

An Illustrated History of Boy Scouting in Lake Forest and Lake Bluff, Illinois 1910 to 1944

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Introduction

The following histories for Boy Scouting in Lake Forest and Lake Bluff are drawn primarily from the pages of the *Lake Forester*, which is available in digitized form from the Lake Forest Public Library at <http://box2.nmtvault.com/LakeForest/jsp/RcWebBrowse.jsp> for 1910 and for 1917 through 1944. Some additional information comes from other local papers and other sources. A chronology is given on a month by month basis to place the facts in context. As best can be reconstructed from the limited amount of information available, there was little or no Scouting activity in Lake Forest between 1913 and 1917, a pattern which mirrors the experience in neighboring Highland Park, and none in Lake Bluff during that time.

For most of the period through 1944, news items about Scouting from Lake Forest and those about Lake Bluff had little connection with each other, reflecting the differences between the towns. Indeed, starting in 1924, almost all of the Lake Bluff items come from a Lake Bluff “column” that sometimes went on for pages that were written by the ladies of the Lake Bluff Woman’s Club led by Mrs. Orrie J. McCombs and that almost never mentioned events in Lake Forest. Likewise, Lake Forest news items also rarely mentioned Lake Bluff. Based on what appeared in print, there was minimal interaction between the Scout troops in the two communities during the entire period.

Scouting also progressed differently in each town. In Lake Forest, enthusiasm built up when a new troop or troops were being formed, but waned substantially to the point of disbanding the troops more than once, most likely due to lack of organization and community support. This pattern continued until the then-existing Lake Forest troops joined the North Shore Council based in Highland Park at the beginning of 1926, which in turn became part of the larger North Shore Area Council at the end of the year. From that point forward to the end of the period covered in this article, and continuing to the present day, Scouting has had a continuous presence in Lake Forest.

Scouting in Lake Bluff had a continuous history, rather than the discontinuous history in Lake Forest, that started in 1924, with hints that a troop may have been present there earlier for a short time. Unlike the Lake Forest troops, the Lake Bluff troop (there was a second troop for a short while that apparently was absorbed into the first troop) did not join the North Shore Council at the start of 1926 or the North Shore Area Council at the end of the year. The masthead used for the North Shore Area Council’s weekly Scout news page in the late 1920s and early 1930s (Figure 1) lists all of the communities served by the council including Everett in West Lake Forest, but conspicuously omits Lake Bluff.

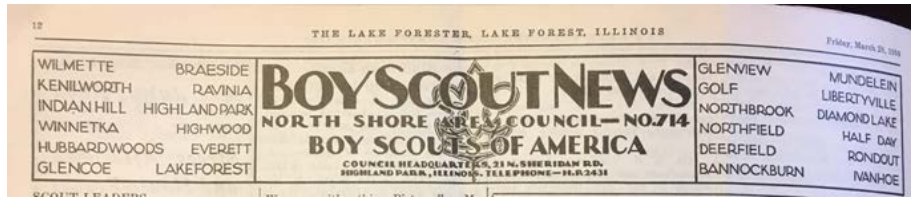


Figure 1

Instead, the Lake Bluff troop became informally affiliated with the Waukegan-North Chicago Council. The troop participated extensively in that council's activities and those of its successor, the Lake County Council, into the early 1930s prior to that council's merger into the North Shore Area Council at the end of 1935. While the Lake Forest troops started going to Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan, the North Shore Area Council's new summer camp in northern Wisconsin, when it opened in 1929, the Lake Bluff troop went its own independent way, attending summer camp elsewhere prior to the 1935 merger.

I. Boy Scouting in Lake Forest

August 1910: The *Lake Forester* reported that “[a] company of Boy Scouts is being organized here. It is a fine thing for the community and one from which the boy will derive much pleasure and beneficial training.” A photograph of 13 Lake Forest Boy Scouts from Lake Forest Troop 1 in 1911 or 1912 was published by the paper in June 1930 (Figure 2), noting that it only lasted for a year “because they had no backing from any organization or from the people of the town.” One of the Scouts was Montague Rasmussen (Figure 3), President of the Class of 1913 at Deerfield-Shields High School, now Highland Park High School after the establishment of a separate Lake Forest High School in 1934, when the author's grandmother was Treasurer of the class and captain of the 1912 football team. Other Scouts were Leland Smith, President of the Class of 1917 (Figure 4), and Paul Carlson, also of the Class of 1917 (Figure 5).¹

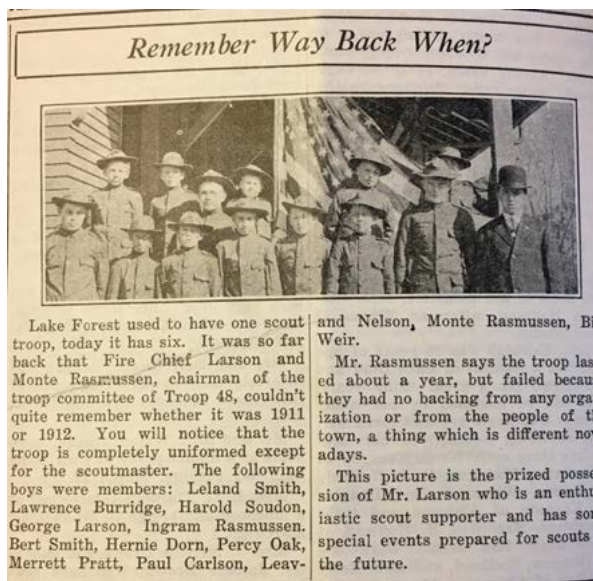


Figure 2



Figure 3

¹ LFF0001 (8/27/1910 – 8), NSAC207 (3/27/1930 – 26), LFF0458 (3/28/1930 – 12), The Deerfield (1913).



Figure 4



Figure 5

November 1910: The Lake Forest-Lake Bluff History Center has a Scout requirement notebook kept by Percy Okl (Figure 6), identified as Percy Oak in the troop photograph. He passed his Tenderfoot tests on November 12, 1910 and was admitted into Lake Forest Troop 1, Patrol 1 by Scoutmaster William Wier. Percy passed his Second Class tests in July 1913 and, like many Scouts today, got partials on his First Class tests. He kept notes on troop meetings on various dates between February 1912 and February 1913 that featured drills and basketball games. The Lake Forest troop did well against Lake Forest College players and teams from North Chicago and Waukegan.²

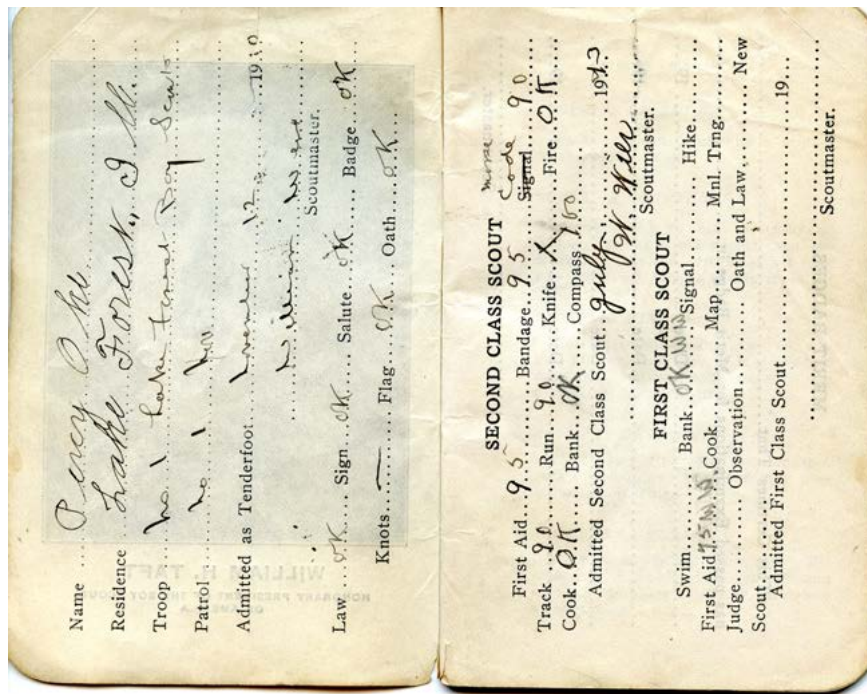


Figure 6

² Percy Okl notebook, at Lake Forest-Lake Bluff History Center.

May 1911: A committee formed to assist the Lake Forest Boy Scouts headed by L.P. Rumsey and Carter H. Fitz-Hugh added several more men after a dinner at the Calvin Durand Commons.³

March 1917: A new Lake Forest Troop 1 was organized with 39 Scouts under Scoutmaster L.M. Thompson, the Lake Forest physical education director and park district recreation director, meeting at Halsey School. The total stood at 50 Scouts by the end of the month and starting a second troop was considered since it was over the “full troop” number of 32 Scouts.⁴

April 1917: Lake Forest Boy Scouts took over flag-raising and lowering responsibilities at the Lake Forest schools after observing the janitors at Halsey and Gorton Schools doing a sloppy job, letting the flag touch the ground. Arrangements were made through the school board for a patrol of 7 Scouts at each school to do the raising and lowering.⁵

May 1917: With the country’s entry into World War I, 8 Lake Forest Boy Scouts and 5 Lake Bluff Boy Scouts volunteered to act as Army messengers at Ft. Sheridan. The Waukegan Scouts were not allowed to join them since the school superintendent said that they should not miss their classes.⁶



Figure 7

Figure 8

August 1917: Fifteen men from Lake Forest and Lake Bluff formed a Boy Scout council under President William Mitchell to support the growing Scouting movement. Twenty-five Scouts from Troop 1 set up a one-week summer camp at Fourth Lake to do “some real scouting.” Among them were Ted Watt (Figure 7), President of the Class of 1923 at Deerfield-Shields and

³ LVS003 (5/19/1911 – 4).

⁴ LFF0002 (3/17/1917 – 1), LFF0003 (3/31/1917 – 12).

⁵ LVS022 (4/5/1917 – 7).

⁶ LFF0005 (5/12/1917 – 7).

the father of 1963 Order of the Arrow Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Lodge 40 Chief Bob Watt, and Bob Roeber of the Class of 1925 (Figure 8), founding Scoutmaster of Lake Forest Troop 48 in 1929.⁷

May 1918: The Boy Scouts had a booth at the main hall of Deerfield-Shields High School to sell war thrift stamps. Thompson resigned as Scoutmaster upon moving to St. Louis.⁸

June 1918: Lake Forest Troops 1 and 2 met at the Lake Forest Young Men's Club to plan a summer camp. In August, 36 Lake Forest Scouts under Scoutmaster L.B. Rasmussen, the club's physical director, set up camp for eight days at Gages Lake. Regular weekly meetings resumed at the club in September, the troops meeting on separate days.⁹

April 1919: The Lake Forest Boy Scouts reorganized and looked for a more suitable space to meet, considering an old church across from the Young Men's Club where they "would be under the care of a Scoutmaster and out of mischief or temptation."¹⁰

October 1919: Lake Forest Troop 1 had 14 new Scouts at a meeting at the Young Men's Club under Scoutmaster Floyd L. Brown and expected to have a full complement of 32 Scouts by the end of the year, plus a waiting list. Both Presbyterian and Methodist boys were invited to join the troop.¹¹

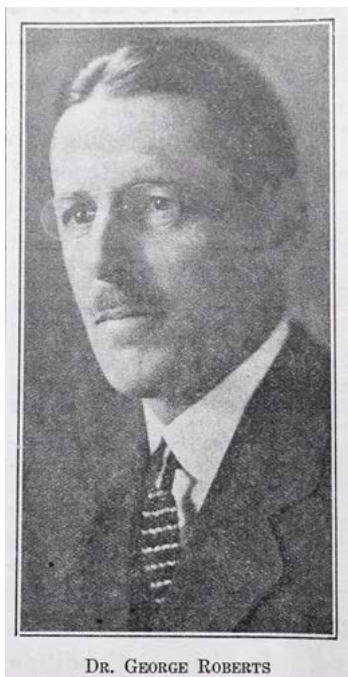


Figure 9

⁷ LFF0010 (8/18/1917 – 8), LFF0011 (8/25/1917 – 4), LFF0012 (9/8/1917 – 8), LVS030 (8/23/1917 – 7).

⁸ LFF0014 (5/4/1918 – 8).

⁹ LFF0015 (6/29/1918 – 5), LFF0016 (9/7/1918 – 8).

¹⁰ LFF0018 (4/11/1919 – 8).

¹¹ LFF0020 (10/29/1919 – 4).

July 1920: Lake Forest Troop 3 under Rev. George Roberts of the First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest (Figure 9) as Scoutmaster had a two-day camping trip on the banks of the Des Plaines River near Libertyville where they swam and cooked meals. The troop did road cleanup on Sheridan Road in the fall and collected old paper for recycling. Troop 3 Scout John Huhnke received a letter of commendation from Chief Scout Executive James E. West for saving a life at the Lake Forest College pool.¹²

October 1920: A meeting was held at the Young Men's Club to form a new Scout troop for boys not in other troops. By the end of the month, 10 boys applied to join Troop 1 at the club, with a goal of forming a full troop of 32 from other interested boys. Boys were enticed to come to meetings and join the troop by showing 3- and 4-reel movies and stereopticon slide shows. Boys from the existing Presbyterian and Methodist troops could come to see the movies and slides with permission from their Scoutmasters.¹³

October 1920: At the same time, a troop was started at the Lake Forest Methodist Church under Rev. Stuart B. Edmondson with 14 charter members. The Methodist troop participated in the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank's savings promotion campaign.¹⁴

November 1920: A Boy Scout basketball league for the Young Men's Club, Presbyterian, and Methodist troops began, with games at the club gym. The club enforced a non-profanity rule: one gallon of cold water down the shirt of the offender at the end of a period. Game scores were reported through December 1921.¹⁵

February 1921: Lake Forest Troop 1 hiked to the Hotel Moraine in Highland Park and planned more hikes. It announced a goal of 300 members and 150 junior members, according to the *Lake Forester*, which may have been a typographical error.¹⁶

April 1921: All 10 Scouts of Troop 1 went to see the circus at the Chicago Coliseum.¹⁷

July 1921: The Troop 3 Scouts again cleaned South Sheridan Road near Lake Forest College of rubbish left by picnickers. They and the Troop 2 Scouts joined the Troop 1 Scouts for a two-week summer camp at Pell's Lake, Wisconsin since Rev. Edmondson of Troop 2 and Rev. Roberts of Troop 3 were unable to get away. The 21 Lake Forest Scouts were joined by 40 to 50 DuPage County Scouts. There was only one discipline case, which the boys took care of. They gained an average of 6 to 7 pounds each.¹⁸

¹² LFF0021 (7/23/1920 – 7), LFF0022 (10/15/1920 – 1), LFF0023 (10/15/1920 – 2), LFF0027 (10/22/1920 – 5).

¹³ LFF0029 (10/29/1920 – 3), LFF0031 (11/26/1920 – 1).

¹⁴ LFF0025 (10/22/1920 – 1).

¹⁵ LFF0031 (11/26/1920 – 1), LFF0035 (1/28/1921 – 3), LFF0051 (12/2/1921 – 1).

¹⁶ LFF0036 (2/4/1921 – 7).

¹⁷ LFF0039 (4/29/1921 – 3).

¹⁸ LFF0042 (7/8/1921 – 1), LFF0043 (7/29/1921 – 1).

September 1922: Although separate meetings for Troops 1 and 3 were mentioned in the *Lake Forester* for the 1921-22 school year, a reorganization meeting for all Lake Forest Scouts was held at the Presbyterian Church, under Scoutmaster Roberts.¹⁹

December 1922: A Boy Rangers group began meeting at the Presbyterian Church. The Boy Rangers of America, founded in 1913, served boys below Scouting age, 9 to 11 years old, and embodied the same aims and issues as Scouting using Indian lore for activities. Meetings continued weekly or biweekly through at least 1929, prior to the start of the Cubbing program, and they often went on hikes from Deerpath and Green Bay Roads as a starting point.²⁰

February 1923: Thomas J. Keane of Lake Forest and Chicago was featured in the American Legion magazine for his work with the Sea Scouts. He had built up the Chicago Sea Scouts from one ship and 18 Scouts to become the largest group in the country.²¹

July 1923: Twelve Scouts from the Lake Forest troop went to summer camp for two weeks at the Chicago Council's Camp Owasippe at Crystal Lake, Mich.²²

March 1924: F.A. Pribbenow became the new director of the Young Men's Club after four years as Scout Executive in Princeton, Illinois and Kokomo, Indiana. He was made Scoutmaster of a community Boy Scout troop to be organized by the Lake Forest American Legion with the Presbyterian troop as a nucleus. In April, he started with 22 Scouts and 16 more applicants. A troop committee chaired by Henry Rhode was formed.²³

May 1924: The Lake Forest Boy Scouts planned a city-wide cleanup with territories assigned to 4 Boy Scout captains. The Scouts also ran the City of Lake Forest for one hour on May 24. A test "bribe" of the Boy Scout police with root beer at a drug store was voted by the Boy Scout city council to be "too trifling for an august body like the council to bother with."²⁴

June 1924: The Lake Forest Scout troop held a father-son banquet and conducted a school Flag Day ceremony. Chief Scoutmaster Pribbenow's troop had 63 Scouts and announced that it would not accept more until the fall.²⁵

August 1924: Scoutmaster Pribbenow arranged for 13 Lake Forest Boy Scouts to go to summer camp at the Chicago Council's Camp Shecaugau at Palatine, Illinois. A boys drum and bugle corps was formed under Joe O'Neill.²⁶

November 1924: A Lake Forest Boy Scout council was formed to support the troops sponsored by the Young Men's Club, the Lake Forest American Legion and the Lake Forest

¹⁹ LFF0057 (9/8/1922 – 1).

