

The Boy Scouts was founded in 1908 by Lt. General Sir Robert Baden-Powell, later to be known as Lord Baden-Powell. It crystallized a life-long ambition of Baden-Powell to set up an international organization of boys over 12 years of age that would be non-military and without racial, religious, political, or class distinction. It would stress a program of activities that would embrace outdoor knowledge and skills, citizenship, nature lore, wood and camp craft, manual arts, lifesaving, and sports. It would aim at three-fold development -- mental, moral, and physical.

The movement received almost overnight recognition and support in the United States, with national incorporation in 1910. Its acceptance and activation in Iowa, one of the pioneer states in Boy Scouts organization, followed immediately as troops formed through the state.

The records are a bit sketchy, but it appears that a man named Britton L. Dawson formed a troop in 1910 that served both Marion and Cedar Rapids. Prof. A.E. Wilcox similarly gave leadership to a troop in Iowa City.

The activities of this Cedar Rapids-Marion troop received recognition in February 1918, in a program conducted at Memorial Hall in Marion. The recognition cited the activities of the boys in assisting the G.A.R. and W.R.C. in decorating the graves of Civil War veterans on Memorial Day and their patriotism in the recent Liberty Loan campaign when they sold \$20,000 worth of war certificates for which they received a bronze medal from the government.

In this same year of 1918, a group of Iowa City men, cooperating with the Extension Division of the State University, conducted Scout leadership training in a camp along the Iowa River. The success of this venture prompted the Iowa City group, along with other volunteers, to found the Iowa City Area Council in 1919 with Dr. Samuel T. Orton as President.

The Scout movement in Cedar Rapids and Marion continued to receive good community support. In 1924, the Cedar Rapids Chamber of Commerce gave official support and organized a council to handle a formal charter application. The YMCA pledged cooperation to make the project a success. After several name changes, the charter request was made January 9, 1925, in the name of the Cedar Rapids Area Council. This council included Cedar Rapids, Marion, Mt. Vernon, and later in 1925 Shellsburg.

In the fall of 1924, L. L. Cunningham was elected the first Scout Executive and the American Legion actively helped locate and establish a Scout Camp on a beautiful tract of land located along Indian Creek in the former town of Kenwood. Interest in Scouting grew at such a rapid pace that it soon became necessary to find a larger camp. In 1926 a summer camp was founded at Stone City for the Cedar Rapids Area Council -- Camp Mishawaka. In 1927, the Cedar Rapids Area was expanded to include all of Linn County plus Benton and Jones counties.

With an initial contribution of \$1,000 from Howard H. Cherry in 1930, 18 acres of land along the Wapsipinicon River was acquired -- the beginning of Camp Waubeek. The camp opened in 1931 with both the Iowa City and the Cedar Rapids councils using the facilities. Much credit for the camp opening goes to Hanford Post No. 5 of the American Legion for contributing hundreds of hours of work as well as a substantial amount of money.

The 1930's, while depression years, saw marked growth in the two councils of Cedar Rapids and Iowa City. This growth was further accelerated in 1930 when the Cub Scout program was introduced. In 1933, the Legion decided to improve the road into camp. They quarried rock from the Waubeek quarry and dug gravel from a nearby pit. The constructed road was 8 inches deep, 15 feet wide, and one half-mile long from the County Road into the camp grounds. The Hanford Post's next major project was in 1938 when

they decided to improve camp sanitation by building a large bathhouse, complete with showers and toilets.

In 1940, when Cedar Rapids discontinued street cars, the Legion acquired many of the power poles that were removed. They were trucked to Camp, hewed and notched to form a log cabin. This cabin still stands south of Hanford Lodge and is known as the Nature Lodge, but for the past several years has been used for storage.

In 1940, the leaders of the Cedar Rapids and Iowa City councils saw the need for change. Both had expanded the areas they were serving, and this had to be recognized. The Cedar Rapids council was incorporated, and its name changed to Waubeek Area Council. The Iowa City council also decided on incorporation, and chose the name of Iowa River Valley Council.

During the Second World War, the Scouts in both councils performed valuable service to their country. These services included salvage of waste and the distribution of government posters and ration books. In spite of the war and other obligations, the Hanford Post continued to improve Camp Waubeek. In 1944 they repaired the old water system, installed a new hot water system and a sanitary drinking fountain.

