Friends of Hidden Valley, Inc. Board members
2000 - 2006**

Cris Bandle	Robin Robertson
Joe Collins	Robert Russell
Suzanne Collins	Nancy Schwarting
Jill Giele	Margaret Townsend
Lorene Mosser	Karen Warner
Ellyn Owen	Judy Wilson
David Reber	Flora Wyatt
Durand Reiber	

**Lawrence Girl Scout
Committee elected
members in the 50's.**

Mrs. Donald (Betty)
Alderson
Mrs. Morgan (Opal)
Allison
Mrs. Irwin (Irene) Baird
Mrs. Dora Bice
Mrs. Arthur Colburn
Mrs. Edward (Louise)
Cook
Mrs. Donald Dowers
Mrs. Leon (Eva) Gilkerson
Mrs. Ernest Haas
Mrs. E.R. (Mary) Hall
Mrs. Dean Kerkman
Mrs. H.V. (Emily) Latimer
Mrs. Robert (Marguerite)
Lockwood
Mrs. W.M. (Carolee)
Martin
Mrs. Carl (Pat) Overstreet
Mrs. John Reardon
Mrs. H.D. (Mariana)
Remple
Mrs. E.B. (Anna) Stouffer
Mr. Norman White
Mrs. Warren (Jan) Zwink

**Lawrence Girl Scout
Committee elected
members in the 60's.**

Mrs. Donald (Betty)
Alderson
Mrs. Morgan (Opal)
Allison
Mrs. Lowry (Hazel)
Anderson
Mrs. Raymond (Frieda)
Anderson
Mrs. Jo Barnes
Mrs. L.E. (Dora) Bice
Mrs. John Clyatt
Mrs. Phyllis Cuzzort
Mrs. Irene Davis
Mrs. Donald Dowers

Mrs. Marshall (Ruth)
Fauhl
Mrs. George W. (Carol)
Francis
Mrs. Ernest (Delores) Haas
Mrs. E.R. (Mary) Hall
Mr. Dixon Haught
Mrs. Kenneth (Evelyn)
Lenzen
Mrs. Robert (Marguerite)
Lockwood
Mrs. Mehl (Freda) Logan
Mrs. W.M. (Carolee)
Martin
Mrs. Galen (Celia) Miller
Mrs. Vaughn Nelson
Mrs. Dan (Mary
K.) Palmquist
Mrs. Calder (Nola) Pickett
Mr. J.R. Pulliam
Mrs. John Reardon
Mrs. H.D. (Mariana)
Remple
Mrs. Robb
Mrs. Jack (Martha) Rose
Mrs. Robert (Harriet)
Schoen
Mr. William R. Scott
Mrs. Sneegas
Mrs. B. L. (Ethel) Stewart
Mrs. C. E. (Jo Anne) Van
Hoesen

Mr. Norman White
Mrs. George Wilson

**Lawrence Girl Scout
Committee elected
members in the 70's.**

Mrs. Bev Akins
Mrs. Donald (Betty)
Alderson
Mrs. Elodee Anderson
Mrs. Jo Barnes
Mary Alice Barr
Mrs. L.E. (Dora) Bice
Mrs. Ed (Marguerite)
Bishop

Mrs. Lynn Bodel
Mr. Bob (R) Candlin
Mrs. Ann Chappell
Miss Liz Coleman
Miss Betty Sue Cross
Mrs. David (Sue) Dary
Miss Karen Dixon
Mrs. Marshall (Ruth)
Fauhl
Mrs. Erma Fisher
Mrs. Phillip (Phoebe)
Godwin
Mrs. Barbara Haile
Mrs. E.R. (Mary) Hall
Mrs. Paul Harner
Mrs. John (Martha)
Langley
Mrs. Kenneth (Evelyn)
Lenzen
Mrs. Leander (Marguerite)
Lohrenz
Mr. Stephen Matthews
Mrs. Richard (Nancy)
McClanathan
Mrs. Lori Michel
Mrs. C.O. (LaVonne)
Nauman
Mrs. Georgia Orchard
Mrs. David (Ellyn) Owen
Mrs. Nancy Prosser
Mrs. Ronna Robertson
Mrs. Jack (Martha) Rose
Mrs. Dale (Jo) Scannell
Mrs. Joe (Janiece) Scribner
Mrs. (Lucy) Smith
Mrs. Mary Kay Stephens
Mrs. Shere Stoner
Mrs. James (Geneva)
Swartzel
Mrs. Karla Vicary
Mrs. Karen Warner
Mrs. Cleta Wells
Mrs. Sarah Woods
Mrs. Tom (Ella Mary) Yoe