²⁰ LFF0064 (12/22/1922 – 2), LFF0137 (10/17/1924 – 2), LFF0421 (12/27/1929 – 8), https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boy_Rangers_of_America.

²¹ LFF0068 (2/2/1923 – 1).

²² LFF0088 (7/6/1923 – 1).

²³ LFF0102 (3/21/1924 – 1), LFF0105 (4/4/1924 – 9), LFF0106 (4/11/1924 – 1), LFF0108 (4/18/1924 – 1).

²⁴ LFF0110 (5/2/1924 - 1), LFF112 (5/16/1924 - 1), LFF116 (5/30/1924 – 1).

²⁵ LFF0120 (6/6/1924 – 1).

²⁶ LFF0130 (8/1/1924 – 1), LFF0131 (8/15/1924 – 1), LFF0132 (8/22/1924 – 2, 6).

Kiwanis Club, chaired by Rev. George Roberts, with 15 men on the committee. The council commissioner was Montague Rasmussen. Scoutmasters for the troops were Ferdinand Roeber, W.A. Hill and F.A. Pribbenow. The council issued a schedule of activities in December for the next eight months.²⁷

January 1925: Under another reorganization, Pribbenow became the Lake Forest Council Commissioner to promote Scouting in Lake Forest. The new Scoutmaster for the American Legion troop was Kenneth Crane and the new Scoutmaster for the Young Men's Club troop was Raymond Russell, while W.A. Hill continued as Scoutmaster of the Kiwanis troop. The leaders attended a training session put on by the Waukegan Council at the Plaza Hotel in Waukegan.²⁸

May 1925: At a court of honor, 35 badges were awarded, the largest number given out since Scouting began in Lake Forest. The Scouts participated in the Lake Forest Memorial Day parade.²⁹

August 1925: Nine Lake Forest Boy Scouts went to summer camp at Crystal Lake, Michigan with John Udell (Figure 10), co-publisher of the *Lake Forester* and the *Highland Park Press*, for the Kiwanis troop and Pribbenow for the Young Men's Club troop, taking the boat from Chicago to Muskegon, Michigan.³⁰



Figure 10

December 1925: The Waukegan-North Chicago Council proposed that the North Shore Council, then consisting of Highland Park, Ravinia, Highwood, Ft. Sheridan and Deerfield, join with it and troops in Lake Forest, Lake Bluff, Libertyville, Antioch, Lake Zurich, Gurnee and

²⁷ LFF0138 (11/7/1924 – 7), LFF0141 (12/5/1924 – 1), LFF0144 (12/19/1924 – 1).

²⁸ LFF0149 (1/16/1925 – 1), LFF0151 (1/16/1925 – 5).

²⁹ LFF0168 (5/29/1925 – 7).

³⁰ LFF0173 (8/14/1925 – 1).

Zion to form a Lake County Council. The North Shore Council representatives were noncommittal since they favored a plan proposed by Region 7, which covered the four states around Chicago, for a Lake Bluff to Wilmette council. The Lake Forest representatives also favored such a plan.³¹

January 1926: The Lake Forest Council voted to join the North Shore Council, which had just added Glencoe and might include more towns to the south later. Pribbenow and Udell became Lake Forest representatives for the enlarged North Shore Council, Rev. Roberts became its Second Vice President, and Ferdinand Roeber became chairman of the Lake Forest District. Lake Forest Troops 1 and 2 were renumbered Troops 9 and 10 of the North Shore Council. Pribbenow then announced that he was leaving the Young Men's Club to take over a grocery business.³²

February 1926: The Lake Forest Boy Scouts again ran the city for one hour on February 13 as part of Boy Scout Week activities. Two boys aged 11 and 14 were jailed for driving a car illegally.³³

May 1926: Four Boy Scouts from Lake Forest Troops 9 and 10, including A. Calvin Gartley, were part of 50 North Shore Scouts at a rally in Chicago to honor Gen. Robert S.S. Baden-Powell, the founder of the international Boy Scout movement.³⁴

November 1926: The Lake Forest Boy Rangers, which had continued to meet regularly at the Presbyterian Church, performed a road cleanup on Sheridan Road, burning the paper they collected.³⁵

November 1926: The North Shore Area Council (NSAC) was formed to include the North Shore Council communities plus Libertyville, Kenilworth, and Wilmette with a plan to set up leadership training and a forward-looking camping program to enrich the local Scouting experience. Lake Forest representatives on the council executive board were Rev. George Roberts, Ferdinand Roeber and Henry Rhode. Lake Forest Troops 9 and 10 were renumbered as Troops 45 and 46 under the new council's numbering system in January 1927. Troop 45 met at the Episcopal Church and Troop 46 met at the Presbyterian Church.³⁶

January 1927: NSAC President Albert P. Snite (Figure 11) of Highland Park and a delegation of twelve North Shore leaders accepted the charter for the newly formed North Shore Area Council at a meeting of 400 council leaders from the four-state area of Region 7 at Chicago's Edgewater Beach Hotel on January 14, 1927. The newly formed council had hit the ground running a week earlier by announcing its first adult leader training program, "Adventures

³¹ LFF0190 (12/18/1925 - 2:8), LFF0194 (1/22/1926 - 1), LFF0195 (1/29/1926 - 1), LFF0197 (1/29/1926 - 9).

³² LFF0213 (5/14/1926 - 1).

³³ LFF0198 (2/5/1926 - 1), LVS125 (2/18/1926 - 1).

³⁴ LFF0213 (5/14/1926 - 1).

³⁵ LFF0226 (11/5/1926 - 1).

³⁶ NSAC001 (11/18/1926 - 1), NSAC002 (11/25/1926 - 1), LFF0229 (11/26/1926 - 1), LFF0230 (12/3/1926 - 1), NSAC003 (12/2/1926 - 1), LFF0236D (1/28/1927 - 2), LFF0239 (2/11/1927 - 2).

in Leadership,” which would be presented on eight consecutive Monday evenings with a nine-part program for each session.³⁷

January 1927: The NSAC started building its first structure, a 20 foot by 40 foot log cabin on the banks of the Chicago River in the forest preserve two miles west of Glencoe and a mile south of Dundee Road. The structure was named the Cabin in the Woods (Figure 12) and was the site of many Council events and troop outings for years afterwards. The Council expressed special thanks to Cook County Commissioner Oscar W. Schmidt of Wilmette and North Shore Mosquito Abatement District Superintendent William Edwards for their efforts and support.³⁸



Figure 11

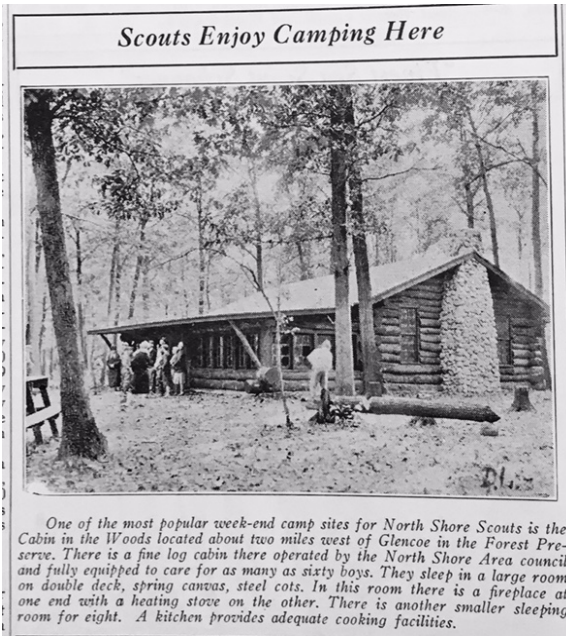


Figure 12

January 1927: Thomas J. Keane of Lake Forest and Chicago, a Lake Forest representative to the NSAC, was named National Director of the Sea Scouts by the National Council.³⁹

April 1927: After being referred to as one of the “new troops” being organized by the new council, Lake Forest Troop 46 was issued a charter dated April 7, 1927 by the National Council. It made its first appearance with 250 Scouts from 10 troops at a Scoutcraft rally at Deerfield-Shields High School in March. Troop 46 has been rechartered continuously until today.⁴⁰

³⁷ NSAC006 (12/23/1926 – 6), LFF0236 (12/31/1926 – 5), NSAC010 (1/13/1927 – 4), NSAC012 (1/20/1927 – 8), LFF0236C (1/21/1927 – 1).

³⁸ NSAC013 (1/27/1927 – 1), NSAC014 (1/27/1927 – 5).

³⁹ LVS130 (1/20/1927 – 2), LFF0236C (1/21/1927 – 1).

⁴⁰ NSAC019 (3/31/1927 – 2).

May 1927: Troops 45 and 46 jointly hosted the final indoor spring training conference for the boy leaders of 20 troops in the NSAC at Halsey School. They discussed “problems that junior officers face in the administration of patrol and troop” and opportunities for coming events, including the June conference, which was to be the first one held outside at the Cabin in the Woods.⁴¹

June 1927: Scouts Brent Wrenn and Ian McPherson of Lake Forest Troop 45 signed up for the “North Shore” period of June 27 through July 9, 1927 at one of the Chicago Council’s Owasispe camps in Michigan, Camp Checaugau, which the Council promoted for its Scouts. 80 North Shore Scouts went to Camp Checaugau that period and 20 more attended during an extra fifth period at the end of August. The first six NSAC Scouts and leaders inducted into the Order of the Arrow at the camp included Wrenn.⁴²

October 1927: For the new school year, Robert Roeber was listed as Scoutmaster of Troop 45, replacing Rev. Herbert William Pierce, who was ill, William E. Casselberry, Jr. succeeded Ferdinand Roeber as chairman of the Lake Forest Boy Scout Committee, and Rev. George Roberts, the “father of Lake Forest Boy Scouting,” continued as Scoutmaster of Troop 46.⁴³

November 1927: Lake Forest Troop 45 came in third out of 33 troops for the inter-troop efficiency award under the Council’s troop rating system. As revised the following August, the Inter-Troop Efficiency Plan consisted of a monthly troop rating to bolster standards of achievement, stimulate practice fundamentals of the Scout program, and promote greater production of net results. There were five factors: (1) attendance – 24 points; (2) advancement – 30 points; (3) outdoor activity – 20 points; (4) growth – 20 points; (5) troop committee meetings – 6 points. Honor Troops had a 90% or better rating and got a ribbon streamer for the troop flag, with a leather shield going to the highest point troop for the month. Troops that let their charters lapse were ineligible for the award.⁴⁴

December 1927: The NSAC reported that for its first fiscal year ending November 30, 1927, it had receipts of \$7,139.09, expenses of \$7,091.85, and a bank balance of \$45.25. Receipts included \$800 in donations from Lake Forest. For fiscal year 1929, receipts grew to \$16,091.80, but expenses also grew to \$16,091.80.⁴⁵

August 1928: Lake Forest Troop 45 Scouts Ian McPherson, Erwin Bleir and James and David Tibbetts went to the North Shore period at Camp Checaugau in Michigan.⁴⁶

September 1928: At the start of the 1928-29 school year, Lake Forest Troop 45 met at the Episcopal Church with Robert Roeber as Scoutmaster, Troop 46 met at the Presbyterian Church with Rolland O. Snuffer as Scoutmaster, and new Lake Forest Troop 47 was organized at

⁴¹ LFF0263 (4/22/1927 – 1).

⁴² NSAC032 (6/23/1927 – 5).

⁴³ LFF0283 (10/21/1927 – 10).

⁴⁴ LFF0326 (8/10/1928 – 5), NSAC049 (12/15/1927 – 3:5), NSAC090 (8/9/1928 – 2:9).

⁴⁵ NSAC050 (12/22/1927 – 3:8), NSAC182 (12/26/1929 – 32).

⁴⁶ LFF0324 (8/3/1928 – 4).

Thorpe Academy at Lake Forest College with Paul C. Stanger as Scoutmaster. Troop 47's first Tenderfoot Scouts got their awards at a joint court of honor with Troops 45 and 46 in February.⁴⁷

December 1928: Lake Forest Troop 45 competed with Highwood Troop 37 and Highland Park Troop 33 at a first aid rally at the Episcopal Church in Lake Forest and came in third. Troop 45 had a new Scoutmaster, Eagle Scout Harold Hernley from Lake Forest College, whose father was a commissioner in Chicago, growing from 10 Scouts to 26 in one month. Troop 46 with 16 Scouts continued under Scoutmaster James Crane.⁴⁸

February 1929: Troop 45 Scouts Ian McPherson and Bruce Kenyon were awarded Boy Scout Press Club Quills at a joint court of honor with Troop 46, with 9 more Troop 45 Scouts working on achieving their Quills. The club's members wrote articles about their troops' activities for publication in the weekly Boy Scout news column in the *Lake Forester* and other local papers. Press club members earned a Quill after 10 of their articles were published.⁴⁹

February 1929: Assistant Scout Executive Carl McManus (Figure 13) devoted six weeks to helping Troops 45 and 46 improve their programs in joint weekly meetings. He led them on a day hike to Arden Shore, where the Scouts passed 27 individual tests for requirements.⁵⁰



Figure 13



Figure 14



Figure 15

April 1929: Troops 45, 46, and 47 held a joint court of honor. Afterwards, Troop 47 reorganized into two patrols with new Scoutmaster Lt. Archibald C. Cole. Assistant Scout Executive McManus dropped in to see how they were doing. The Scouts figured out how to pass

⁴⁷ LFF0328 (9/28/1928 – 5), LFF0356 (4/5/1929 – 24).

⁴⁸ LFF0337 (12/14/1928 – 2:8), LFF0339 (12/28/1928 – 2), LFF0341 (1/18/1929 – 5).

⁴⁹ LFF0344 (2/1/1929 – 5).

⁵⁰ LFF0348 (2/22/1929 – 5), LFF0349 (3/1/1929 – 5), LFF0350 (3/8/1929 – 5).

the farm animal raising test by acquiring 25 chicks, 17 of which survived their early attempts to take care of them.⁵¹

May 1929: New Troop 44 was formed at the Arden Shore rest camp under Scoutmaster Lewis.⁵²

June 1929: Robert Roeber (Figure 14) organized a new Troop 48 at Halsey School, becoming its Scoutmaster. In August the troop announced that it had Montague R. Rasmussen as its Committee Chairman, four other men on its troop committee, and 9 Boy Scouts.⁵³

July 1929: The second period at NSAC's new Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan was attended by 11 Scouts from Troop 45, including all 4 who went to Camp Checaugau the previous summer, and 3 Scouts from Troop 46. Lake Forest Scout Bruce Kenyon was a member of the camp staff.⁵⁴

September 1929: Troop 48 received its charter from the National Council, which required for the first time that all adult leaders must be registered with it. It was noted that "what constitutes membership on the part of adults . . . hitherto . . . has been in some cases rather indefinite." Registered adult leaders were to be called "Scouters."⁵⁵

October 1929: Troop 45's new Scoutmaster, Merle C. Tibbetts (Figure 15) of Melody Farm on Milwaukee Avenue, spoke about his sons' experience at camp at a post-camp reunion at Deerfield-Shields High School that was attended by 336 1929 campers and their dads. The program's "big surprise of the evening was an entertainment by a real Indian, Chief Whirling Thunder," who joined the camp staff in 1930 as an Indian lore expert.⁵⁶

November 1929: The Lake Forest troops held a camporee at Everett. Hobart Swan of Libertyville Troop 71 planned to start a new troop at Everett, but did not accomplish it.⁵⁷

November 1929: Bruce Kenyon (Figure 16) of Troop 45 became Lake Forest's first Eagle Scout after moving to Lake Forest from Wilmette and transferring from Troop 4 in September 1928. He later became NSAC's Commissioner in 1950 and was its President from 1952 to 1956. Gilbert Porter III (Figure 17) was named Chairman of the Lake Forest District of the Council. Arden Shore Troop 44 received its charter from the National Council, with Daniel J. Cech as its Scoutmaster.⁵⁸

December 1929: The NSAC provided an Indian sign language training session by renowned sign language expert William Tompkins (Figure 18) on December 7 at the Lake Forest

⁵¹ LFF0358 (4/19/1929 – 10), LFF0360 (5/3/1929 – 22), LFF0364 (5/17/1929 – 8).

⁵² LFF0364 (5/17/1929 – 8).

⁵³ LFF0375 (6/21/1929 – 17), LFF0387 (8/9/1929 – 1).

⁵⁴ LFF0384 (7/26/1929 – 15).

⁵⁵ LFF0395 (9/13/1929 – 12).

⁵⁶ LFF0401 (10/11/1929 – 14).

⁵⁷ NSAC175 (12/5/1929 – 37), LFF0415 (12/6/1929 – 16), NSAC178 (12/12/1929 – 48-49), LFF0417 (12/13/1929 – 22).

⁵⁸ LFF0404 (11/1/1929 – 6), LFF0407 (11/15/1929 – 1), NEIC History Timeline, <https://neic.org/about-us/history/>.