In 1945, the Waubeek Area Council began a capital fund campaign to improve Camp Waubeek and build an in-ground swimming pool (completed in 1949). The Cedar Rapids Elks C.C.C. gave \$1,500 to purchase the recreation building used by Coe College and moved it to camp. It was used to build the Administration Lodge and the Director's Lodge. These structures still stand at Camp Waubeek and are known as the Trading Post and Eyman Lodge, respectively.

Both councils continued to cooperate closely, and had on-going discussions of their mutual objectives. These discussions continued to point to the advantage of a merger of the two councils and in July 1952, culminated when both councils were dissolved and the Hawkeye Area Council was formed. Dean Allin Dakin, who served as first President of the Hawkeye Area Council, spearheaded this merger. The newly formed council was strong in its founding, and continues to be strong today.

In 1956, a new fully equipped kitchen and basement were added to Hanford Lodge at a cost of \$10,000.

Due to continuing growth in Council membership, attendance at camp and in line with camp development needs, Howard H. Cherry, Sr. donated \$14,000 in 1957 for the purchase of an additional 125 acres. A new 30,000 gallon water reservoir was built to store water for the camp, pool, fire protection and future expansion. To supply this \$15,000 reservoir, a new 326 foot deep well was drilled by Latta & Sons Well Drilling. Cost of the well, concrete casing and new lines to undeveloped areas was \$6,000.

During the 1957-58 period eight new campsites were developed in Camp Waubeek to allow for troop camping under troop leadership. Camp improvements of the fifties ended in 1959 with the construction of the first rifle range in camp.

The next few years were relatively quiet except for construction of the Waubeek quartermasters building in 1961 and the beginning of a \$400,000 capital fund drive by the Council in 1962. Howard H. Cherry, Sr. contributed \$25,000 to the capital campaign. The capital campaign resulted in the acquisition of an additional 265 acres, including the Moyer Farm. This acquisition brought the entire Howard H. Cherry Scout reservation to its present day 480 acres.

In 1966, the two camps resembled a gold rush town with a flurry of building activity. At Camp Waubeek, the Hanford Lodge got new dishwashers, septic tanks and a range. A new pool replaced the old one, which had been plagued with problems from the beginning because the hill it was built on was sliding and

carrying the pool downhill. The pool was completed in June at a cost of \$48,000. The Health Lodge was also built in June (\$12,000), as well as the Program Shelter.

Most of the new development was at Camp Wakonda where a second new pool was built, (June \$48,000), Troop Service Building (\$15,000), two Family Cabins (\$10,000), a three bedroom Rangers Home (\$30,000), as well as a shop, a second rifle range, and a parking lot.

If a person would take a hike around the two camps it is very evident which structures were built during this boom. All are of similar design and are made from 4 inch by 8 inch square cedar logs. Even the campsite latrines follow the same pattern. After this storm of activity came the quiet, until 1969 when the Pool, Nature, and Handicraft Shelters were erected. Also, two chapels were built and dedicated by a Marion Troop in memory of a Scouter.

During the 70's, only four improvements of note occurred. The first in 1971 when the Order of the Arrow built a new ceremony ring in Camp Wakonda called Dancing Quail. In 1975, the Council recognized the need for a stable water front area for rowing and canoeing. An agreement was reached with the National Guard Reserves to dredge a lagoon at the Lower Meadow. With part of the earth dredged from the lagoon, a backstop was graded to form a new rifle range and the ranges of Camps Waubeek and Wakonda were consolidated on the Lower Meadow in 1977. Also this year, a series of three sided shelters were built for winter camping at three different locations in Camp Wakonda and were designated Adirondacks A, B & C.

In the early 80's patrol cooking was phased out due to lack of interest and Camp Wakonda became dormant as far as summer camping was concerned. In 1984, a temporary classroom was purchased from the Cedar Rapids School Board for \$1.00 and moved to Camp Waubeek for staff housing to replace the Tent City that had been used for years. This became Cedar Lodge.

By the mid 1980's it became apparent that something had to be done about Hanford Lodge. This structure which was built in the thirties and designed to seat 70 people was now seating almost twice that number at times. Plans were drawn and another capital fund campaign started to raise the \$350,000 for a new dining hall in Camp Wakonda.

