

Pioneer Scouts

Pioneering, exploring, scouting—adventures in every field of learning appeal to the imagination of youth. Pioneer adventurers are heroes in the minds of Boy Scouts. To stimulate and develop an interest in Scouting activities, two of the Boy Scout Councils in Iowa have adopted names honoring real scouts of pioneer life.

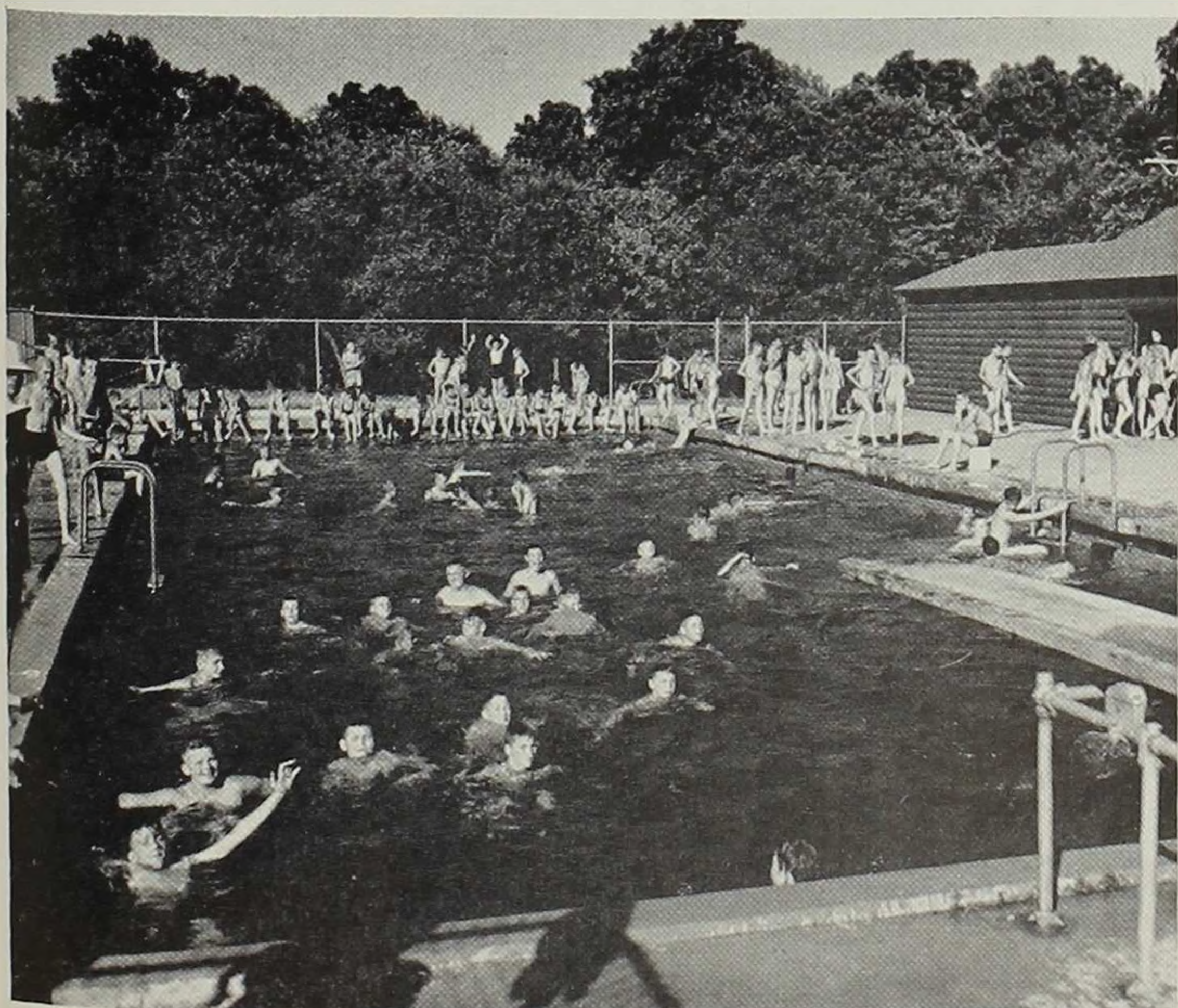
Sergeant Floyd Area Council

The Sergeant Floyd Area Council was named in honor of Sergeant Charles Floyd, a member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, who died and was buried near the present site of Sioux City, while exploring the great Northwest in 1804. The history of this Council records various changes of boundary. Sometimes it has embraced large areas of rural Iowa. Again it has confined its activities chiefly to Sioux City and Woodbury County. Residents of western Iowa became interested in the Boy Scout movement at an early date, with a Scout troop at Merville, perhaps as early as 1912. Organized Scouting on a permanent basis began with the organization of the Sioux City Council in 1917.

In 1927 Woodbury and Plymouth counties were added to the Sioux City Council. Later thir-



Mesquakie Council Scouts on the Mississippi



Camp Wakonda's Modern "Swimmin' Hole"

FORWARD ★ ★ **ON LIBERTY'S TEAM**



43RD ANNIVERSARY 1953
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Official Boy Scout Poster for 1953

teen other counties of western Iowa — Buena Vista, Carroll, Cherokee, Clay, Crawford, Dickinson, Ida, Lyon, Monona, O'Brien, Osceola, Sac, and Sioux — were added, thus forming an area of fifteen counties. In 1939 the name Sergeant Floyd Council was adopted, and the following year the Sergeant Floyd Area Council was incorporated.