Young Men’s Club for all of the Council’s junior leaders. Tompkins, an adopted Sioux, had taught sign language at the World Jamboree in Britain the previous summer. The junior leader session was attended by 125 Scouts from 40 of the Council’s 52 troops. Indian sign language was an alternate for Second Class and First Class signaling requirements.⁵⁹



Figure 16



Figure 17



Figure 18

December 1929: Gilbert Porter announced a campaign for financial support for the Lake Forest Boy Scouts and sent out two letters to the citizens of the town. He received a “splendid response” to the first letter, but cautioned that Lake Forest residents should remit funds to his Lake Forest committee since “[m]oney contributed to the Chicago council remains in Chicago.”⁶⁰

February 1930: As part of Boy Scout Week, Troops 44, 45, 46, and 48 staged an emergency response mobilization, “answering a surprise call and reporting at the fire station, the place designated, in record time.” Troop 45 paced the rest by all but one Scout, who was sick in bed, being present in 5 minutes. New Lake Forest Troop 49 was organized at St. Mary’s Church after the Chicago Archdiocese adopted Scouting as a program in connection with the Junior Holy Name Society. Scoutmaster Joseph Lenner of the new troop led 19 Scouts.⁶¹

June 1930: The Young Men’s Club agreed to sponsor a Lake Forest Sea Scout Ship under Skipper Benjamin Carpenter, “well known as one of Chicago’s most capable and

⁵⁹ LFF0415 (12/6/1929 – 16), LFF0417 (12/13/1929 – 22).

⁶⁰ LFF0414 (12/6/1929 – 1), LFF0416 (12/13/1929 – 9), LFF0425 (1/10/1930 – 2).

⁶¹ LFF0435 (2/14/1930 – 6), LFF0437 (2/14/1930 – 12), LFF0441 (2/28/1930 – 12).

experienced yachtsmen.” Candidates for the ship had to be 15 or older and the roster of 15 Scouts would be “carefully selected” by the ship’s committee.⁶²

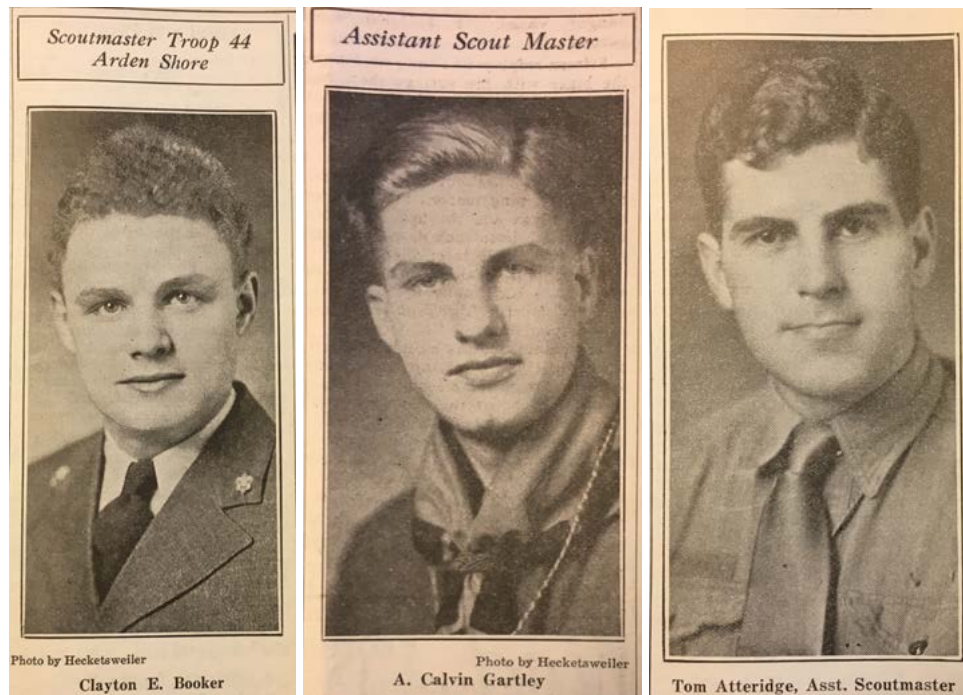


Figure 19

Figure 21

Figure 22

July 1930: Arden Shore Troop 44 reregistered with 8 Scouts under Scoutmaster Clayton E. Booker (Figure 19), with Daniel Cech as his assistant. It was noted that the troop only met in the winter “as there are no boys at Arden Shore during the summer.” A new Lake Forest Troop 58 was formed at Lake Forest Baptist Church, with Scoutmaster Washington Jordan leading a troop of 7 colored Scouts. Seven Scouts from Troop 46 left for the first period at Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan.⁶³

August 1930: Lake Forest Troop 48 (Figure 20) attended Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan during the third period, led by Scoutmaster Roeber and Assistant Scoutmaster A. Calvin Gartley (Figure 21). Assistant Scoutmaster Thomas Atteridge, Jr. (Figure 22) led Troop 45 at camp.⁶⁴

September 1930: Following the donation to the NSAC by an anonymous Winnetka donor of a 43’ two-masted Marconi-rigged schooner, the “Albatross,” that won third place in the 1929 Mackinac Race, new Lake Forest Sea Scout Ship 62, the “Lightning,” began its activities. It was noted that by the end of the month, the Lake Forest Sea Scouts had taken several training cruises on the “Albatross” (Figure 23).⁶⁵

⁶² LFF0480 (6/20/1930 – 1).

⁶³ LFF0486B (7/4/1930 – 18).

⁶⁴ LFF0496 (8/1/1930 – 7).

⁶⁵ LFF0510 (9/26/1930 – 24).



Figure 20

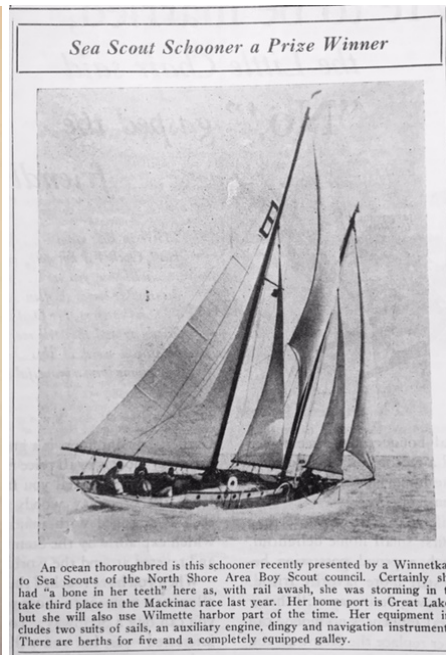


Figure 23

October 1930: Ian McPherson (Figure 24) of Troop 45 became the first Lake Forest Eagle Scout to have started his Scouting career with "original membership" in a Lake Forest troop, starting in July 1927. His "good turns" included fundraising "for Irene Castle McLaughlin's Orphans of the Storm haven for dogs."⁶⁶



Figure 24

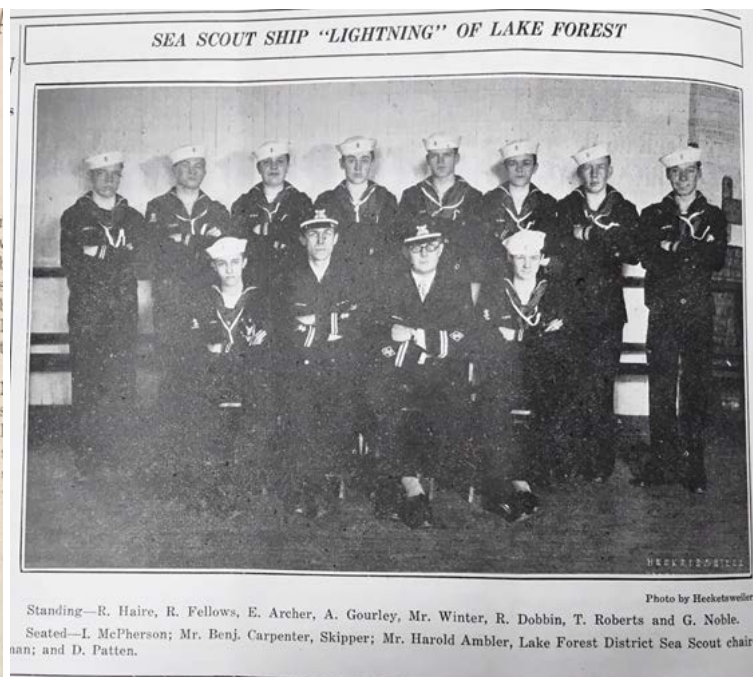


Figure 25

⁶⁶ LFF0516 (10/10/1930 - 20).

December 1930: Lake Forest District Chairman Gilbert Porter III proudly listed Boy Scout accomplishments in Lake Forest for the year, including the formation of new troops, doubling the number of Scouts in twelve months, paying the Lake Forest District's past obligations, and funding its 1930 budget and Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan quotas in full. He expected that "several units" would be formed in Lake Forest in the first quarter of 1931 for the new Cubs program for 9 to 11 year old boys. He noted that Scouting was "part of daily camp life" at Arden Shore and "every boy of age has eagerly enrolled as a Boy Scout." The rest camp's program of work and play was organized by Scoutmaster Clayton Booker, an honor student at Lake Forest College, on the Scouting plan. The troop's roster listed 37 Scouts. Troop 45's roster listed 20 Scouts under Scoutmaster Tibbetts, Troop 46's roster listed 12 Scouts under Scoutmaster Harold Sweeney, Troop 48's roster listed 19 Scouts under Scoutmaster Roeber, Troop 49's roster listed 20 Scouts under Scoutmaster Lenner, Troop 58's roster listed 8 Scouts under Scoutmaster Jordan, and Sea Scout Ship 62, the "Lightning," (Figure 25) listed 10 Scouts under Skipper Carpenter.⁶⁷



Figure 26

February 1931: The NSAC began an ambitious campaign that was to last two weeks, through a victory dinner at New Trier High School, to raise \$50,000 to pay off debts incurred in the acquisition of Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan in 1928 and for operating expenses. The campaign kicked off with an eleven-page section on the council's accomplishments on the North Shore in

⁶⁷ LFF0536 (12/26/1930 -2), LFF0537 (12/26/1930 - 7), LFF0538 (12/26/1930 - 13), LFF0539 (12/26/1930 - 14).

the *Lake Forester* and other local papers. Lake Forest pledged \$7,000 towards the total. However, in mid-March, Porter's Lake Forest District pledge was still \$5261 short of that amount although other towns had gone "over the top" for their quotas. There was no later report on Lake Forest's progress towards its goal.⁶⁸

February 1931: Lake Forest Troop 45 (Figure 26) conducted an investiture ceremony for the Scouts of Troop 58 and in return, the visitors put on a comic stunt that was very well received. Troop 48 collected over 1,500 wire coat hangers to purchase a food basket for a needy family of eight.⁶⁹

April 1931: The Lake Forest troops held a combined hobby show and court of honor at the Lake Forest Winter Club attended by 250 parents and other guests. They also sent a team (Figure 27) to compete in the Midwest Regional first aid meet in Chicago, but there was no report on how well they scored. Acting Lake Forest District Commissioner Robert Roeber introduced two Cubs from new Pack 69 (Figure 28), which had been formed at the Lake Forest Methodist Church with 14 Cubs under Rev. Allan Billman as Cubmaster.⁷⁰

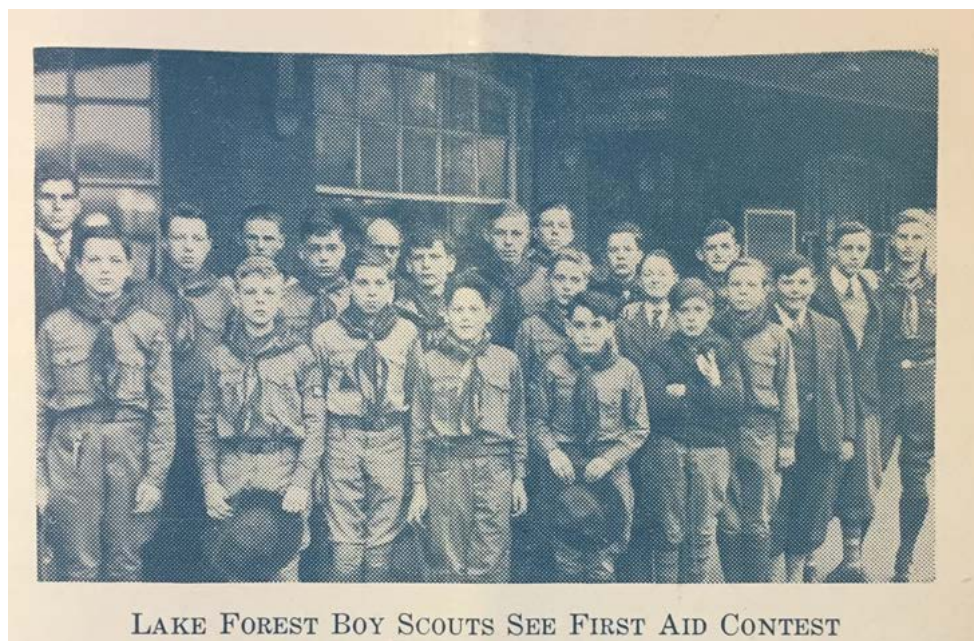


Figure 27

June 1931: As the Boy Rangers continued to meet at the Presbyterian Church, a Cubs group was also scheduled to start meeting there.⁷¹

October 1931: The Lake Forest Boy Scouts worked with the local relief organization to conduct an old clothes collection for distribution to the needy.⁷²

⁶⁸ NSAC330 (3/12/1931 – 6).

⁶⁹ LFF0564 (2/20/1931 – 27).

⁷⁰ LFF0578 (4/10/1931 – 15), LFF0586 (4/17/1931 – 20).

⁷¹ LFF0608 (6/5/1931 – 8), LFF0613 (6/19/1931 – 21).

⁷² LFF0624 (10/2/1931 – 16).



Figure 28

November 1931: The Lake Forest Scouts joined Scouts from the other NSAC communities in beginning a paper drive on November 21, 1931 to aid unemployment relief. Banker and financier Marshall Field III stated that “Boy Scouts look upon the present emergency as their biggest chance for service since the war. In the same spirit in which they gave their services in the Liberty Loan campaigns, and other nation-wide activities during the World war, they offer their help in this winter’s crisis. Working in full cooperation with community programs, Boy Scouts are engaging in many activities which range from collecting food and clothing for the needy to serving as uniformed messengers for relief committees.”⁷³

November 1931: Thomas J. Keane (Figure 29) returned to the North Shore from New York to lead a Region 7 training course on Sea Scouting at Great Lakes Naval Training Station on November 7-8, 1931. 30 NSAC leaders were among the 400 leaders in attendance.⁷⁴

⁷³ LFF0634 (11/20/1931 – 19).

⁷⁴ NSAC398 (11/12/1931 – 11).



Figure 29



Figure 30

December 1931: Troops 45, 46, 48, and 49 collected pledge cards for the paper drive (Figure 30) in a house to house canvass in their assigned territories for collection on December 12. 13 Scouts from Troop 45 turned in 127 pledges, 14 Scouts from Troop 48 under Scoutmaster Jack Neale turned in 75 pledges and Scoutmaster Ray Ketcham of Troop 49 reported 49 pledges, according to Lake Forest Press Club District Editor Alan Hokenson. Bundles of paper weighing not more than 50 pounds were to be collected from curbside for delivery to a Chicago paper mill, with the proceeds to go to the Lake Forest city relief fund.⁷⁵

December 1931: The NSAC's Boy Scout Press Club (Figure 31), whose members were tasked with reporting on their troops' activities for the weekly Boy Scout page in the local papers, reorganized itself. Alan Hokenson of Lake Forest Troop 45 was named News Editor for the club. Arden Shore Troop 44 reregistered with 37 Scouts, Troop 46 reregistered with 23 Scouts, and Troop 48 reregistered with 26 Scouts. Troop 49 reregistered late in February, with 10 Scouts. Figures were not reported for Troops 45 or 58.⁷⁶

⁷⁵ LFF0635 (11/27/1931 – 1), LFF0641 (12/11/1931 – 6).

⁷⁶ NSAC410 (12/17/1931 – 34), LFF0645 (12/18/1931 – 21), NSAC411 (12/24/1931 – 26).



Figure 31

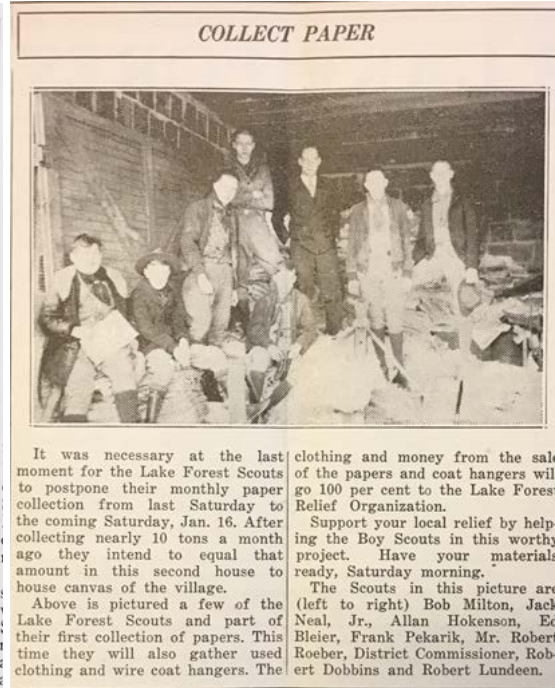


Figure 32

December 1931: Following an earlier good turn by Lake Forest Troop 48 in February, 487 Cubs from the NSAC's packs collected coat hangers for local relief funds in December. They had collected 28,000 hangers as of December 24. After meeting at a cabin in Swift's Woods, Troop 48 secured a winter meeting place in a ballroom at the Deerpath Inn.⁷⁷

January 1932: The Lake Forest Scouts (Figure 32) collected 10 tons of paper in December and another 10 tons in January for the benefit of the city's relief fund, as well as old clothing and wire coat hangers. The Lake Forest Kiwanis Club became the new sponsor of Arden Shore Troop 44, continuing under Scoutmaster Clayton Booker with 51 Scouts, every boy at the camp.⁷⁸

February 1932: The Lake Forest Scouts conducted a house to house canvass to collect paper as part of an emergency mobilization of Scouts from Troops 45, 46, and 48. A new Lake Forest Cub Pack 90 was organized at the Presbyterian Church under Cubmaster P.C. Allen, with 9 Cubs. There were also "prospects" at the church for formation of a Sea Scout patrol from Troop 46.⁷⁹

February 1932: Lake Forest District Chairman T.A. Connors (Figure 33) began organizing workers for the NAX's 1932 \$27,000 finance campaign, which started with a kickoff dinner meeting for 800 workers for the whole Council at New Trier High School on February 19 and four pages of coverage in the *Lake Forester*. Lake Forest District Finance Chairman

⁷⁷ LFF0650 (1/15/1932 – 2).