In 1987, summer camp operations were moved to Camp Wakonda and the first meals were served in the new dining hall. It was eventually called the Allin B. Dakin Dining Hall in honor of Dean Allin Dakin, Administrative Dean of the University of Iowa. Mr. Dakin was also the first Eagle Scout in Iowa. He was instrumental in the merger of the two Councils and was the first president of the new Hawkeye Area Council. 1987 marked his 70th year of active involvement in the Scouting program.

In the shadow of this structure, built by Pat Moore Construction of Iowa City, other things had been happening. In 1986, Iowa Electric Light and Power donated 40 acres of land across the road from Camp Waubeek called High Point. The Gibson Shelter was built in 1987 in the Upper Meadow in memory of "Gibby" Gibson, a beloved Scouter who had recently died.

Also in 1987, the Order of the Arrow built a new lodge at Camp Wakonda. This was a multipurpose building that served as O.A. Administrative Headquarters during Summer Camp and Conclaves as well as the O.A. Trading Post and office for the O.A. Coordinator.

The last improvement in this year entailed jack hammering out the Wakonda pool apron and replacing it with new concrete. Most of this project was done by volunteer Scouts and Scouters under the direction of Ranger Rick.

In 1990-91, with funds from the Bill Tinsley Memorial, the O.A. updated the Camp Wakonda Council Ring. This consisted of new seat planks, split-rail fencing at the top and bottom of the ring, evergreen bushes, a new gateway at the entrance, underground water and electric lines from the Troop Service Building for a frost free hydrant and power for the electric lights they installed.

In 1991, the High Point property was sold for \$40,000 and these proceeds were designated for future Camp acquisitions. A new shelter at the Archery Range and one behind Meadowlark Campsite are two of three donated by East Cedar Rapids and Marion Rotary Club. The third was to be sited in 1992.

Also in 1991, the development of a Low C.O.P.E. course (Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience) was made possible with donations of material and equipment by Iowa Electric Light and Power. It also marked a ban on smoking in camp buildings. Low C.O.P.E. was complete and High C.O.P.E. (30' high) was designed with six stations. O.A. doubled the size of their lodge with a new addition. Construction had finally begun on a lake, after twelve years of hoping and planning, with the cutting and removal of literally hundreds of dump truck loads of wood.

1997 brought a new council executive, Ed Brandon, and with him came new hope for a capital campaign and long delayed improvements at camp. In October of 1997, several buildings in Camp Waubeek were vandalized, and a fire was set in Hanford Lodge. Smoke and fire damage ruined numerous priceless artifacts and memorabilia of the Hawkeye Area Council and the Howard H. Cherry Scout Reservation.

In 1999, a capital fund campaign started to raise \$2,350,000 for a vast array of improvements for Howard H. Cherry Scout Reservation. In May of 2001, the Hawkeye Area Council announced completion of phase one of the construction phase at the Howard H. Cherry Scout Reservation.

The first projects of the capital campaign were replacement of the water filters at the Wakonda swimming pool and handicap accessible improvements. Access ramps were added at several locations in camp, new cement pads for handicap accessible camping were added to the Mourning Dove campsite and the process of converting latrines to be handicap accessible was started.

The Shower house at Wakonda, built in 1966, was removed during the O.A. Fall Conclave in September, 2000. Its replacement provided year round shower facilities. It contains two indoor areas for youth to shower and separate areas for adult male and female Scouters. There are also six outside showers for rinsing off before and after swimming, a handicap accessible restroom and a laundry room. The sodding and planting was completed and this beautiful building became a wonderful addition to Camp Wakonda during the O.A. Spring Conclave in May, 2001.

In the fall of 2000, the Health Lodge at Camp Waubeek was converted to a residence for an Assistant Ranger.

The Dakin Dining Hall received a 1,200 square foot addition for the Blankenship Medical Center. This new addition has several rooms for the First Aid annex, and plenty of storage to get all the tables and chairs out of the actually dining hall area. The old first aid rooms were converted into offices for the cook during the summer. The Blankenship Medical Center saw its first use the summer of 2001, and proved its worth immediately. We were able to provide much improved service to our youth and adults as a result of this build-out of the Dakin Dining Hall.