**Lawrence Girl Scout
Committee //
Lawrence Hidden
Valley Committee
elected members in
the 80's.**

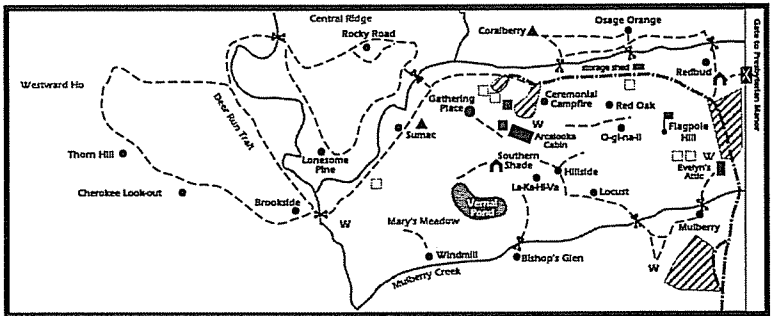
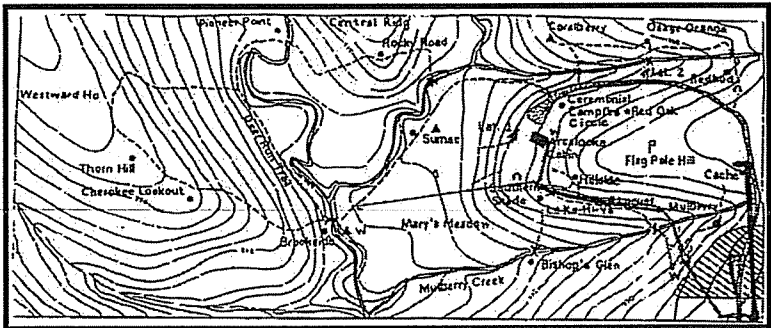
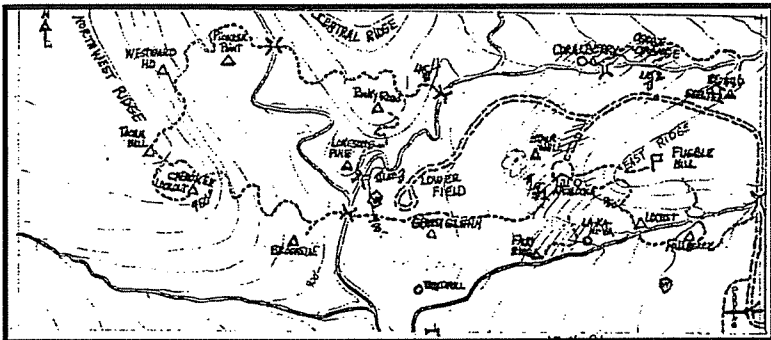
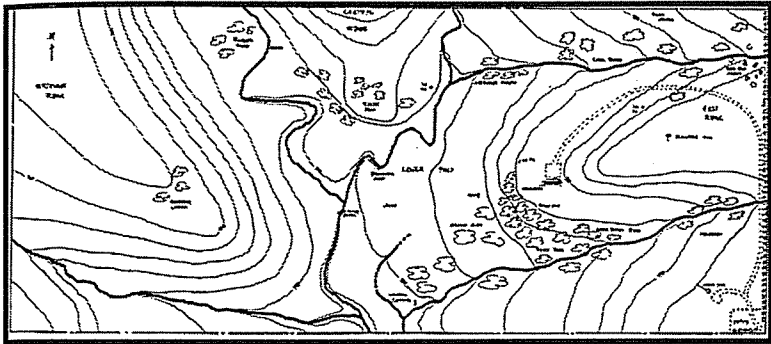
Marilyn Ainsworth
Bev Akins
Becky Altenberd
Jo Barnes
Mary Alice Barr
Sandra Berman
Dora Bice
Sherrie Binggeli
Lori Boogher
Debbie Burns
Ann Chappell
David Dary
Sue Dary
Sandy Dolezal
Barbara Haile
Eileen Honse
Terri Howe
Mary Inzerillo
Jo Lehman
Jean Martin
Mary Jo Mensie
Robert Ohlen
Georgia Orchard
Ellyn Owen
Lori Michel
Joan Miller
John Myers
Linda Reimond
Mariana Remple
Ronna Robertson
Martha Rose
Jane Rutledge
Joyce Schmid
Lucy Smith
Peggy Sprague
Louise Silber
Janiece Scribner
Mary Kay Stephens
Shere Stoner
Karla Vicary