⁷⁸ LFF0650 (1/15/1932 – 2), LFF0653 (1/22/1932 – 16), LFF0654 (1/29/1932 – 5), LFF0672 (3/17/1932 – 2).

⁷⁹ LFF0656 (2/4/1932 – 10), LFF0664 (2/18/1932 – 2).

Benjamin B. Bryan, Jr. assembled a group of 11 captains with 5 workers on each team, divided into the city's four wards and a business section to raise the Lake Forest quota.⁸⁰



Figure 33



Figure 34

March 1932: Scouts from Lake Forest Troops 45, 46, 48, and 49 presented a check for \$129.50 (Figure 34) to Mayor Farwell for the City of Lake Forest's relief fund as the proceeds for their paper collection to date.⁸¹

April 1932: A capacity crowd attended the Lake Forest Scouting Exhibition and Court of Honor at Gorton School, where "the halls and rooms were filled with displays and scouting hobbies" and a one and a half hour program of "scouting demonstrations and comedy stunts" was presented. A long list of awards were presented by Scoutmaster Carl Parker to the Troop 44 Scouts, by Merle Tibbetts to the Troop 45 Scouts, by Dr. George Roberts to the Troop 46 Scouts, and by Montague Rasmussen to the Troop 48 Scouts, and charters were presented to Troop 49, Sea Scout Ship 62, and Cub Packs 69 and 90.⁸²

April 1932: Lake Forest Troop 48's first aid team, captained by Ian McPherson, beat runnerup Highwood Troop 36 97.6 points to 97.2 points in the NSAC's elimination meet at Kenilworth. The winning team planned to train weekly under the Director of First Aid of the North Shore Line before competing in the Chicago Metropolitan Area Finals. There was no report on how well they did in the finals, however.⁸³

⁸⁰ LFF0666 (2/18/1932 – 10), LFF0667 (2/18/1932 – 11), LFF0668 (2/18/1932 – 12), LFF0669 (2/18/1932 – 13).

⁸¹ LFF0670 (3/3/1932 – 1), LFF0671 (3/10/1932 – cover).

⁸² LFF0676 (4/14/1932 – 8).

⁸³ LFF0677 (4/14/1932 – 14).

June 1932: Lake Forest District Commissioner Robert J. Roeber became the first NSAC Scouter to receive the Scoutmaster's Key. The requirements included five years of service as a Scoutmaster and taking seven different training courses. District Vice Chairman Montague Rasmussen announced that the Lake Forest Scouts would distribute posters to aid the Salvation Army Home Service Appeal to raise funds for the care of thousands of social service problems.⁸⁴

August 1932: The Troop 48 Scouts at Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan identified a new insect species on a nature hike, *amos quito*, and turned out for a fire drill in 3 minutes, 30 seconds.⁸⁵

October 1932: According to church bulletins published in the *Lake Forester*, Troop 45 began meeting at the Lake Forest Methodist Church at least as early as the beginning of the 1932-33 school year, its last meeting at the Episcopal Church's bulletin being listed in June 1931. There is no mention of Troop 45 in the paper after the 1933-34 school year and it may have been disbanded at that point.⁸⁶

February 1933: Lake Forest District Chairman T.A. Connors and Vice Chairman Rasmussen began a two-week fund drive to raise Lake Forest's quota of \$3,300 for the NSAC budget of \$19,000 for 1933, which included a \$7,500 deficit carried over from 1932 and \$11,500 for 1933 operations. It was prominently stated that the Council's expenses of \$6 per Scout were well below the national average of \$10.33.⁸⁷

March 1933: Lake Forest Troop 48 reported that four of its Scouts, Bob Milton, Ernie Gilroy, Jack Neale, and Elmer Carlquist, had qualified to become Eagle Scouts. Calvin Gartley was elected the fourth annual Chief of the Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Lodge 40 of the Order of the Arrow, and Elmer Carlquist was selected as chief of the Lake Forest District of the lodge. Robert Roeber chaired the lodge's Entertainment Committee.⁸⁸

April 1933: Arden Shore Troop 44 held an end of season court of honor where awards were presented by Scoutmaster John Amos and Assistant Scoutmaster Carl Parker. It was remarked that "[p]ractically every boy in Arden Shore who is of Scouting age is a Scout, their whole program at the camp being organized around the Scouting program and ideals. The Scout Oath and the 12 points of the Scout Law is the code of conduct."⁸⁹

May 1933: The Scouts of the Lake Forest Sea Scout Ship "Lightning" tied for first place with the Chicago team at the Region 7 Sea Scout swimming championship at Shawnee Country Club in Wilmette, now the Michigan Shores Club. Eight Scouts from Troop 46 attended the Boy Scout circus at Chicago Stadium on tickets donated by R. Douglas Stuart.⁹⁰

⁸⁴ LFF0689 (6/30/1932 – 5).

⁸⁵ LFF0694 (8/4/1932 – 9).

⁸⁶ LFF0608 (6/5/1931 – 8), LFF0702 (10/27/1932 – 15).

⁸⁷ LFF0716 (2/9/1933 – 1), LFF0718 (2/9/1933 – 6).

⁸⁸ LFF0720 (3/2/1933 – 6), LFF721 (3/9/1933 – 8).

⁸⁹ LFF0725 (4/6/1933 – 8).

⁹⁰ LFF0731 (5/25/1933 – 1), LFF732 (5/25/1933 – 5).

August 1933: After returning from Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan, where Troop 46 Scout Ian McPherson was on staff, the Scouts of the troop decided to meet on the beach every Friday night for the rest of the summer.⁹¹

September 1933: Twenty-three year old Calvin Gartley received the Third Degree, now Vigil, honor at the Order of the Arrow's National Grand Lodge Meeting at Camp Owasippe in Michigan, one of 16 persons so honored. He and three other members of the Order from the Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Lodge, along with four members of the Order from Chicago, gave first aid to the victims of an auto accident 20 miles north of Michigan City, Indiana on the way home from the meeting.⁹²

October 1933: Lake Forest District Chairman T.A. Connors, Lake Forest District Commissioner Garrit Box, Calvin Gartley, Montague Rasmussen and others met at the Lake Forest Library to plan "a big program of fall and winter work including many new activities" to provide "a busy year" for the Lake Forest Scouts. One activity headed by Gartley as Order of the Arrow Lodge Chief was Paul Bunyan Week, during which the members of the Order were to visit every troop to promote registration at Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan and to form Paul Bunyan Clubs in advance of a camp reunion in Highland Park on November 3.⁹³

November 1933: The Lake Forest Scouts assisted the Community Council's used clothing collection for the needy by picking up clothes from those who were unable to bring them to the Council's office in Market Square.⁹⁴

February 1934: Ian McPherson was one of only two Sea Scouts in the NSAC, and 300 Sea Scouts nationally, to earn the rank of Quartermaster, the Sea Scout equivalent of Eagle Scout. Lake Forest Troop 49 was the only troop in town to qualify for the President Roosevelt Award for progress during 1933. On Saturday, February 17, 5 Scouts from Troop 45, 7 Scouts from Troop 46, 7 Scouts from Troop 48, and 6 Scouts from Troop 49 ran the City of Lake Forest for 3 hours, and reported on their duties at an 11:30 council meeting.⁹⁵

April 1934: Lake Forest Troops 45 and 48 received Certificates for Good Appearance by achieving at least a 75% rating in inspections made during Boy Scout Week. Troop 46 received a Progress in Good Appearance certificate for scoring between 50% and 75%. Troop 49 did not qualify.⁹⁶

May 1934: Tom Atteridge of the Troop 46 Sea Scout Patrol was listed as one of the Skippers getting the NSAC schooner "Albatross" ready for summer cruises.⁹⁷

June 1934: Calvin Gartley was unable to act as the Wilderness Camp Director for older Scouts at Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan since he was engaged in making windshields for Henry Ford at

⁹¹ LFF0741 (8/3/1933 – 6).

⁹² LFF0744 (9/14/1933 – 1), WLS2177 (9/14/1933 – 18).

⁹³ LFF0746 (10/19/1933 – 1), LFF747 (10/19/1933 – 6).

⁹⁴ LFF0749 (11/2/1933 – 1).

⁹⁵ LFF0752 (2/1/1934 – 6), LFF0753 (2/8/1934 – 7) LFF0756 (2/22/1934 – 1).

⁹⁶ LFF0761 (4/26/1934 – 3).

⁹⁷ LFF0773 (5/24/1934 – 6).

the Chicago World's Fair. Ian McPherson of Lake Forest Sea Scout Ship "Lightning" was on deck as the camp's Boating Director. The Lake Forest Sea Scouts, under Skipper J.O. Corrin, launched their boat at Great Lakes Naval Training Station and began taking trips in it.⁹⁸

October 1934: Thirty men and boys attended a meeting at the Lake Forest Library called by a sponsoring committee of Corson Ellis, Benjamin Bryan, Jr., D.W. Buchanan, Frederick Wacker and Thomas A. Connors "to start Sea Scouting in Lake Forest," stating that "a very fine program has been arranged for the coming year, with a chance for the boys to sail their own boats next spring and summer." Quartermaster Ian McPherson spoke in favor of the plan. It was agreed that the Sea Scouts would construct ice boats for use during the winter.⁹⁹

December 1934: Calvin Gartley became one of the Arden Shore staff members running its Scouting program, which "during the winter time is conducted as a school and camp for underprivileged boys of the city of Chicago." The boys were to transfer to Chicago troops at the end of the season in May and a new group of boys who were "undernourished and in poor health" would take their places the following November.¹⁰⁰

February 1935: The Lake Forest Scouts planted a memorial elm at Triangle Park in recognition of Scouting's 25-year Silver Jubilee. The tree was presented to the city with an address by Montague Rasmussen.¹⁰¹

January 1936: NSAC Vice President T.A. Connors announced a local canvass in Lake Forest to raise the city's \$2,500 budget for the 170 Boy Scouts and Cubs in Lake Forest and Arden Shore, listing a finance committee of 38 men. Half of that amount was raised in the first week of the campaign. It was noted that other North Shore communities had "already provided for their Scouts through their local Community Chest campaigns," an organization that Lake Forest lacked.¹⁰²

October 1936: Robert Roeber was elected Lake Forest District Chairman to replace retiring Chairman Thomas A. Connors at a meeting chaired by Lake Forest Mayor Francis Mannierre. Roeber was the first local businessman to hold the position. The Lake Forest Boy Scout Committee was to "undergo a complete reorganization" under Roeber, described as making "the Lake Forest Boy Scout executives active in the daily work of the Scouts. Men whose business interests are in Chicago are unable to devote enough time to Scouting, and the reorganization makes possible a closer co-operation between executives and troop leaders. . . . [i]t is hoped that every boy in Lake Forest will have the opportunity to take part in the interesting and educational program of scouting."¹⁰³

⁹⁸ LFF0775 (6/7/1934 – 6), LFF0776 (6/14/1934 – 3).

⁹⁹ LFF0793 (10/18/1934 – 1), LFF0794 (11/1/1934 – 1).

¹⁰⁰ LFF0797 (12/6/1934 – 5), LFF0807 (5/9/1935 – 1).

¹⁰¹ LFF0800 (2/14/1935 – 1).

¹⁰² LFF0817 (1/16/1936 – 1), LFF0819 (1/23/1936 – 1).

¹⁰³ LFF0830 (10/29/1936 – 2).

December 1936: Over 50 Lake Forest Scouts attend a court of honor at the Lake Forest Library at which Jack Neale was awarded a Scoutmaster's Key, 14 Troop 49 Scouts were given Tenderfoot badges, and 35 Arden Shore Scouts also received Tenderfoot badges.¹⁰⁴

February 1937: The Scouts of the "newly organized" Lake Forest Troop 49, under Scoutmaster Robert Spellman and Assistant Scoutmaster Elmer Fabry, had a first aid demonstration at their weekly meeting by Scouts from Highwood Troop 36. Thomas A. Connors received the Silver Beaver Award from the NSAC for his services to Scouting, the highest honor that a council can bestow. Ian McPherson, a junior at Lake Forest College, was named Scoutmaster of Troop 46 and was succeeded as Cubmaster of Cub Pack 90 by Richard Gipe, a freshman at the college.¹⁰⁵

March 1937: Lake Forest Troop 46 competed in the NSAC first aid meet in Wilmette, but there is no report on how well it fared. It also participated in the council's camporal, a "patrol competitive camping event," in June, but again, without a report on how it scored.¹⁰⁶

October 1937: At a planning meeting in the "new Scouter's room" on N. Western Ave., the Lake Forest leaders discussed "the possibilities of increasing troop membership and adult leaders," strengthening Cubbing, and formation of a new troop. The NSAC listed Scouts Ernest Gilroy and Jack Neale of Troop 48 and Scouter Ian McPherson among its registered and active Eagle Scouts.¹⁰⁷

February 1938: An article in the *Lake Forester* by Calvin Gartley stated that "Scouting is definitely on the upswing in Lake Forest," urging all of the Lake Forest troops to use the Scout Cabin at Swift's Woods and all of the Scouts to re-register so as not to "curtail" outdoor activities. He reported a "senior council" of Scouts aged 15 and over had been created to try to organize an Explorer patrol.¹⁰⁸

May 1938: Gartley chaired the camporal committee for troops in the NSAC "north end" towns of Highwood, Lake Forest, Lake Bluff, Waukegan, Zion, and Libertyville. He was assisted by Lake Forest District Commissioner Garrit Box and Scoutmasters Ian McPherson, John Roberts, Jack Neale, Ken Kennedy, and Fred Jensen. However, no results of a north end camporal were announced and the planned separate north end event apparently became part of the Council's single council-wide tenth annual event held in the Turnbull Woods Forest Preserve in Glencoe.¹⁰⁹

¹⁰⁴ LFF0833 (12/17/1936 – 16).

¹⁰⁵ LFF0836 (2/4/1937 – 7), LFF0839 (2/18/1937 – 3), LFF0840 (2/25/1937 – 3).

¹⁰⁶ LFF0842 (3/11/1937 – 5), LFF0857 (6/10/1937 – 4).

¹⁰⁷ LFF0868 (10/17/1937 – 16), LFF0869 (10/21/1937 – 9).

¹⁰⁸ LFF0881 (2/24/1938 – 17).

¹⁰⁹ LFF00891 (5/5/1938 – 4), LFF893 (5/12/1938 – 5), LFF0894 (5/19/1938 – 3), WLS2502 (5/19/1938 – 8), WLS2506 (5/26/1938 – 22).



Figure 35

January 1939: Calvin Gartley (Figure 35, center) was tapped to become chairman of the Activities Committee for the Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Lodge 40 Order of the Arrow, and Robert Johnson was elected Chief of the Lake Forest District.¹¹⁰

March 1939: Lake Forest Troop 49 at St. Mary's Church was to be "reorganized and restored to full-time activities," starting with a visit to the Arden Shore troop "to witness a demonstration of scouting by boys who have been carefully trained in the work," followed by a visit to the Rosenwald Museum in Chicago, now the Museum of Science and Industry, roller skating at Great Lakes, Cubs and White Sox games, and "overnight camping." By contrast, Troop 46 was described as "very active at present" as it prepared for the NSAC first aid meet, although it lost Scoutmaster Ian McPherson to Lake Bluff Troop 42.¹¹¹

May 1939: Two patrols from Lake Forest Troop 49 and one from Troop 46 competed in the NSAC camporal among 40 other patrols in the council, for a total of 350 Scouts, twice as many as the 1938 camporal, with Calvin Gartley again on the committee. At the end of the camporal on Sunday, 1,200 Boy Scouts, Cubs, and their parents attended a Mother's Day tribute program that included the Highland Park Troop 324 band and four Scout drum and bugle corps.¹¹²

May 1939: After being absent from the pages of the *Lake Forester* for some time, it was reported that a Lake Forest Cub Pack was being organized. With the assistance of Lake Forest

¹¹⁰ LFF0904 (1/5/1939 – 4).

¹¹¹ LFF0908 (3/9/1939 – 15), LFF0910 (3/16/1939 – 19), LFF0912 (3/23/1939 – 17), LFF0913 (3/30/1939 – 16).

¹¹² LFF0918 (5/4/1939 – 13), WLS2564 (5/18/39 – 56).