A generous gift from Robert and Elizabeth Allsop provided the Allsop Outdoor Education Center, the cornerstone of the capital campaign. This building, dedicated in June, 2001, provides 7,000-square-feet, accommodating up to 72 guests in 18 sleeping rooms. It has three meeting rooms for up to 120 people. Also, in the Allsop Center is high-tech communications and meeting presentation equipment.

With the completion of the first phase of the landscaping, this facility is proving to be even more valuable than anticipated. The camp staff occupied the building for the first time during the summer of 2001. The first class accommodations led to a huge increase in staff morale and performance.

Camp Waubeek was not ignored in this process. At the National Order of the Arrow Committee meeting in late December, 2000, the announcement was made that the Cho-Gun-Mun-A-Nock Lodge was chosen to receive a \$4,000 matching grant from the National Committee for a major service project. The Lodge matched this grant to a total of \$8,000, which was used for the roof restorations of Hanford Lodge in Camp Waubeek.

Beginning in the fall of 2001, phase two of the capital campaign started. The Council began construction of the Veterans Memorial Campfire Ring, and the renovation of the Chapel Area at Camp Waubeek. Planning started for massive changes and additions to the Aegon Project COPE Course, and a remake of the Shooting Sports Area.

History was made at the Howard H. Cherry Scout Reservation on May 18, 2002, Armed Forces Day. The Veterans Memorial Campfire Ring at Camp Waubeek was formally dedicated. It was designed to honor all members of the armed forces who have made sacrifices to keep America free. At the ceremony, a copy of Pulitzer Prize winning cartoonist Bill Mauldin's statue, "The Cavalry Sergeant", specially commissioned for the Hawkeye Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, with the assistance of the Iowa City Masonic Foundation, was unveiled.

In planning the changes to the Project COPE Course, the Council COPE Committee expanded the scope of the project to include a 50 foot climbing tower. The Aegon Foundation provided funding for the projects and the Aegon Challenge Course began development.

Construction on improvements to the Aegon Challenge Course started June 4, 2002 but with over 4" of rain falling in less than 12 hours, things were a little soupy out there. The rain did finally stop around 12:00 PM and ABEE, who built the COPE Course and the climbing tower, was out building at 12:01 PM. By the start of summer camp 2002, 10 new events had been added to the Aegon Challenge Course.

In June of 2002, at the start of the third week of summer camp, the Aegon Climbing Center "Altitude with Attitude" was opened. The climbing tower, 50 feet tall, is the tallest in Iowa. It has four twelve foot wide walls with two climbing ropes per side. There is also a chimney climb up the center of the tower.

In September of 2002, construction was started on a shelter in front of the O.A. lodge house. The Koffron O.A. Shelter was built to provide a meeting place for O.A. during summer camp and a check-in area for conclaves. The shelter was completed in time for Sectional Conclave.

At the close of summer camp in 2002, the building at the rifle range was torn down. This provided an immediate need for a new shooting sports range. In September, construction began on the Blankenship Shooting Sports Pavilion, which by covered square footage is one of the biggest buildings in camp. With matching donations of labor from several companies, a shooting range capable of handling up to 24 shooting stations, was completed in September, 2002. In addition, the floor of the storage shed at archery was concreted and at the 2003 O.A. Spring Conclave a new shotgun range was constructed.

Because things need to be done in groups of three, a new storage building was started in September, 2002. This 7,200 sq. ft. Morton building was a needed addition to camp. No more leaving the mowers outside overnight during the summer and then storing them in the TSB during the winter.

By now the lagoon, dredged by the National Guard in 1975, was silted in to the point of not providing a useable area for waterfront activities. In February of 2003, John Moyna of Moyna Construction, provided equipment and operators to dig out the lagoon to provide a lake for the waterfront activities at camp. This crew dug to a fifteen foot depth and reshaped the banks and entrance to the area. The dredged dirt provided fill for an area beside Scoutcraft, a mudslide down the ravine, and a thirty foot tall sand pile for sandcastle contests at summer camp.

Summer camp 2003 started with a unique situation for the water front activities. The first week activities were in danger of being canceled because the water was too high!