Subsequently various consolidations were effected to reduce the territorial limits of the Sergeant Floyd Area Council, and to enable the Council to operate more effectively in the populous Sioux City area. Thus in 1940 three counties — Carroll, Crawford, and Monona — withdrew and became a part of the Southwest Iowa Council. In 1941 Cherokee, Ida, O'Brien, Osceola, Plymouth, and Sioux counties joined the Fort Dodge Council to form the Prairie Gold Area Council.

In 1942 the Sergeant Floyd Area Council relinquished all area territory with the exception of Woodbury County in Iowa and Dakota County in Nebraska. Lyon County at that time became a part of the Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Council, while the other counties relinquished became a part of the present Prairie Gold Area Council. Although the present Sergeant Floyd Council is in area the smallest of the twelve Councils in Iowa, it has a population of more than 100,000, with Cub, Scout, and Explorer enrollment in excess of 2,000.

Under the leadership of Scout Executive Elof

C. Johnson, special emphasis has been given to the Scout-O-Ree, a Cub Scout Exposition and Merit Badge Show, which has become an annual event of wide interest. There are now more than 1,000 Cubs active in the Scouting program.

Camp Kellogg, a Boy Scout recreational area of 29.8 acres, is located at Stone Park, five miles northwest of Sioux City. Summer Scout Camp is in session there at least four weeks each year, and the camp is used by Boy Scout troops for overnight camping almost every week-end during the year.

Throughout its history the Scouting program has played an important role in community affairs, both for the youth and for the adult leadership in the Sergeant Floyd area. Sixty-four Eagle badges have been awarded by the Council. Eleven men have served as president of the Council, and eighteen adult workers have received the Silver Beaver award. The annual Boy Scout budget for the current year calls for an expenditure of \$28,313 for the advancement of the Scouting program.

Buffalo Bill Area Council

Scouting began in Davenport as early as 1912. Two years later the "Davenport Council" was chartered by the National Council, with John W. Cooper, Commissioner. Other early Scout leaders included Raymond Fuller and Carl Becker, Scout Executives, and V. V. Allen who served as Commissioner and later as Scout Executive. Under

Mr. Allen's leadership, the Davenport Council was expanded to include Scott, Muscatine, and Cedar counties, and in 1927 it was named Buffalo Bill Area Council in honor of that daring scout, William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody, who was born at Le Claire, a few miles from the Council office.

In 1927 land for the development of a Boy Scout Camp was acquired by the Council and given the name "Minneyata Camp" — an Indian designation said to mean "Beside Happy Waters." The Council Camp now comprises 94 acres of beautiful woodland, located on the Wapsipinicon River, three miles north of Dixon in Scott County. The following year the Herman Parrman Dining Hall was dedicated. During the early 1930's L. B. Echols and James H. Hiner served as Executives. In 1937 the Council was incorporated under the laws of Iowa, and in 1939 William C. Souder became its Scout Executive.

The decade of the 1940's witnessed substantial advancements in the Scouting program. Camp Minneyata was modernized by the installation of electric light and power equipment, and the building of a swimming pool with a modern filtering system. A Sea Explorer Base established at Edgewater Beach gave excellent facilities for a Sea Scout program. A long-term camp development resulted in the erection of Adirondack Shelter constructed under the voluntary leadership of Carl J. Mitzner and Scouts of Tipton.

In keeping with the National Program of the Boy Scouts of America, the Buffalo Bill Area Council took an active part in the "Strengthen The Arm of Liberty" Program that was launched in 1950. This program placed special emphasis upon program planning and the training of adult leaders, in order to serve more boys. The symbol of this program nationally was the Statue of Liberty. During this year, three bronze replicas, approximately eight feet tall, were purchased by the Chartered Units. One was installed in West Liberty, one in Muscatine, and the other at Davenport. These replicas of the Statue of Liberty remind not only the Boy Scouts, but all youth and adults, of our American Heritage.

Under the direction of W. B. Anderson, prominent Scout leader, Boy Scouts from various points throughout the Buffalo Bill area have assisted in the planting of trees and in otherwise developing and beautifying the Herbert Hoover Birthplace Park at West Branch.

A hospital building with adequate emergency facilities at the Council Camp was built and financed by Charles H. Young of Muscatine. In 1951 a Memorial Flag Pole was erected at the Camp by Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Yates of Davenport, as a memorial to their son, Richard — a former Scout who gave his life in military service.

During 1952 an administration building was constructed at Camp Minneyata. This building

will fill a great need that has existed over a period of years for a Camp Office and Trading Post. The building conforms to the long range camp development program. It provides ample space in the basement for storage. The second floor will be used for a Camp Office and Trading Post with living quarters on the second floor for the Camp Director. During the Fall, Winter, and Spring months, this building will be used as an Adult Training Center.

The strength of present-day Scouting in the Buffalo Bill Area Council is measured by a membership of over 2,500 boys and some 900 volunteer leaders. With Dr. Lester A. Royal of West Liberty as president and William C. Souder, Scout Executive, the Council is now equipped to advance with the National Program of Scouting in serving more boys under the new emphasis of "Forward on Liberty's Team."

JACOB A. SWISHER