School Superintendent Dr. M.O. Davis, school children were contacted about a proposed pack and 75 applications were submitted. Meetings at the Lake Forest Library drew 80 parents interested and willing to participate. Joseph C. Emma, manager of the Deerpath Theatre, became chairman of the pack committee and Walter R. Cannon of the Lake Forest Day School was appointed Cubmaster. Cubs from the Lake Bluff pack visited one of the organizational meetings. 60 boys registered with the new Lake Forest Pack 90 by the end of the month, when they were visited by the Highland Park Cubs and the Highland Park Troop 324 band. The following month, over 100 Cubs were registered and 11 den mothers were signed up.¹¹³

October 1939: An editorial in the *Lake Forester* that urged Lake Foresters to take “concerted civic action” to support the Young Men’s Club, which had had a “precarious” financial situation since the depression of 1929 but which continued “keeping our boys off the street,” observed that “Lake Forest is a city of beauty and cultural opportunities but little community spirit. Civic enterprises such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and similar organizations have never flourished here.”¹¹⁴

October 1939: The Cubs reorganized for the 1939-40 school year into 15 dens under Cubmaster Cannon, including a planned den to meet at Everett School in West Lake Forest, with each den having an assigned den chief. The pack leadership thoughtfully provided a “comprehensive outline of the method of conducting a den meeting” for those den mothers who “have had no time to read their den-mother books,” plus plans for building bird feeding stations and a budget plan “showing where every penny of the den dues will be expended.”¹¹⁵

December 1939: The calendar year for Lake Forest Pack 90 closed with an awards ceremony at the Deerpath Theatre plus a special showing of the “Boy Scout World Review,” with each Cub guided to his assigned seat by his den chief, courtesy of Committee Chairman Joseph Emma.¹¹⁶

January 1940: Lake Forest District Commissioner Garrit Box reported a “definite increase” in Scouting activity in 1938 and 1939, with 149 Lake Forest and Arden Shore Boy Scouts in 4 troops under Scoutmasters Al Quambusch, Robert Lundeen, Jack Neale, and Calvin Gartley. The troops “are finding themselves in Lake Forest and “will become an integral part of the community” despite the previous “years of poorly handled troops.” The Cub pack under Cubmaster Walter Cannon, athletic director of the Lake Forest Country Day School, had 129 registered Cubs.¹¹⁷

April 1940: All of the Cubs in Lake Forest Pack 90 assembled at the Deerpath Theatre for a hike to Fort Sheridan. They met at the theater the following week for examinations for rank advancement, then saw the “Swiss Family Robinson,” courtesy of Committee Chairman Emma.¹¹⁸

¹¹³ LFF0917 (5/4/1939 – 5), LFF0922 (5/18/1939 – 5), LFF0924 (5/25/1939 – 5), LFF0926 (5/25/1939 – 5), LFF0929 (5/25/1939 – 5).

¹¹⁴ LFF0938 (10/5/1939 – 4).

¹¹⁵ LFF0939 (10/12/1939 – 3), LFF0940 (10/12/1939 – 5), LFF0941 (11/2/1939 – 3).

¹¹⁶ LFF0947 (12/14/1939 – 22), LFF0948 (12/21/1939 – 3).

¹¹⁷ LFF0950 (1/18/1940 – 3).

¹¹⁸ LFF0965 (4/18/1940 – 13).

May 1940: It was expected that each of the Lake Forest troops would send a patrol to the NSAC camporal. However, no results were reported. As of the final meeting of the year, Lake Forest Pack 90 had 95 registered Cubs and Committee Chairman Emma put on a special showing of “Pinocchio” for the Cubs.¹¹⁹

March 1941: A five-Scout team from Lake Forest Troop 46 tied for first place and earned an “A” rating in the district first aid meet at Libertyville High School, with 125 Boy Scouts competing. The troop’s second team earned a “B” rating, and Troop 42’s team earned a “C” rating.¹²⁰

July 1941: The Lake Forest Boy Scouts participated in the National Defense Collection Week program, with Garrit Bax as Boy Scout representative. Bax was out of town for the formal opening of the program on July 24, possibly with the 35 Scouts from Troops 42, 46, 48, and 49 at Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan for the third period. The Scouts conducted a house to house canvass that collected used aluminum items like doll’s cookwear. The used aluminum was smelted to free up first run aluminum for airplane manufacture. The Lake Forest drive collected 990 pounds of aluminum, more than Highland Park collected.¹²¹

December 1941: Dick Quasey was appointed district chief for Lake Forest/Lake Bluff at the annual dinner of Order of the Arrow Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Lodge 40.¹²²

March 1942: Morrow Krum announced plans to form a Cub Scout organization for Lake Forest. Six dens were formed within three weeks. The pack was named in honor of Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Arthur Wagstaff donated 35 birdhouse kits to the new Cubs that he made as a hobby that were “considered to be exceptionally fitted for wren housing.”¹²³

April 1942: Troop 46’s five-Scout and one alternate first aid team, with three members from the 1941 team and captained by William Burgess, earned an “A” rating at the NSAC meet in Kenilworth. They went on to the sectional meet at Niles Township High School in Skokie, where they also earned an “A” rating and qualified for first aid medals.¹²⁴

September 1942: The MacArthur Cub Scout pack under Cubmaster Barrett Scudder resumed meeting with 51 Cubs in six dens.¹²⁵

January 1943: Lake Bluff Eagle Scout Dick Quasey (Figure 36), a neighbor of the author’s great grandmother according to the 1930 Census, was elected lodge chief of Lodge 40 at its annual meeting while home from Marquette University.¹²⁶

¹¹⁹ LFF0967 (5/2/1940 – 17), LFF0969 (5/23/1940 – 22).

¹²⁰ LFF0995 (3/27/1941 – 8).

¹²¹ LFF0998 (7/17/1941 – 1), LFF1000 (7/24/1941 – 1), LFF1001 (7/24/1941 – 12), LFF1002 (7/24/1941 – 2), LFF1007 (8/7/1941 – 2).

¹²² LFF1011 (1/8/1942 – 12).

¹²³ LFF1019 (3/19/1942 – 5).

¹²⁴ LFF1022 (4/9/1942 – 17), LFF1024 (4/23/1942 – 16).

¹²⁵ LFF1027 (9/17/1942 – 13).

¹²⁶ LFF1033 (1/21/1943 – 10), 1930 U.S. Census.

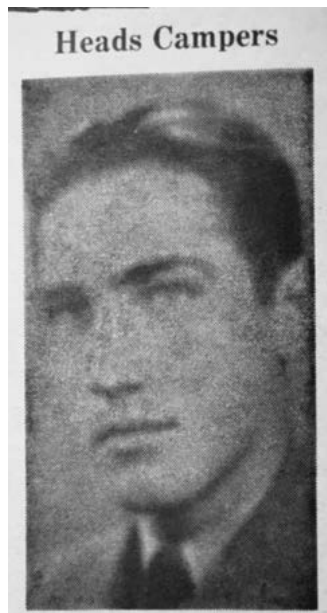


Figure 36

February 1943: The Lake Forest troops exhibited handicrafts, including “miniature bridges and derricks,” for Boy Scout Week at the North Shore Gas Co. showroom.¹²⁷

February 1943: As Jack Neale of Lake Forest Troop 48 was awarded the Silver Beaver for exceptional service to Scouting at the NSAC annual dinner, it was reported that of the 187 adult leaders in the Council as of the start of the war, 102 were in active military duty, along with 4200 North Shore Boy Scouts. A service flag with 102 stars was dedicated at a service conducted by Milton H. Wright of Lake Bluff to be displayed at Council headquarters in Highland Park.¹²⁸

August 1943: Troop 46 Boy Scout Jack Wallace “proved himself to be a true scout” by picking up and carrying a five year old boy home who had fallen out of a tree and seriously injured his left knee on a broken bottle, sending another boy ahead of him.¹²⁹

November 1943: A dinner was held at the Deerpath Inn with Scout Executive Clifton Speer to discuss expanding Scouting in Lake Forest and reorganization of Lake Forest Cub Scouting with “a new program” under Keith Robertson.¹³⁰

February 1944: In connection with Boy Scout Week, it was reported that Lake Forest had the best record on the North Shore for enrolling new boys, with 55 new Scouts enrolled in five troops. Lake Bluff led the Council with 94% of boys in town enrolled in Pack 242 and 53% of Troop 42 Scouts First Class or above. The Council had 259 Scouts per 100 twelve year old

¹²⁷ LFF1037 (2/18/1943 – 11).

¹²⁸ LFF1038 (2/25/1943 – 3).

¹²⁹ LFF1049 (8/4/1943 – 15).

¹³⁰ LFF1057 (11/11/1943 – 3).

boys in 1943, compared to a national average of 87, and had recruited 710 new Scouts, 97% of those available.¹³¹

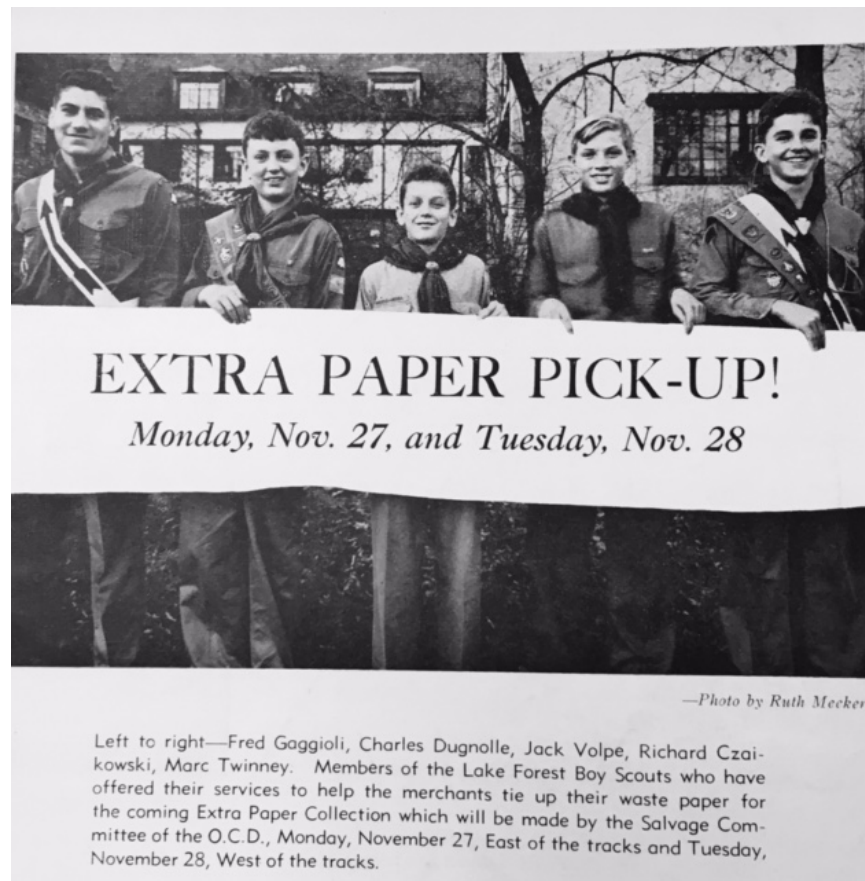


Figure 37

March 1944: Scout Executive Speer announced a six-week training program for Cub Scout leaders at the Winnetka Community House with faculty drawn from the Council's 24 Cub packs.¹³²

June 1944: Lake Forest District finance chairman William Mitchell announced the start of the District's annual fund drive. He noted that the NSAC recruited 101 boys per 100 twelve year olds and retained Scouts for 36 months on average, compared to the national average of 22 months. He reported that Lake Forest Scouts "have taken an active part in the collection of scrap metal and rubber, war savings campaigns, consumers' pledge against waste, air raid poster distribution, American Red Cross co-operation and other campaigns of various types."¹³³

November 1944: The Lake Forest Boy Scouts promoted a special curbside waste paper pickup (Figure 37).¹³⁴

¹³¹ LFF1067 (2/10/1944 – 7).

¹³² LFF1073 (3/17/1944 – 19).

¹³³ LFF1081-82 (6/29/1944 – 9-10).

¹³⁴ LFF1086 (11/24/1944 – cover).

II. Boy Scouting in Lake Bluff

May 1917: As mentioned above in the Lake Forest section, there were five Lake Bluff Boy Scouts who answered the Army's call to act as messengers at Fort Sheridan at the nation's entry into World War I. They were described as belonging to "the company here," apparently a Lake Forest Scout troop.¹³⁵

August 1917: Both Lake Forest and Lake Bluff men created a Boy Scout council to support the Scouting movement "covering the territory of Lake Forest and Lake Bluff," without listing who was from which town or where the troop or troops that they were going to support were located. Nor does the list of Scouts who went to summer camp that summer that month state what towns they were from. An article in June 1924, shortly after two Lake Bluff troops were formed, referred to a visitor to a beach campfire as "Mr. Davies, former scoutmaster here," suggesting that there was an earlier Lake Bluff troop, but no further information about it has been found.¹³⁶

February 1924: A retrospective article in 1925 dated the founding of Lake Bluff Boy Scouting to this month:

In February of 1924, a small group of our village boys came together as a troop of Scouts. There were hardly enough of them to make one patrol, and they were real pioneers, those boys were. They had trouble in getting a meeting place; they had no money and very little backing. They had everything to do. Personal and troop advancement to gain, equipment to obtain, and troop morale to establish.

For over a year and a half those boys have worked hard, and quickly. Their troop has grown in size and strength. The boys themselves have left behind their indifferent ways and have undertaken the responsibilities of American citizenship¹³⁷

May 1924: Lake Bluff Scouting had grown enough by May for five squads of Scouts to patrol the village for a spring cleanup, picking up and burning loose paper and straightening up vacant lots. They also "examined every house and yard in the village and reported each residence that was untidy," asking the owners to "co-operate and clean up their premises." The Scouts planned a "contest and exhibition that is open to everyone" at the Lake Bluff School and a father-son dinner at Union Church. "Boyleless fathers" were invited to "adopt a son for the evening" by calling Robert Wright (Figure 38), a high school classmate of the author's grandmother, or Leo Montgomery.¹³⁸

¹³⁵ LFF0005 (5/12/1917 – 7).

¹³⁶ LFF0010 (8/18/1917 – 8), LFF0011 (8/25/1917 – 4), LFF0012 (9/8/1917 – 8), LFF0121 (6/13/1924 – 4).

¹³⁷ LFF0178 (9/11/1925 – 4).

¹³⁸ LFF0178 (9/11/1925 – 4).

May 1924: The exhibition was staged by Lake Bluff Troop 1 under Scoutmaster Milton H. Wright and Assistant Scoutmasters Robert Wright and Montgomery and by Troop 2 at the Methodist Deaconess Orphanage under Scoutmaster T.T. Johnson, with a local organization chaired by Maurice Mandeville, a neighbor of the author's great grandmother according to the 1920 census. Troop 2 "gave a military drill with no commands, aided only by a whistle, showing the result of a great deal of earnest training." Troop 1 gave a semaphore signaling demonstration of 86 letters, with 47 sent and received in one minute. The troops competed in knot-tying, signaling, fire aid bandaging, and "rescue work in firemen's tactics." Troop 1 received 9 points and Troop 2 received 5 points. Among the judges was Mr. Pribbenow from Lake Forest.¹³⁹

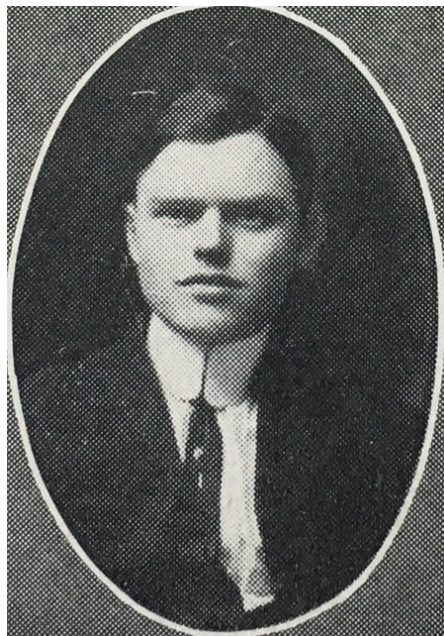


Figure 38



Figure 39

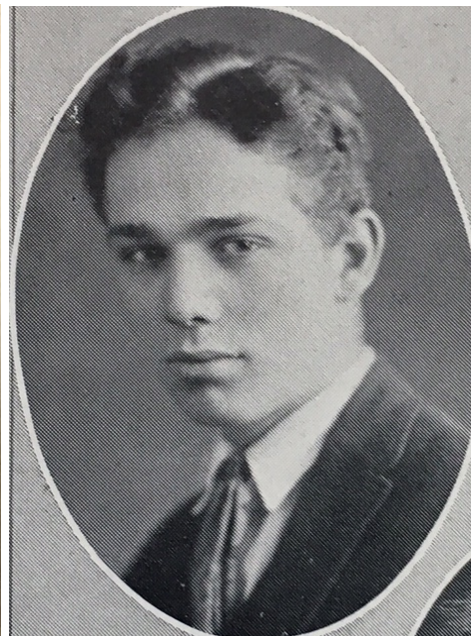


Figure 40

June 1924: The two troops marched from the Lake Bluff School to the beach for a campfire at North Rock after doing more signaling. There, they heard local resident "Bob" Becker (Figure 41) of the Chicago Tribune's "Woods and Waters" department tell "tales of his actual experiences in the jungle lands" and showed the Scouts "a valuable Peruvian rug brought directly from Peru."¹⁴⁰

July 1924: After leading the village July 4 parade, the Lake Bluff Scouts held an investiture ceremony at the school for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class Scouts. Among the new First Class Scouts were Morris Wright (Figure 40) and Milton Wright, Jr. (Figure 42). Chairman Mandeville's "fine talk" was followed by "an extemporaneous speech by every member of the board" and a talk by Scoutmaster Wright "on the things to be gained through Scouting":

[S]tating in his own words that, at the age when the American boy is at the height of his play instincts, the scout organization, by combining the "gang" spirit with

¹³⁹ LFF0115 (5/23/1924 - 3), LFF0119 (5/30/1924 - 3), 1920 U.S. Census.