In 2004, the O.A. applied for another National O.A. Grant to construct a bouldering wall at the Aegon Climbing Center. This request was accepted in December and in April the Aegon Foundation provided a grant to expand the scope of the project. In the spring of 2004, clearing was done and ground prepared for the grant projects. Areas were prepared for the bouldering wall, a storage shed at climbing and a storage shed and a shelter at the Aegon Challenge Course. The bouldering wall and the two storage sheds were completed in time for summer camp.

In 2005, the Redistricting Task Force made a formal recommendation to the Executive Board for sweeping changes in Council organization and professional service. The Task Force took a hard look at population trends, District service history and projections, budget estimates, and the current state of Scouting in the Council. Trends indicate that the amount of time volunteers will have to devote to Scouting will continue to shrink in the future. Eliminating duplicate effort was essential.

To effectively deal with these and other key issues, the Redistricting Task Force recommended that: The Council will be redistricted into three service areas (Red Cedar, Three Rivers and Old Capitol Valley Districts) instead of the existing four. A fourth, Council-wide service area will specifically involve Learning for Life, Exploring and Scout Reach. All of these changes were made for one reason only: to provide better service to the units of our Council.

In the fall of 2005, the United Way of Eastern Iowa sponsored a Day of Caring. Several businesses in the area provided 150 workers to assist with projects at camp. On this one day, these workers completed the shelter at the Aegon Challenge Course, painted all the shelters in Camp Wakonda, constructed new fire lays at the Council Fire Ring, and removed and replaced the bottom three foot of siding on the Dakin Dining Hall.

In 2006, the new "T" Long Eagle Trail, our mountain biking trail at Camp Wakonda, opened for business! Tom Santacroce, a Venturer from Crew 2000 in Cedar Rapids, led the effort to develop this track and procured 15 brand new bikes as part of his Ranger Project. Scores of Scouts from Troop 766, and Venturers from Crew 2000 built the trail, which includes a major bridge over a ravine. The Mountain Biking Program is available for Summer Camp, and units can use the trail by placing reservations and receiving usage guidelines at the Council Service Center.

Summer Camp 2006 introduced a new feature of the shooting sports program at HHCSR... Action Archery.

2006 marked the 75th Anniversary of the Howard H. Cherry Scout Reservation. The Hawkeye Area Council hosted the biggest celebration in the history of Camps Wakonda and Waubeek on September 22-24, 2006 with the 75th Anniversary Council Camporee!

Exhibitors gave demonstrations and activities throughout camp, including American Red Cross, Benton County Conservation, Cedar Valley Woodcarvers, Central City Fire & Rescue Service, Civil War Re-

enactors, CRPD, Desperadoes, DNR, Hall Bicycle, HAZMAT, IC Fin and Feather, Iowa Bowhunters, Iowa State Patrol, Izaak Walton League, KCRG Weather Demonstration, Linn County Conservation, U.S. Marine Corps, Michael's, Mt. Mercy College, Iowa National Guard, Northtowne Cycling & Fitness, Cedar Rapids Roughriders, The Science Station, Seatasea Watersports, Trees Forever, Whitetails Unlimited, and more! Saturday night featured a Stage Show of great entertainment!

In May 2007, almost 150 volunteers from AEGON, Yellow Book and the Duane Arnold Energy Center worked at the Howard H. Cherry Scout Reservation during the United Way Day of Caring. Along with Rinderknecht Associates and other contractors, these fine workers: constructed a new shelter by the pool; re-roofed several buildings; re-stained Dakin Dining Hall and the Allsop Center; made improvements to the COPE course; cleared the area overlooking the river at the Waubeek Shelter; re-sided the Ranger's Shop and many other projects. Almost \$15,000 was donated for these projects.

In 2007, the Cedar Rapids and Marion Kiwanis Clubs and the Xavier Key Club donated a Pediatric trauma kit for use at camp. This kit contains vital life-saving equipment in case of an emergency. As the donors stated, "We hope you never need to use it!"

On June 18, 2007, during Parents' Night of Week 1 summer camp, an F1 tornado touched down near camp, and we experienced 70 mph linear winds at Camp Wakonda. Fortunately, the storm occurred early, while everybody was still around the Dining Hall. When the Dining Hall was evacuated, it gave over 700 people the opportunity to "Hit the Ditch." While there was no structural damage, and nobody was seriously injured, we did lose over 200 hundred healthy trees.