Ann Walton
Karen Warner
Cleta Wells
Marcia West
Judy Wilson
Ella Mary Yoe

**Lawrence Hidden Valley
Committee elected
members in the 90's.**

Billie Archer
Jo Barnes
Lori Boogher
Mary Burchill
Debbie Burns
Joe Collins
Erma Fisher
Barbara Goff
Christine Graves
Lori Hanson
Nancy Hawkins
Rita Jansen
Jean Jamison
Glenn Kappelman
Dennis Kuester Mary Jo
Mensie
Joan Miller
Ralena McCurdy
Suzanne McGinn
Ellyn Owen
Craig Penzler
Barbara Peterson
Mary Beth Petr
Durand Reiber
Mariana Remple
Lissa Renew
Martha Rose
Sarah Russell
Jane Rutledge
Robin Robertson
Joyce Schmid
Janiece Scribner
Gayle Sigurdson
Louise Silber
Susan Sloop
Terri Summers
Tom Squier
George Ann Stevens
Mary Kay Stephens

Mary Swayne
Ann Walton
Marcia West
Barbara Van Hoesen
Karen Warner
Marcia West
Sarah Williams
Judy Wilson
Flora Wyatt
Lily Yu



Data by Topographic Survey

Memorials around the Camp:

Mary's Meadow named for Mary Hall

Cairn and burial of memorabilia at dedication.

Girl Scout memorabilia buried in 1985-86 in a cairn including mixing of ashes from Girl Scout and Day Camp.

Memorial grove of trees to be dedicated to various people.

Mortar Board plants memorial tree for Mrs. Dora Bice.

Memorial tree to honor the Davenports.

"Trees for tomorrow" commemorate 10th anniversary.

Redbud tree planted for Pat Billings at corner of equipment shed.

Bench for Southern Shade in memory of Ed Bishop's sister Wilma Weidlein.

Planting memorial to Donna Hodge's father.

Memorial planting for Jack Rader

Bury time capsule for 35th anniversary of HV, 80th of Girl Scouting.

Trees for Robert Oyler, Mel Martin and the Davenports.

Burr Oak grove northeast of cabin. Dedicated to volunteers

Melvin Martin, Robert Oyler, Carolyn Blaas, Riley Burcham, Mariana Remple.

Purple leaf plum planted and donated by grandparents of Kajaa Mullenix.

Sycamore near Rocky Road dedicated to Lucy Remple McAllister by Mariana Remple

Oak tree for Henry D. Remple

~~Burr Oak for Mary Jo Mensie by Mariana Remple~~

Butterfly Garden dedicated to Terrell Malott Graham.

Flag and plaque given by Girl Scout troop.

Garden memorial at northwest corner of cabin for Madison Smith, a Brownie