¹⁴⁰ LFF0121 (6/13/1924 - 4).

adventure and woodcraft and sports, is enabling the boy to exercise all of his boy nature to the best advantage through the direction of capable leaders.¹⁴¹

Bob Becker Speaks Before Lake Bluff Women



COURTESY WAUKEGAN NEWS-SUN
Bob Becker, well known as an authority on dogs, hunting and fishing, was the speaker at the annual "gentlemen's night" of the Lake Bluff Woman's Club in the Village Hall on Tuesday, January 12. Mrs. A. W. Denmore, club president who presided at the meeting, is shown at the left in the above picture. Mr. Becker is a resident of Lake Bluff.

Figure 41



Figure 42

August 1924: In the following month, National Boy Scout Director of Education Ray O. Wyland (Figure 39), "next to Mr. [James E.] West himself, perhaps the most important and influential character engaged in Scout work," visited the Lake Bluff Scouts at the school as part of a tour of the central and western states. Scouts from Lake Forest and North Chicago were also invited to attend. His sister-in-law, Mrs. James B. Northcott of Lake Bluff, also played some violin solos accompanied by her sister, Mrs. Wyland. Wyland returned for a Troop 42 father-son dinner at Grace Methodist Church in March 1930 and made other appearances at North Shore Scouting events in later years.¹⁴²

May 1925: The Lake Bluff Scouts raised the flag for the village's Memorial Day exercises after a quiet school year.¹⁴³

August 1925: Twelve Lake Bluff Scouts left for a two-week summer camp with Scoutmaster Wright at the Chicago Council's Camp Checaugau in a forest preserve at Palatine, Illinois at a cost of \$10 each. They joined a camp with 100 Scouts, a staff of 10 Scoutmasters, "each one an expert in his line," 2 chefs, and a doctor. They were joined by more Scouts a week

¹⁴¹ LFF0127 (7/11/1924 – 5), LFF0128 (7/25/1924 – 5).

¹⁴² LFF0133 (8/22/1924 – 5), LFF0443 (3/7/1930 – 10), LFF0451 (3/14/1930 – 16), LFF0453 (3/14/1930 – 16), LFF0454 (3/21/1930 – 11).

¹⁴³ LFF0167 (5/22/1925 – 8).

later, for a total of 15. They left a substantial record of rank advancement to add to what was done during the summer of 1924, when Scout John Burchard became “the youngest first class scout in the State of Illinois.”¹⁴⁴

December 1925: The end of the year saw a busy father-son Saturday evening. The Scouts began with swimming at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station pool with Erling Dorf, captain of the University of Chicago swim team and one of their Scoutmasters at Camp Checaugau. This was followed by a dinner at the Methodist Church for 100 dads and sons with Maurice Mandeville as toastmaster, guests from Great Lakes, and Waukegan Scout Executive Warren Blodgett. Then came awards for First and Second Class, plus the troop’s first three Star Scouts, for Morris Wright (President of Deerfield-Shields Class of 1925, away at college), Milton Wright, Jr., and John Burchard. “Bob” Becker then took the crowd through Alaska and down the Nipigon River in Canada with three of his movies and his narration at the Lake Bluff School.¹⁴⁵

December 1925: At the same time, as discussed in the Lake Forest section, the Waukegan-North Chicago Council proposed that Lake Bluff and other towns in Lake County join it in forming a Lake County Council. The Highland Park-based North Shore Council and the Lake Forest representatives did not favor the plan, the Lake Forest troops instead joining the North Shore Council in January 1926. Nothing was said in the *Lake Forester* or the *Libertyville Independent* about what the representatives for Lake Bluff and the other towns in Lake County thought of the proposal. The Waukegan-North Chicago Council decided to reapply for a charter for another year without any expanded territory.¹⁴⁶

April 1926: Perhaps following the lead of the Lake Forest Scouts in February, the Lake Bluff Scouts arranged to run the village for two hours on April 10, 1926, with John Burchard as village president. It was observed that “[i]t will behoove every single person to be at his best and most careful self,” with boy policemen to “patrol the village streets all day Saturday to regulate traffic, do good turns, and to see that none of the village ordinances are broken.”¹⁴⁷

April 1926: Despite this warning, the Scouts made several arrests between noon and four o’clock and collected fines in the total amount of \$9.03. This included a \$5 fine for Miller Jones of Chicago “on charges of speeding through the village at 35 miles per hour.” The Boy Scout “firemen operated the truck, attached the hose, and put out several imaginary conflagrations.” The Scout village councilmembers then “made suggestions, offered resolutions, and ordinances” relating to “bond issues, a new water tower, street improvements, better care of wild flowers, and dogs,” the last of which “provoked more interesting discussion than any other.”¹⁴⁸

¹⁴⁴ LFF00175 (8/21/1925 – 4), LFF176 (8/28/1925 – 4), LFF0178 (9/11/1925 – 4).

¹⁴⁵ LFF0189 (12/18/1925 - 2:1).

¹⁴⁶ LFF0190 (12/18/1925 - 2:8), LVS124 (1/14/1926 - 2:1), LFF0194 (1/22/1926 – 1), LFF0197 (1/29/1926 – 9).

¹⁴⁷ LFF0207 (4/9/1926 – 2:1), LFF0209 (4/16/1926 – 3).

¹⁴⁸ LFF0207 (4/9/1926 – 2:1), LFF0209 (4/16/1926 – 3), LFF0211 (4/16/1926 – 6).

April 1926: Afterwards, the Scouts and their parents “indulged in a he-man feed in the social room of the Methodist church” of pork and beans, instead of at the Lake Bluff Country Club as originally announced.¹⁴⁹

May 1926: The Scouts’ next project was to join the Lake Bluff village board’s Mosquito Eradicating Campaign:

Last Saturday the Boy Scouts carried on a survey of the residential part of Lake Bluff to find all possible breeding places of mosquitos. Armed with pencil and paper, long poles, and sponges, the boys went out in groups of three and inspected all eaves troughs, back yards, and vacant lots. They found about one third of our residences with either choked eaves troughs, rain barrels, tin cans, or bottles, where stagnant water is sure to collect and breed mosquitos.

The Scouts then spread oil “on all breeding places that can not be cleaned out otherwise.”¹⁵⁰

June 1926: After placing a wreath on the Memorial Tablet at the village square during the Memorial Day ceremony, another project was to enhance Lake Bluff’s observance of Flag Day on June 14, 1926. The Scouts prepared “a display of flags in the corner windows of the new store block.” They also set up a contest in which “[e]ach patrol has been assigned a street and the patrol will win whose street has the largest percentage of properly displayed flags.” Residents were urged to hoist their flags for the occasion.¹⁵¹

August 1926: Instead of driving in three cars to Palatine, the Lake Bluff Scouts’ 1926 summer camp experience took them across Lake Michigan to the Chicago Council’s new Camp Checaugau, one of the Owasippe camps at Whitehall, Michigan. Fifteen Scouts and Scoutmaster Wright likely took a steamer from Chicago as other North Shore Scouts did that summer. It was a productive two weeks, as five of them achieved the rank of Life and six achieved the rank of Star. Campers were rated by the camp staff in that era, and the Lake Bluff Scouts also did well there. Four were rated as honor campers and all the rest were rated as highly satisfactory. Three of them, John Geraghty, Robert Wright, and Milton Wright, were inducted into “the highest honor which the camp gives,” the Order of the Arrow. These were the first three in any North Shore community to receive that honor.¹⁵²

November 1926: Lake Bluff’s representatives participated in the first meeting of the new NSAC, formed at the end of the month. Maurice Mandeville was named a Vice President of the new council and Walter R. Bimson, a neighbor of the author’s great grandmother according to the 1930 Census, was a member of the executive board. However, as the months passed, the Lake Bluff Scouts appeared to gravitate to the activities of the nearby Waukegan-North Chicago Council rather than to those arranged by the new North Shore group. The *Lake Forester* reported that in 1926, the Waukegan-North Chicago Council rated fifth of the 106 councils in Region 7, a four-state area centered on Chicago, and the Evanston Council was rated second, down from first

¹⁴⁹ LFF0209 (4/16/1926 – 3), LFF0210 (4/16/1926 – 4).

¹⁵⁰ LFF0214 (5/14/1926 – 3).

¹⁵¹ LFF0216 (6/4/1926 – 12), LFF0217 (6/11/1926 – 4).

¹⁵² LFF0218 (8/20/1926 – 4), LFF0219 (9/3/1926 – 3).

in 1925. The rating of the North Shore Council in Highland Park was not reported, perhaps because it was newly formed.¹⁵³

February 1927: Boy Scout Week was observed with several activities in Lake Bluff. The week started with a speech at a joint service at the Methodist Church and the Union Church on Sunday, February 6, by John L. Alexander of Wheaton, Illinois, the author of the first Boy Scout Handbook and organizer of the American Youth Movement. Alexander held the rank of Eagle Scout and was named a Wolf Scout by Sir Robert Baden-Powell. On Saturday, February 12, the Lake Bluff Boy Scout council concluded the week with a court of honor at which “Bob” Becker presented movies. There were investiture ceremonies for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class Scouts for the two troops led by Scoutmasters Montgomery and Wright. Scout Morris Wright came to the rescue of one young Scout who missed his cue for stating the third point of the Scout law during the First Class investiture.¹⁵⁴

March 1927: The Lake Bluff Scouts hosted a monthly meeting of 88 junior officers of the NSAC’s troops, including 11 from Lake Bluff and 4 from Lake Forest, at Lake Bluff School on March 12 at which adult leaders made presentations to the boys. “Bob” Becker told the story of an Indian boy in the Yukon territory. Morris Wright spoke about his summer camp experience. A Glencoe Scout spoke about his newsletter, “The Talk O’ Th’ Troops.” Scout William Masonick of newly renumbered Lake Bluff Troop 42 was a member of the paper’s editorial board.¹⁵⁵

July 1927: Although attendance at Camp Checaugau was promoted in the Lake Bluff column of the *Lake Forester* as well as by Morris Wright, and many North Shore Scouts went to a special “North Shore” period there promoted by the new council, only two Lake Bluff Troop 42 Scouts, Niels Nielsen and Clyde Deyo, went there that summer. Three Scouts from Lake Bluff Troop 41 and three from Troop 42 instead went to the Waukegan-North Chicago Council camp at Lily Lake, Wisconsin. Unfortunately, sixteen year old Troop 42 Scout Milton Kuharske drowned before a lifeguard could reach him while he was taking a boat handling test in which he got out of the boat and had to swim back to it.¹⁵⁶

November 1927: The Scouts of Troop 42 issued a challenge to “all of the older boys of what used to be the famous troop 1, to meet in a friendly but furious” knot-tying contest on November 14, 1927. The Scouts also planned to continue to assist the residents of the village in displaying their flags correctly for Armistice Day on November 11.¹⁵⁷

December 1927: NSAC Scout Executive Walter McPeck visited the Lake Bluff Scouts to show them the new Boy Scout Handbook. He also urged them to attend a council-wide court of honor at Glencoe Union Church that was expected to draw 1,500 attendees. The council

¹⁵³ LFF0229 (11/26/1926 – 1), LFF0230 (12/3/1926 – 1), LFF0247 (2/25/1927 – 11), 1930 U.S. Census.

¹⁵⁴ LFF0236E (1/28/1927 – 3), LFF0237 (2/4/1927 – 3), LFF0238 (2/4/1927 – 6), LFF0240 (2/11/1927 – 3), LFF0241 (2/11/1927 – 7), LFF0246 (2/25/1927 – 3).

¹⁵⁵ LFF0249 (3/4/1927 – 7), LFF0252 (3/11/1927 – 3), LFF0254 (3/11/1927 – 7), NSAC017 (3/17/1927 – 2:4), LFF0256 (3/18/1927 – 3).

¹⁵⁶ LFF0262 (4/15/1927 – 4), NSAC032 (6/23/1927 – 5), LFF0275 (7/8/1927 – 1), WLS1098 (7/15/1927 – 37).

¹⁵⁷ LFF0288 (11/11/1927 – 3).

reported that for its first fiscal year ending November 30, 1927, it had receipts of \$7,139.09, expenses of \$7,091.85, and a bank balance of \$45.25. Receipts included \$200 from Lake Bluff. For fiscal year 1928, receipts grew to \$16,091.80, but expenses also grew to \$16,091.80.¹⁵⁸

January 1928: Several hundred Lake Bluff residents attended a Scout program at the Lake Bluff School on January 27 with National Commissioner Gilbert Butler. The program included a talk by big game hunter Jack Baum and a three-reel film. NSAC President Karl D. King of Wilmette was present, along with Milton H. Wright, chairman of the Lake Bluff Scouting committee, and Walter R. Bimson, chairman of the council's Leadership Training Committee.¹⁵⁹

February 1928: The Scouts of Troop 42 went to Waukegan to see the annual Waukegan-North Chicago Council rally, which "was an inspiration to our boys."¹⁶⁰

March 1928: Fifteen of the 25 Troop 42 Scouts were expected to receive rank advancement or merit badge awards at the council-wide court of honor at Elm Place School in Highland Park on March 16. The thousand-seat auditorium was filled to capacity.¹⁶¹

August 1928: Although the NSAC again promoted a North Shore period at Camp Checaugau in Michigan and many Highland Park and Lake Forest Scouts went there, the Lake Bluff Scouts were not among them. Nor were they among the troops planning to participate in a competitive Scoutcraft rally in October with the troops of the north district from Lake Forest, Highwood, and Highland Park. Instead, the Lake Bluff Scouts attended Camp Sauganash on Lily Lake where several of them completed Red Cross Life Saving or Life Guard requirements.¹⁶²

August 1928: In his capacity as chairman of the NSAC Committee on Leadership, Personnel and Development, Walter Bimson of Lake Bluff announced a rigorous five-year progressive adult training program for the council's adult leaders. The program provided for an elementary course, a standard course for advanced training, and an elements of scoutmastership course. At the end of a five-year period, leaders would be eligible for the Scoutmaster's Key, "an emblem of achievement among scoutmasters comparable to the eagle scout badge among scouts."¹⁶³

November 1928: Niels Nielsen of Troop 42 became Lake Bluff's first Eagle Scout and the youngest in Lake County at the Lake County Council court of honor in Waukegan on November 19. The council had been formed in February 1928 as an expansion of the Waukegan-North Chicago Council to include all of the townships in the north half of the county. At the council's annual meeting at the end of the month, George W. Burchard of Lake Bluff was elected Treasurer and Milton H. Wright, Scoutmaster of Troop 42, was elected Third Vice

¹⁵⁸ LFF0290 (11/18/1927 – 3), NSAC050 (12/22/1927 – 3:8).

¹⁵⁹ LFF0299B (2/3/1928 – 10).

¹⁶⁰ LFF0300A (2/10/1928 – 3).

¹⁶¹ NSAC066 (3/22/1928 – 2:7), NSAC067 (3/22/1928 – 2:10).

¹⁶² LFF0311 (4/9/1928 - 2:7), LFF0319 (5/25/1928 – 10), LFF0324 (8/3/1928 – 4), LFF0327 (8/24/1928 – 3).

¹⁶³ LFF0326 (8/10/1928 – 5).

President. They were re-elected in December 1929. In September 1930, Burchard became the Lake Bluff Community Member of the council and Wright represented the educational interests.¹⁶⁴

February 1929: Among the troops in the Waukegan council that participated in a Scoutcraft rally at Waukegan High School was “the Lake Bluff troop.” It placed second overall to winner Waukegan Troop 15 by one point, 33 to 32. The Lake Bluff team of Niels Nielsen and Lloyd Tingwall was the only one “to complete the message without a mistake” in the signaling contest. They also placed well in marching, first aid, knot-tying, and fire by friction, and placed first in the athletic contest.¹⁶⁵

June 1929: Twelve Scouts from Lake Bluff Troop 42 of the Lake County Council, with the approval of village president Orrie McCombs, as reported in Mrs. McCombs’ weekly column in the *Lake Forester*, demonstrated “active civic service” by cutting the grass on the parkway between the two drives on Centre Avenue. They were expected to take a week to finish the work. Twelve Lake Bluff Scouts, along with Morris Wright as swimming and lifesaving instructor, returned to the Waukegan council’s Camp Sauganash for the June 19-July 3 period.¹⁶⁶

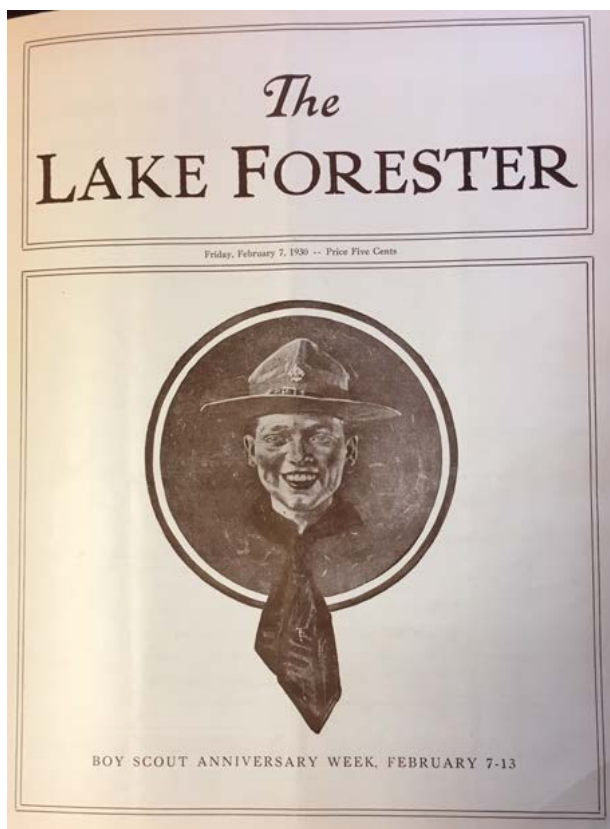


Figure 43

¹⁶⁴ LVS132 (2/9/1928 – 2:2), LFF0332 (11/23/1928 – 3), LFF0335 (11/30/1928 – 6), LVS163 (12/11/1929 – 3), LVS200 (10/2/1930 – 3), LFF0520 (10/24/1930 – 2).