The staff has received commendations from the Administrator of the State of Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division, and a Severe Weather Preparedness Commendation from the National Weather Service.

Camp Director David Cunningham was named to represent the amazing response of all camp staff members, and Rangers Rick Naaktgeboren and Josh Yoder were named for their calm leadership in an extraordinary circumstance. Both Homeland Security and National Weather Service indicated that the flawless execution of our outstanding emergency plan potentially saved lives. According to these agencies, our plan was a text book for proper action, and was carried out with efficiency and professionalism.

This is just one indicator of the outstanding camp program and facility staff we are blessed with. It also reflects the wonderful leadership we have on the unit level. Perhaps most importantly, it also demonstrated that our Scouts take very seriously the Scout motto: Be Prepared; and the Scout Laws: Helpful, Cheerful, and Brave. There are numerous stories of young Scouts who performed heroically during this terrifying ordeal.

An assortment of committees is continuing a long running dialogue and planning process for the construction of storm shelters at camp. This includes plans for a centralized shelter near the dining hall, possible renovation of the shower house to create a storm vault, and plans for culverts for slit trenches near camp sites and program areas. Meanwhile, we are pleased that our emergency plans, and execution thereof, are officially recognized as being excellent and effective.

The 2007 O.A. Fall Conclave was fantastic! The weather couldn't have been nicer, and we had a huge turnout with about 375 members attending! Over 60 work projects were tackled, with over 90% of them completed! Eyman Lodge and the Adirondacks were re-shingled, picnic table repair and staining, trail and campsite improvement, tree cutting and wood splitting, new doors on buildings, welding, tree mulching, electrical repair, campfire ring and chapel bench leveling, and vehicle repair were just a few of the

projects. The pool was cleaned in preparation for new paint. 134 new ordeal also spent the day improving OUR CAMP. Over 3000 man-hours were contributed to making HHCSR one of the finest camps in the country!

Also in 2007, we were designated as a CERTIFIED WILDLIFE HABITAT by the National Wildlife Federation. Thanks to the Properties & Maintenance, and Conservation committees for their leadership in earning this honor. Thanks also to everyone who helps us promote and maintain our wildlife habitat. Along with this, the Conservation committee is helping establish another 1 1/2 acre prairie grass area between the Scoutcraft and ecology areas. This is being made possible with a grant from Rockwell.

In 2007, the Hawkeye Area Council experienced a tremendous year for program. The Council was recognized as a Centennial Quality Council and also received the following recognitions:

- Chief Scout Executive's Winners Circle, and Above and Beyond Winner: one of only 13 Councils in the 81 council Central Region to do so.
- Financially Sustainable Council Award
- Good Turn for America Award
- "Best in Class" award for top producing Friends of Scouting Campaign in the Region.
- Number One in the Country in Popcorn Sales for councils of our size. (Total Retail Sales of \$1,081,000)
- Earned the National Council Endowment Development Award
- Top five in the Region in Retention and membership growth.
- Perfect score (again) on the National Camp Visitation Team rating.
- Number Four in the region for membership retention.
- Number One in the region for membership growth.

The 2008 Council Winter Event was postponed a couple of weeks due to severe weather conditions, but on the rescheduled day, you couldn't have asked for nicer weather. About 380 Scouts and leaders participated in a wide variety of events.

On February 26-28, 2008, the Hawkeye Area Council hosted a Central Region Ranger Rendezvous, which was a huge success. One of three such events in the region, we had 13 rangers from five states who toured our facilities and spent time training in an array of topics including: chainsaw safety and tree felling, aluminum welding, GPS, electrical training, weather safety, and fire safety.

The flood of 2008 caused numerous problems at camp, particularly at John's Lake. The berm along the river had serious damage and required installation of additional dirt and rip-rap to protect the waterfront area. Stone City Quarries agreed to donate all the rip-rap material.

Related to the flooding, the Hawkeye Area Council housed about 30 VISTA AmeriCorps volunteers at Camp Waubeek for a few weeks. This is another way that we can help others helping others. Eyman Lodge and Hanford Lodge were not available for rentals during this time.