¹⁶⁵ LFF0346 (2/15/1929 – 2).

¹⁶⁶ LFF0373 (6/14/1929 – 17), LFF0374 (6/21/1929 – 12).

December 1929: The members of the Lake Bluff troop bagged and moved half a ton of coal to the home of a needy Lake Bluff family. They then took their first fall hike, the earlier ones having all been rained out.¹⁶⁷

February 1930: Troop 42 again did well in the annual Lake County Council rally, placing second overall to Waukegan Troop 1, “the oldest troop in the entire council,” with Scoutmaster Robert Wright receiving the colors honoring “the outstanding young troop of the entire council and county.” Troop 42 won firsts in the relay race, first aid, and signaling, and second or third place in all the other events. For their special exhibition, they “made two human pyramids and signalled a message in semaphore code between them . . . without a fault.”¹⁶⁸

March 1930: Twenty-nine Lake Bluff Scouts attended a father-son dinner on March 18 with guests Bob Becker, “our ‘Lindbergh of the Canoe,’” Lake County Council Scout Executive Warren Blodgett, Judge Perry Persons of the council court of honor, and others after a Sunday address by National Director of Education and Leadership Training Ray Wyland to them, the Arden Shore Scouts, and the Girl Scouts.¹⁶⁹

October 1930: At a surprise rally called on one week’s notice by Scout Executive Blodgett, Troop 42 won first place, with first and second place in the water boiling contest, first and second place in fire by friction, and first place in the athletic contest. Two hundred Scouts from Lake County Council troops competed in the rally. At the council court of honor, Scout Niels Nielsen was awarded a medal for walking the Lincoln Trail from New Salem to Springfield as well as an Eagle bronze palm. At a citizens meeting, the Lake Bluff residents agreed to continue to support Troop 42 and voted to renew its charter for 1931.¹⁷⁰

November 1930: Troop 42 beat Waukegan Troop 10 54-0 in a football game at Lake Bluff School. The results of a return game in Waukegan were not reported.¹⁷¹

February 1931: The Troop 42 committee decided to seek contributions from village residents for the troop, the largest in the Lake County Council. Cited as reasons were the need to purchase camping equipment since few of the Lake Bluff Scouts had been able to participate in overnight hikes for lack of it, and to contribute to the council’s planned purchase of a camp in Wisconsin. However, no further mention of the planned purchase appeared in the *Lake Forester* prior to the merger of the Lake County Council into the NSAC at the end of 1935. For the fourth quarter of 1930, the Lake County Council was ranked second in the 42 councils in Illinois to the Evanston Council with a score of 730 to Evanston’s 790, while the NSAC was in a “lower tier” with a score of 650.¹⁷²

March 1931: The Troop 42 committee appointed L.R. Killian Cubmaster for a newly organized Cub pack, “a junior scouting movement to which boys of nine, ten and eleven are

¹⁶⁷ LFF0418 (12/20/1929 – 11).

¹⁶⁸ LFF0436 (2/14/1930 – 10), LVS177 (2/11/1930 – 3).

¹⁶⁹ LFF0453 (3/21/1930 – 10), LFF0454 (3/21/1930 – 11).

¹⁷⁰ LFF0512 (10/3/1930 – 11), LFF0513 (10/3/1930 – 17), LFF0517 (10/17/1930 – 11), LFF0520 (10/24/1930 – 2).

¹⁷¹ LFF0525 (11/7/1930 – 11), LFF0526 (11/7/1930 – 14).

¹⁷² LFF0570 (2/27/1931 – 10), LFF0571 (2/27/1931 – 11), LFF0572 (2/27/1931 – 17).

eligible.” He was to be assisted by twin Eagle Scouts Niels and Sherwood Nielsen and Life Scout Lloyd Tingwall. It was planned to start with the first 10 to 12 boys to register, and organize another den if needed. One-hour meetings would end by 7:30 pm “so that the boys may be home for their usual bed time.”¹⁷³



Figure 44

March 1931: Admiral Crosby of Great Lakes Naval Training Station approved the formation of a Sea Scout ship for Lake County Council Scouts 15 or older who had at least earned Tenderfoot or non-Scouts who passed the Tenderfoot tests. Lake Bluff Sea Scouts would be led by Mr. Randall and Life Scout Lawton Crosby as Mates.¹⁷⁴

March 1931: Troop 42 won the annual Lake County Council rally, the first time in history that a troop outside of Waukegan had done so, according to Scout Executive Blodgett.¹⁷⁵

May 1931: The Lake County Council named Bob Becker its first Honorary President. He was described as “nationally and internationally famous as a sportsman, adventurer, and writer” of the nationally syndicated newspaper column “Woods and Waters” and as author of “In

¹⁷³ LFF0584 (4/17/1931 – 11).

¹⁷⁴ LFF0577 (4/3/1931 – 20).

¹⁷⁵ LFF0588 (4/17/1931 – 11), LFF0592 (5/1/1931 – 11).

the Land of the Takatu” about “the adventures of three Boy Scouts in the wilds of Brazil.” Becker repaid the honor by being the principal speaker at the council’s annual meeting on September 29.¹⁷⁶

December 1931: The Lake County Council’s next event was a “Boy Scout Jamboree” consisting of a boxing and wrestling exhibition set up by naval officers at Great Lakes Naval Training Station as a benefit for the council. As publicized in Mrs. McCombs’ Lake Bluff column in the *Lake Forester*, ticket purchasers would “enjoy clean-cut athletics under ideal conditions as to setting and handling,” as well as “a chance at one of 45 valuable prizes” donated by Waukegan and North Chicago merchants. First grand prize was a “14 foot Johnson Sealite boat with 4 h.p. Sea-Horse motor” from Johnson Motor Co. It was noted that “[t]he Lake County council is seriously in need of funds and urges your co-operation.”¹⁷⁷

February 1932: A Troop 42 parents night at the Lake Bluff School auditorium on February 26 featured a Fox Indian dance by the Scouts in Indian headdresses made by Eagle Scout Sherwood Nielsen, “who is becoming an expert in Indian lore and craft.” A handicraft exhibit included “all of the things the boys have made with their hands during the past few months,” including the headdresses.¹⁷⁸



Above is pictured the Boy Scout Troop number 44 of Arden Shore camp or boys, which comes under the jurisdiction of the Lake Forest District Scout committee. This troop is one of the finest examples of the worth of scouting found any place in the country. Every boy of age is a scout. The scout oath and law is the law of the camp, something they live in their every day life. Outing is primary of their activities are conducted outside. People would do well by visiting this fine camp and witness this group of scouts who are in action every day. Miss Anna Ferrier is in charge of the camp. Mr. Clayton E. Booker is the scoutmaster and Daniel Cech, assistant scoutmaster. Sam Rose who represented Arden Shore at Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan in 1930, is the junior assistant scoutmaster.

Figure 45

¹⁷⁶ LFF0596 (5/8/1931 – 5), LFF0623 (10/2/1931 – 11).

¹⁷⁷ LFF0642 (12/11/1931 – 14).

¹⁷⁸ LFF0669A (2/25/1932 – 1).

March 1932: The Eagle Patrol of Troop 42 showed a silent movie on March 4 to raise money for camping equipment needed for summer camp. Half of the \$36 they raised was to be used to buy “pup tents, a camp cooking outfit, knapsacks, canteens and a first aid kit and such,” with the balance being banked for future needs, including food for summer camp. The Rattlesnake Patrol showed another movie on April 8 to raise money for their camping needs, plus reels of comedies and two “authentic Sioux Indian dances” under Sherwood Nielsen’s direction. The Scouts of Troop 44 at the Arden Shore rest camp (Figure 45) were invited as the patrol’s guests.¹⁷⁹

May 1932: The Lake Bluff Scouts of Lake County Sea Scout Ship 30 were invited guests for the Navy’s “annual spring subchaser maneuvers” on May 18. The Scouts “obtained a knowledge of navy signals, the practical use of navigation to instruments,” and observed the unit’s anti-submarine warfare techniques. At the end of July, the Sea Scouts left on a two-week cruise for Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin and Wolf River, Michigan.¹⁸⁰

July 1932: Sixteen Scouts from Troop 42 went to a “brand new camp” for two weeks, the 500 acre Camp Oproki near Mukwanago, Wisconsin owned by the Pottawatomie Area Council of Waukesha. The camp featured several spring-fed lakes and “twenty Indian ponies which they may ride through the woods and meadows every afternoon.” Assistant Scoutmaster John Burchard led the Scouts, who performed well. Scout Van Burris “won the first honor of the camp and was awarded the badge of Star Camper,” signifying “the best Scout in camp.” Scout Oliver Smith was one of four honor campers among the 60 Scouts in camp that period. Both of them and Scouts Earl Harlan, Jack Barlow, and Farwell Ferry were initiated into the Order of the Links, “an honorary camp fraternity.” Burchard so impressed the camp directors that they put him on the camp staff for the next period and tried unsuccessfully to persuade him to stay for the whole season.¹⁸¹

February 1933: At the same time that the NSAC began a fund drive to raise \$19,000, \$7,500 of which was to clear a deficit carried over from 1932 after the budget was cut by 50%, Troop 42 sponsored a bakery sale in a vacant Lake Bluff storefront, with the proceeds to “go towards making up some of the money lost in the North Chicago bank.”¹⁸²

July 1933: Assistant Scoutmaster John Bradford led 9 Troop 42 Scouts and 2 Cubs to Camp Oproki for ten days on July 9. Van Burris was chosen as the honor camper for a second year, and three more Lake Bluff Scouts, John Clark, Robert Meline, and Billy Colcasure, were initiated into the Order of the Links.¹⁸³

April 1934: After it kept a low profile for the school year, Lake Bluff citizens were called to support Troop 42 again in the spring of 1934. A dance to benefit the Lake Bluff Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and baseball team was held on April 7. Among several local organizations

¹⁷⁹ LFF0673 (3/17/1932 – 10), LFF0674 (3/17/1932 – 11), LFF0675 (4/7/1932 – 1).9

¹⁸⁰ LFF0686 (5/26/1932 – 11), LFF0692 (7/28/1932 - 12).

¹⁸¹ LFF0691 (7/28/1932 – 11), LFF0693 (8/4/1932 - 2), LFF0695 (8/11/1932 – 10), LFF0696 (8/11/1932 – 11).

¹⁸² LFF0717 (2/9/1933 – 5), LFF0718 (2/9/1933 – 6).

¹⁸³ LFF0736 (7/13/1933 – 4), LFF0739 (7/27/1933 – 4).

listed in June for upcoming benefits after the Arden Shore drive was over were the Lake Bluff Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.¹⁸⁴

August 1934: Scoutmaster Robert Wright and Assistant Scoutmaster Lloyd Tingwall led 12 Lake Bluff Scouts for a third season at Camp Oproki at Wood Lake, Wisconsin. No honors or achievements were reported for this season, however.¹⁸⁵

October 1935: After a quiet year as far as reportage in the *Lake Forester* is concerned, Troop 42 resurfaced with a Columbus Day hike, tracking contest, and treasure hunt. Scoutmaster Burchard urged the Scouts to attend a merit badge show at Northwestern University jointly sponsored by the Evanston Council, the Northwest Suburban Council, and the NSAC, “of which Lake Bluff is a part” following the merger with the Lake County Council, on October 25-26. The show featured exhibitions and demonstrations for more than 60 merit badges, including a lifesaving demonstration in the pool and a live cow being milked by the Half Day Troop 54 Scouts. Several drivers enabled 15 Lake Bluff Scouts to make it to the show.¹⁸⁶

October 1935: The Lake Bluff Scouting committee met on October 28 to plan a new fund drive, the first one in several years. The drive had two goals, to raise money for Lake Bluff’s share of “the general organization operating costs” to meet its quota for the 1936 NSAC budget following its expansion to include the Lake County Council, to which Troop 42 “now belongs,” and “[t]o provide a working fund” for Troop 42, noting that “[t]he troop funds were eliminated by bank failures two years ago.” It was hoped that the “generous” response to the previous campaign would be repeated.¹⁸⁷

October 1936: After another quiet year for the Boy Scouts of Lake Bluff Troop 42, the Lake Bluff Cub Scouts appeared in the pages of the *Lake Forester*. The Cubs had a campfire dinner on October 23 and were invited to attend a free football game between St. John’s Military Academy and Black Military Institute of Hollywood, California at Dyche Stadium in Evanston on October 24. Thirty Cubs attended the steak fry and 17 made it to the game.¹⁸⁸

February 1937: After a toboggan party was planned for January 1937, the Lake Bluff Cubs planned a hobby show and skating party at Diamond Lake for February. The weather permitted two hours of skating.¹⁸⁹

March 1937: A joint father-son dinner for the Lake Bluff Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts was held on March 4 at the Methodist Church. The 70 Scouts at the dinner hosted Henry Fowler of Wilmette, the NSAC President, along with Scout Executive Clifton Speer and Assistant Scout Executives George Ryan and George Bersch, the latter of whom led the singing. Awards were made by the Lake Bluff Court of Honor, headed by Maurice Mandeville and Milton H. Wright.

¹⁸⁴ LFF0758 (4/5/1934 – 5), LFF0777 (6/14/1934 – 5).

¹⁸⁵ LFF0783 (8/2/1934 – 4).

¹⁸⁶ LFF0811 (10/17/1935 – 4), LFF0812 (10/31/1935 – 4), WLS2354 (10/31/1935 – 24).

¹⁸⁷ WLS2354 (10/31/1935 – 24), LFF0813 (11/7/1935 – 4).

¹⁸⁸ LFF0829 (10/22/1936 – 6), LFF0831 (10/29/1936 – 6).

¹⁸⁹ LFF0835 (1/14/1937 – 15), LFF0837 (2/4/1937 – 14), LFF0838 (2/11/1937 – 16).

The Cub Scouts played on homemade banjos and the Boy Scouts formed human pyramids of 6 boys each for a signaling demonstration. They also saw movies of Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan.¹⁹⁰

June 1937: Perhaps inspired by seeing the camp movies, 8 Lake Bluff Scouts were among those going to Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan for the first two-week period. Troop 42 Scouts George Illich, Jr. and Richard Huntoon were the only Scouts inducted that period into the Order of the Arrow, “an honorary organization that requires the boys to undergo certain hardships similar to those of the Indians,” from two complete villages. Ten more Troop 42 Scouts attended the second period in July.¹⁹¹

July 1937: The Lake Bluff Cub Scouts were active through the summer with beach parties scheduled for their monthly pack meetings in July and August.¹⁹²

October 1937: A pack meeting in the woods started the fall season for the Lake Bluff Cub Scouts, followed by “regular weekly meetings.”¹⁹³

November 1937: Troop 42 began a new cycle with the resignation of Scoutmaster Robert Wright and Assistant Scoutmaster John Burchard, who “had asked for a relief from the duties due to conflict with their daily work” after years of “meritorious service.” The new Scoutmaster was Robert McClory and the new Assistant Scoutmaster was Clarence H. Traver, supported by the Boy Scout General Committee of Lake Bluff with chairmen and committees for program, outdoor, finance, and publicity. The “new organization” planned a series of Saturday hikes and reorganized the boy leadership. It was reported that McClory and Burchard “learned much of interest to the Boy Scouts of this section” at a training session at the Chicago Council’s Camp Doddridge near Libertyville. One of McClory’s first official actions was to take the troop to see a football game between Lake Forest College and Kenyon College instead of a hare and hounds race.¹⁹⁴

January 1938: Troop 42’s publicity chairman reported that the weekly meetings were “ones of great interest to Scouting due to the energy and interest of Scoutmaster Robert McClory.” New Life Scout George Illich was designated as Junior Assistant Scoutmaster to assist him.¹⁹⁵

February 1938: The Scouts of Troop 42 observed Boy Scout Week in part by putting on a play, “The Glory Road,” at the Lake Bluff School on February 10.¹⁹⁶

March 1938: Scoutmaster McClory obtained a temporary school building from Chicago to be erected north of the Lake Bluff community gardens for use as the new home of the Lake Bluff Scouts. Finance Chairman Robert Mandeville praised the “unfailing co-operation on the part of those who have been approached” for financial support for “the Scout idea of a ‘cabin in

¹⁹⁰ LFF0839A (2/18/1937 – 16), LFF0844 (3/11/1937 – 15).

¹⁹¹ LFF0858 (6/17/1937 – 5), LFF0860 (7/1/1937 – 17), LFF0861 (7/15/1937 – 3).

¹⁹² LFF0862 (7/15/1937 – 16), LFF0864 (8/26/1937 – 17).

¹⁹³ LFF0871 (10/21/1937 – 17).

¹⁹⁴ LFF0872 (11/4/1937 – 13), LFF0873 (11/4/1937 – 16), LFF0874 (11/11/1937 – 16).

¹⁹⁵ LFF0876 (1/20/1938 – 18).

¹⁹⁶ LFF0879 (2/10/1938 – 14).

the woods,” an allusion to the NSAC Cabin in the Woods that was built in a forest preserve in Northbrook in 1927 and used intensively since then. Work on the Scout hut began in April when the finance campaign had progressed far enough to make completion “assured.”¹⁹⁷

March 1938: The NSAC annual first aid meet was scheduled for Lake Bluff School on March 11 “as a courtesy to the Lake Bluff troop” in advance of the regional meet with the Oak Park, Northwest Suburban, and Evanston Councils on March 19. The Troop 42 home team placed out of the running, falling to first place Highwood Troop 37.¹⁹⁸

June 1938: After Robert Wright, Richard Mandeville, Robert McClory, and Marlin Leffler of Lake Bluff visited Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan in May for the annual spring “general cleaning-up” trip, 10 Troop 42 Scouts registered for camp by mid-June. Numerous rank advancement and merit badges were reported for the Lake Bluff Scouts during all four camp periods that summer.¹⁹⁹

September 1938: Scoutmaster McClory put the word out that the Lake Bluff Boy Scouts were seeking a donation of a coal heating stove for the Scout hut. He was also elected as a district delegate by the Lake Bluff Young Republicans (Figure 46), beginning his climb to election to the Illinois legislature in 1950 and as Congressman in 1962.²⁰⁰



Figure 46

¹⁹⁷ LFF0882 (3/3/1938 – 14), LFF0887 (3/24/1938 – 15).

¹⁹⁸ LFF0884 (3/10/1938 – 14), LFF0885 (3/17/1938 – 15), LFF0886 (3/17/1938 – 16).

¹⁹⁹ LFF0892 (5/5/1938 – 18), LFF0895 (6/9/1938 – 4), LFF0896 (6/16/1938 – 4), LFF0897 (7/14/1938 – 3), LFF0898 (7/28/1938 – 5), LFF0900 (8/25/1938 – 5).

²⁰⁰ LFF0903 (9/29/1938 – 16).

March 1939: Troop 42's next publicity was the report of a court of honor on March 9 with numerous awards presented by Judge Perry L. Persons, chairman of the Waukegan District Court of Honor Committee. At the NSAC first aid meet in Winnetka on March 17, one of the two Troop 42 teams won fourth place, scoring 335 points out of 400. Troop 42 also scored a coup by acquiring Ian "Scotty" McPherson as an Assistant Scoutmaster. As noted in the Lake Forest section, in October 1930 McPherson, the holder of 56 merit badges, became the first Eagle Scout who had begun his Scouting career in Lake Forest, he became one of the NSAC's first two Sea Scout Quartermasters in February 1934, and he had been named Scoutmaster of Lake Forest Troop 46 in February 1937 while a junior at Lake Forest College and after serving as Cubmaster of Lake Forest Pack 90.²⁰¹

May 1939: At the annual NSAC camporal at Turnbull Woods Forest Preserve in Glencoe on May 13-14, the Troop 42 Scouts had "reason to feel slightly puffed up over the rating they received for the work that was done by them at that event." The 8 Scouts placed eighth out of the 43 troops competing at the event, which got them a "B" rating. A Mother's Day program honored the Scouts' mothers at the conclusion of the competition on Sunday afternoon. The troop hosted a recruiting "Pal's Night" on May 25 while the drum and bugle corps of "the Highland Park troop," apparently Troop 324, provided entertainment.²⁰²



Figure 47

June 1939: The Lake Bluff Cub Scout pack meeting on June 22 featured den exhibits on which the parents voted for the prize winner, then, after a pack committee business meeting, the

²⁰¹ LFF0516 (10/10/1930 – 20), LFF0749 (11/2/1933 – 1), LFF0840 (2/25/1937 – 3), LFF0911 (3/23/1939 – 16).

²⁰² LFF0923 (5/18/1939 – 19), GCS2449 (5/18/1939 – 56), LFF0925 (5/25/1939 – 19).

Cubs put on a Cub Scout circus with “a grand parade, den stunts, animal exhibits, contests, chariot race and, generally speaking, a big show.”²⁰³

July 1939: Scoutmaster McClory and Assistant Scoutmaster Vincent Zahnle led several Lake Bluff Scouts on a campout at Camp Doddridge north of Libertyville. Afterwards, after the rest of the troop returned from Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan, Scout George Illich, Jr. (Figure 47), home from his first year at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, led the Scouts in painting the Lake Bluff Scout hut green with paint and materials supplied by his father, Lake Bluff painter George Illich, Sr.²⁰⁴

September 1939: Illich received his Eagle Scout award and 11 merit badges, including Painting, at the “first public ceremony” at the freshly painted hut on September 14.²⁰⁵

November 1939: Mrs. Margaret Rockwell donated a stove for the Scout hut. This led to the “urgent need for a gasoline or acetylene lamp to illuminate the interior of the cabin during the dark Thursday evenings of the winter” since it was not wired for electricity. This appeal apparently was successful because activities were scheduled there before Thanksgiving.²⁰⁶

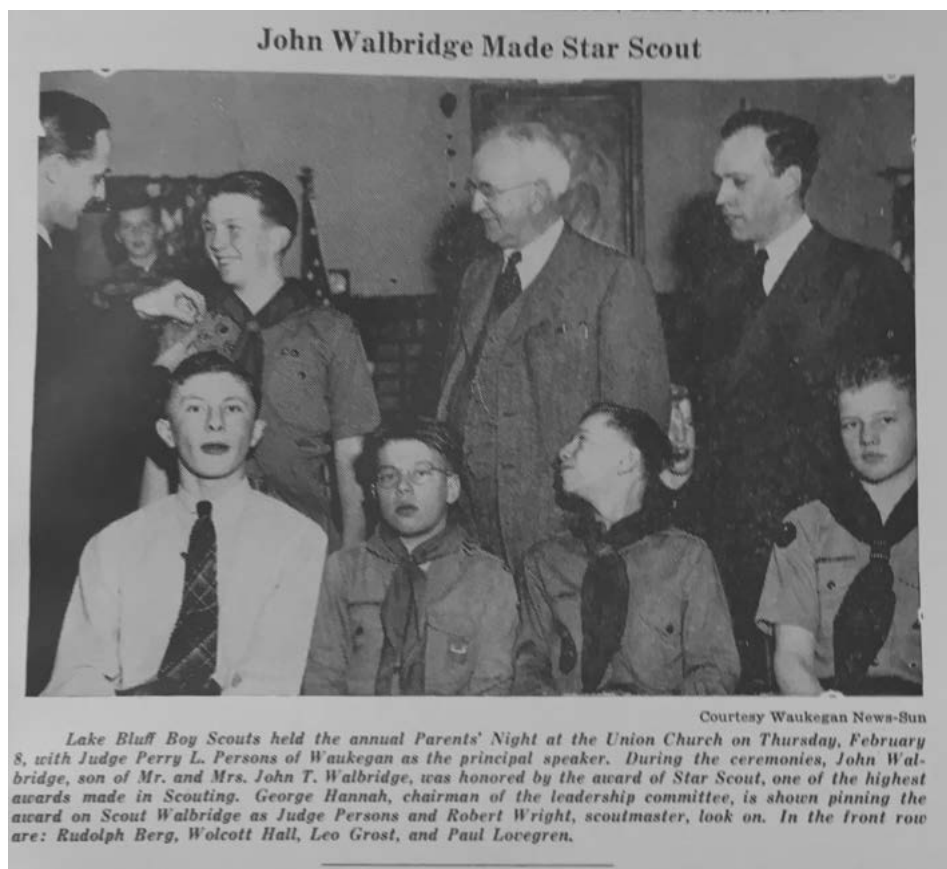


Figure 48

²⁰³ LFF0927 (6/22/1939 – 18).

²⁰⁴ LFF0931 (7/27/1939 – 14), LFF0932 (8/10/1939 – 14).

²⁰⁵ LFF0935 (9/7/1939 – 16), LFF0936 (9/14/1939 – 14).

²⁰⁶ LFF0943 (11/9/1939 – 24), LFF0945 (11/23/1939 – 14).

February 1940: The Troop 42 annual dinner on February 8 with 77 Scouts and parents present was presided over by Robert McClory as troop committee chairman and Robert T. Wright as Scoutmaster. Judge Perry L. Persons of the Lake County Circuit Court (Figure 48) presented the awards to the Scouts, including Star Scout to John Walbridge, Jr., and Cubmaster Maynard C. Weller presented den chief lanyards.²⁰⁷

March 1940: As troop finance chairman McClory began a fund drive to raise the troop's "non-quota annual fund," the Region 7 sectional first aid meet for councils from Evanston to the Wisconsin state line was held at the Lake Bluff School gym on March 9. Although the troop first aid team was "coached" by Scoutmaster Wright, there was no report on how well the team fared at the meet.²⁰⁸

August 1940: Several Troop 42 Scouts attended Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan during various periods over the summer and received rank advancement awards and earned merit badges at camp. Leading the badge count was Scout John Walbridge, who became a Life Scout and received 15 merit badges at the November 14 court of honor.²⁰⁹

December 1940: Scoutmaster Robert Wright and Committee Chairman Robert McClory prepared the Troop 42 Scouts for a civilian emergency mobilization at the Lake Bluff village hall on December 6. Presumably for the benefit of readers concerned about entanglement in the European war, it was noted that this would be "strictly of a non-military nature" and "part of a national Boy Scout program, designed to strengthen and invigorate democracy." This followed skiing in the "Wilmot Hills." The mobilization involved 20 Scouts assembling "in uniform and full equipment" to aid the Lake Bluff police "in the enforcement of the law and to discourage the young men of Scout age in the commission of offenses which might bring them in contact with law enforcement officers." They then split into two patrols for "a simulated call for emergency duty" in different parts of the village.²¹⁰

January 1941: At the annual meeting of Order of the Arrow Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Lodge 40, John Walbridge, Jr. (Figure 48) was appointed district chief for Lake Forest/Lake Bluff. He received his Eagle award at Troop 42's Court of Honor in February conducted by Scoutmaster Robert Wright.²¹¹

February 1941: Troop 42 received the honor of presenting a tableau at the NSAC annual dinner before 500 leaders at the North Shore Congregation Israel in Glencoe. The tableau was on the theme of "A Scout is Helpful." It "depicted a Scout rescuing a little girl and her cat from her wrecked and flood-bound river-side home. The tableau was inspired by, and duplicated in

²⁰⁷ LFF0954 (2/1/1940 – 7), LFF0955 (2/8/1940 – 15), LFF0956 (2/15/1940 – 5), LFF0957 (2/15/1940 – 6).

²⁰⁸ LFF0960 (3/7/1940 – 15).

²⁰⁹ LFF0973 (7/18/1940 – 3), LFF0974 (7/25/1940 – 17), LFF0975 (8/1/1940 – 4), LFF0976 (8/8/1940 – 3), LFF0977 (8/22/1940 – 4), LFF0979 (11/14/1940 – 6).

²¹⁰ LFF0980 (11/28/1940 – 15), LFF0981 (12/5/1940 – 21), LFF0982 (12/12/1940 – 8), LFF0983 (12/12/1940 – 21).

²¹¹ LFF0984 (1/19/1941 – 17).

every detail, a painting by Norman Rockwell.” John Walbridge, Jr. “took the part of the rescuing Scout.”²¹²

October 1941: Lake Bluff was in fourth place for best percentage of Scouts attending Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan for the summer, ahead of Lake Forest in fifth place.²¹³

January 1942: Scoutmaster Robert Wright was named chairman of Lake Bluff’s conservation committee to collect scrap paper, metal, and other materials.²¹⁴

February 1942: At Troop 42’s annual dinner with 100 in attendance, Leo Grost (Figure 48) became the troop’s third currently registered Eagle Scout.²¹⁵

April 1943: Over 125 Scouts, parents, and guests attended Troop 42’s annual dinner.²¹⁶

June 1943: To help raise Lake Bluff’s \$500 quota, Lake Bluff finance chairman George Ekern reported that Scoutmaster George Wright’s Troop 42 had 30 Boy Scouts, the largest number in its history, and there were 30 Cub Scouts in Pack 242. The Boy Scouts had helped Lake Bluff’s aluminum, rubber, paper, and tin can salvage drives and served as Office of Civil Defense messengers.²¹⁷

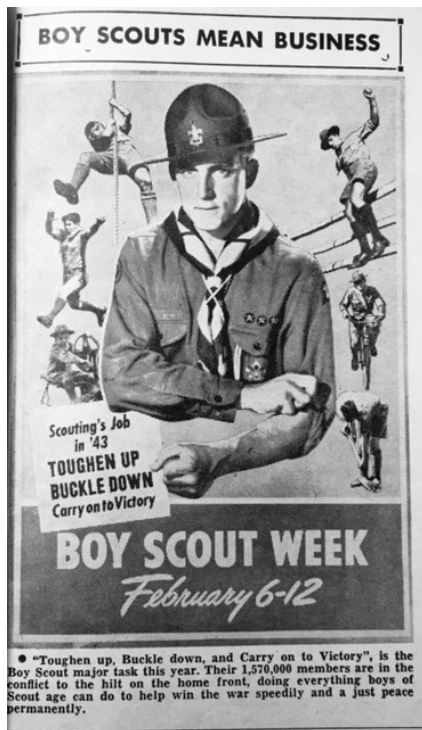


Figure 49

²¹² LFF0992 (2/27/1941 – 12).

²¹³ LFF1009 (10/23/1941 – 10).

²¹⁴ LFF1012 (1/15/1942 – 10).

²¹⁵ LFF1016 (2/12/1942 – 10).

²¹⁶ LFF1044 4/22/1943 – 14).

²¹⁷ LFF1046 (6/10/1943 – 12).

September 1943: The “latest wartime activities” of Troop 42 included undertaking to obtain Office of Price Administration pledges from Lake Bluff residents for the OPA and the local ration board.²¹⁸

March 1944: At Troop 42’s spring Court of Honor, Eagle Scout Leo Grost received a Gold Palm.²¹⁹

April 1944: Lake Bluff Boy Scout finance chairman George Ekern announced the start of the annual fund drive, noting that 95% of Lake Bluff boys were active in Scouting.²²⁰

May 1944: Lake Bluff Salvage Committee Chairman Robert Wright reported that in April, collection of 29,835 pounds of paper, 400 pounds of magazines, 3400 pounds of tin cans, and 800 pounds of scrap iron followed “intensified efforts” by children at the Lake Bluff grammar school.²²¹

²¹⁸ LFF1051 (9/30/1943 – 16).

²¹⁹ LFF1070 (2/25/1944 – 25).

²²⁰ LFF1076 (4/28/1944 – 12).

²²¹ LFF1077 (5/5/1944 – 16).

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| 18. | William Tompkins | <i>Glencoe News</i> 11/30/1929 |
| 19. | Clayton E. Booker | <i>Lake Forester</i> 1/23/1931* |
| 20. | Lake Forest Troop 48 leaders | <i>Lake Forester</i> 10/16/1931* |
| 21. | A. Calvin Gartley | <i>Lake Forester</i> 1/1/1930* |
| 22. | Thomas Atteridge, Jr. | <i>Lake Forester</i> 2/13/1931* |
| 23. | Schooner “Albatross” | <i>Winnetka Talk</i> 6/20/1930 |
| 24. | Ian McPherson | <i>Lake Forester</i> 10/10/1930 |
| 25. | Sea Scout Ship “Lightning” | <i>Lake Forester</i> 2/13/1931* |
| 26. | Lake Forest Troop 45 | <i>Lake Forester</i> 5/1/1931* |
| 27. | Lake Forest Scout first aid team | <i>Lake Forester</i> 4/17/1931* |
| 28. | Cubs introduction | <i>Lake Forester</i> 12/4/1931* |
| 29. | Press Club paper collection | <i>Winnetka Talk</i> 11/19/1931 |
| 30. | Thomas J. Keane | <i>Wilmette Life</i> 11/5/1931 |
| 31. | Boy Scout Press Club editors | <i>Winnetka Talk</i> 10/15/1931 |
| 32. | Lake Forest Scout paper collection | <i>Lake Forester</i> 1/15/1932* |
| 33. | Thomas A. Connors | <i>Lake Forester</i> 2/9/1933* |
| 34. | Paper collection relief check | <i>Lake Forester</i> 3/10/1932* |
| 35. | Calvin Gartley (center) | 5/6/1939§ |
| 36. | Dick Quasey | <i>Lake Forester</i> 1/21/1943* |
| 37. | Lake Forest Boy Scouts promote
curbside paper collection | <i>Lake Forester</i> 11/24/1944* |
| 38. | Robert Wright | The Deerfield (1912)† |
| 39. | Ray D. Wyland | <i>Lake Forester</i> 3/14/1930* |
| 40. | Morris Wright | The Deerfield (1925)† |
| 41. | Bob Becker | <i>Lake Forester</i> 1/22/1942 |
| 42. | Milton Wright, Jr. | The Deerfield (1927) |
| 43. | Boy Scout Week 1930 | <i>Lake Forester</i> 2/7/1930* |

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| 44. | Boy Scout Week 1931 | <i>Lake Forester</i> 2/6/1931* |
| 45. | Arden Shore Troop 44 | <i>Lake Forester</i> 2/27/1931* |
| 46. | Robert McClory | <i>Lake Forester</i> 11/23/1939* |
| 47. | George Illich, Jr. honored | <i>Lake Forester</i> 1/28/1940* |
| 48. | Judge Perry L. Persons, Scouts John
Walbridge, Jr. and Leo Grost | <i>Lake Forester</i> 2/15/1940* |
| 49. | BSA wartime poster | <i>Lake Forester</i> 1/21/1943* |

* Courtesy of Lake Forest-Lake Bluff History Center

† Courtesy of John L. Ropiequet

§ Courtesy of nephew Thomas A. Skidmore

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Sources

Source citations show publication, date, and page number. If there is more than one section, the section and page numbers are shown thus: 2:1.

LFF – *Lake Forester*

LVS – *Libertyville Independent*

NSAC – *Highland Park Press*

WLS – *Wilmette Life*