In 2008, our Cho-Gun-Mun-A-Nock Lodge received another great honor, the National Service Award. This award is presented annually by the National Order of the Arrow to just 8 Lodges nationally. This marks the 4th time in the programs 9 years that we have received this honor. (2004, 2005, 2007 and 2008).

The award is presented to a Quality Lodge that not only gives a huge amount of service hours for the good of Scouting, but demonstrates that the service given is of high quality and has meaningful results. This, of course, is in addition to the "normal" cheerful service that all Arrowmen give daily. The Lodge

gave almost 7,000 hours of service to camp, the community and the Veterans Memorial Camp Fire Ring ceremony during 2007.

The 2008 program year was again very successful. The Hawkeye Area Council was named a Centennial Quality Council by the National Council, Boy Scouts of America. In addition, all four districts in the Council were also Centennial Quality Districts. In addition, we also earned the following awards:

- Good Turn for America Award
- Chief Scout Executive's Winners Circle
- Financially Sustainable Council Award
- National Endowment Achievement Award
- Order of the Arrow National Service Award
- Central Region Venturing Award of Excellence

Most important of all... we rank among the 13 state Central Region's leaders in retention of our members.

In early 2009, the water system at Camp Wakonda was renovated. The DNR will no longer permit ground reservoirs on public water systems, so we eliminated the 15,000 gallon reservoir and installed four new pressure tanks.

John's Lake underwent some repair and renovation by placing and shaping rip-rap near the waterfront tower. A Rockwell Green Community Grant helped fund this flood repair project.

In 2009, four new storm refuge shelters were constructed at Camp Wakonda. These concrete bunkers were constructed onsite, which was considerably less expensive than installing prefabricated structures. The structures have been located to be within five minutes of almost all areas of Camp Wakonda. They are located at the far west end of the parking lot, the Commissioner site, near the Eagle and Kingfisher campsites, and for the south side of camp, by the Ecology area, near the Falcon and Hawkeye campsites.

A new Scout Executive took the reins of the Hawkeye Area Council on July 1, 2009. Travis Christopher was selected to lead our council from an outstanding group of candidates. Travis was most recently in the Bay Lakes Council, from Appleton, WI. Ed Brandon, our previous Scout Executive for 11½ years, was promoted to be the new Scout Executive in the Milwaukee County Council. Ed will be missed, but Travis has the energy to take the council to new heights.

A generous donation allowed the installation of a waterline all the way to Dancing Quail, the Order of the Arrow ceremonies ring. This will greatly simplify the process for all of the new fire builders to become fire "putter-out-ers" at the conclusion of conclave events.

United Way of East Central Iowa recently approved a \$35,000 Transition/Capacity Building grant for Hawkeye Area Council that will be paid out between September, 2009, and June, 2010. Also, Variety, the Children's Charity recently approved a \$3,000 grant to help replace the walk-in freezer at Camp Wakonda that was already used when installed in the Troop Service Building in 1964.

The climbing tower has taken on a new look. A terrace and wall around it will make it easier and safer for climbers to start their ascent. Also, four new recycled plastic benches were donated for the tower area.

The new Leadership Flag Plaza has been installed in front of the Allsop Outdoor Education Center and was in place in time for use at the second weekend of Wood Badge course C-10-09. Included are three new aluminum flagpoles (tallest is 30 feet) and a beautiful plaza that surrounds them. The plaza consists

of 1500 red concrete pavers, each 6" x 9", that can be inscribed to remember a special event or person. The cost per paver is \$100 and is a tax deductible contribution to the council endowment fund. The inscription can be a maximum of three lines, with no more than 18 characters or spaces per line.

The success of Scouting depends upon the outstanding leadership and support of the community and area it serves. The outstanding efforts of so many in the years from 1910 to present have built the Hawkeye Area Council into the strong service organization it is today. While volunteers receive their primary reward from personal satisfaction, it must be said they have made it possible for the generations of Boy Scouts yet to come to continue to seek mental, moral, and physical development without racial, religious, political, or class distinction.

The flame of Scouting lit by Baden-Powell and nurtured by those who have followed him will continue to burn brightly in the Hawkeye Area Council for another century. It is an integral and vital part of our American heritage.