



PUBLISHED ON THE INTERNET BY THE OLD KIA KIMA PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

March 2010



Well troops, it is that time of year again. Time for “KP” (Kamp Police).

Our kamp is ready to spring to life again. Time to come out of hibernation. Time to be “policed up” for summer.

On April 23rd, 24th and 25th, after the Board of Directors meets, it will be time for all of you able bodies (and even us not so able bodies) to come together and prepare Old Kia Kima for another great season of youth camping.

There are many projects to be done, like enlarging the parking area outside the main gate, cleaning the buildings, and preparing the grounds for campers.

We have already booked many of the available weekends as well as several full weeks for use by the youth of our region and the season has not even begun. The schedule is filling up at an unprecedented rate. Check the schedule on our website www.oldkiakima.org.

So bring your work clothes and tools and come to camp. Bring a friend with you so you can enjoy the trip even more.

As always there will be great food and fellowship and plenty of chores to be done.

Please let Mike Kinkade know that you will be attending so that there will be ample food and drink available. It also will help to have an accurate count so that the work projects can be planned ahead of time.

Mike Kinkade
257 Aylett Rd.
Nashville, AR 71852
mkinkade@cccu.edu



Our Core Values

INTEGRITY - ACHIEVEMENT - RESPONSIBILITY - COURAGE



KAMP KIWANI (1920-1961)

Hardy, Arkansas

from the Kamp Kiwani Staff Handbook

The history of "established" or resident camping in the Girl Scout Council of the Mid-South (formerly Tenn-Ark-Miss Girl Scout Council) began in 1920 when 80 acres in the foothills of the Ozarks near Hardy, Arkansas became our first Kamp Kiwani. Memphis area campers took the train to Hardy. Early campers then hiked the five miles to camp. Later, campers were trucked from the train depot.

The "old" Kiwani was steeped in Indian traditions. The six units eventually established were from the youngest to the oldest: Chickasaw, Piasanki, Winnebago, Apache, Mohave, and Shawnee. All offered general program and progression through the age levels to become a revered Shawnee was the goal of many a camper.

The main camp buildings were made of Arkansas field stone, including the four-person cabins in the three youngest units. Campers in the three older units lived in four-person platform tents. Small screen buildings served as unit houses. The dining hall was called the Wota. There were no "flushies" at the old Kiwani.

A single tree circled with a stone bench stood outside the Wota and was known as "the singing tree". Singing was an important part of "the old Kiwani". One of the hallmarks of an experienced camper was the number, variety, and difficulty of the songs she knew. Lengthy camp songs with many parts and beautiful harmony could be heard during dishwashing, at the singing tree, and of course, at campfires.

The "council rings" used for all-camp campfires were hallowed ground, steeped in Indian legend and tradition. Stone chairs, resembling thrones were located in strategic places for camp leaders. Cedar Bluff, located on private property about 1/2 miles from camp, served as an inspirational spot - a favorite for Scouts' Owns - for all of the camps in the area.

The "Old Kiwani" was located across the road from "Miramichee", the Memphis area YWCA Camp, and just down the road from "Kia Kima", the Memphis area Boy Scout Camp. Not far away at Mammoth Springs the Memphis YMCA had a camp, and an Arkansas Boy Scout Camp was located at nearby Cedar Valley. A favorite event was when Kia Kima, Miramichee, and Kiwani campers would get together for special events - usually culminating in a campfire and Indian dancing by the Boy Scouts in the Order of the Arrow.

But the most memorable part of camping at the "old Kiwani" had to be the river! The camp's waterfront was located on the South Fork of the Spring River. Campers learned to swim in the river, and every camper went on canoe trips and slept out under shelters improvised from heavy canvas army surplus "tarps". Whether it was the youngest campers taking the "overnight to Buttermilk" (located just around the bend below Cedar Bluff) or the Shawnees taking the "100 mile trip from Mammoth to Black Rock" those canoe trips were unforgettable!

As a result of encroachment from surrounding resort developments, the "Old Kiwani" was sold in 1960. Determined that encroachment should never again be a problem, the council purchased a 1,150 acre site near Middleton, Tennessee in 1961. Camps Yataka and Tapawingo in Mississippi served as temporary resident camp sites for the council until Sandy Springs could be developed.



Our Core Values

INTEGRITY - ACHIEVEMENT - RESPONSIBILITY - COURAGE

Bee Line Hike at Night

by Jim Ray



In the summer of 1959, Troop 200 from St. Stephen's Methodist Church in Memphis, had a great week at Slick Rock. With the normal activities, the highlights were winning the patrol competition, the water carnival and topping it all off with earning the Eagle coup stick. With Tony Dries as our Scoutmaster though, his enthusiasm and ideas still had one more adventure – a bee line hike back to main camp at night. A bee line hike in the daytime would have been an adventure, but one at night really added to the event. 'Pug' Swarner was the Slick Rock Director at the time, so he was our official staff person in charge of the trek. Starting out from the low water bridge, we set off in what seemed to be the wrong direction. With a map though, you could determine that the Slick Rock road certainly did not follow too straight of a path and a bee line with a single compass direction certainly was not going to follow

its path. Going through the woods, through the brambles and over the rocks was a challenge itself and you hoped your flashlight held out. However, like the Slick Rock road, the South Fork river also did not follow a very straight path. So even though we thought we had crossed it right when we started out, we had more opportunities to meet up with it again. These times, we did not have the benefit of crossing at a bridge so when we got to it, we would go upstream and downstream with different Scouts looking for a place where it was not too deep. Even then, we still got very wet in going across each time. Now not all of the way was through the woods, as we did come across what turned out to be the infamous cornfield. It only became infamous the next day when the farmer found the swath of knocked down corn where we passed and wanted recompense. At night, though, it was just one more barrier to pass. Along the way, we had one adventure in trying to find Pug's lost contact lens. Being in the woods is not a place where that would probably be possible in full daylight, so it is still somewhere out there near one of the river crossings if you want to look for it. Arriving in base camp, we were tired, extremely dirty and very infested as we had been gathering every tick and chigger along the path. However, with a shower, breakfast and dry clothes, we now had something to tell everyone in camp and something we could remember the rest of our lives.



Our Core Values

INTEGRITY - ACHIEVEMENT - RESPONSIBILITY - COURAGE



Reporters Needed

If you read and enjoyed Jim Ray's memory of his "Bee Line" hike, you will be happy to know that he has written several more memories of Old Kia Kima and that they will be posted in the "Remember When" section on our web site (www.oldkiakima.org). This is located on the OKKPA side of the site.

These types of articles are best viewed there rather than in the newsletter because of their length and because of their interest to future members.

We included this memory from Jim because it was shorter and to stimulate you to go to the website and read more of Jim's stories as well as those of many more contributors.

Surely you have many fond memories from your camping days (from Old Kia Kima, Miramichee, or Kiwani) that you could write about. - You don't have to be a "Pro". Please submit your recollections to:

Neal Talley
neal.talley@gmail.com



KK Money Clip



KK Bolo Tie



KK Camping Unit Award



KK Key Chain



Submitted by Jim Ray



**Miramichee
1957 or 1958**

Submitted by Jim Ray

Our Core Values

INTEGRITY - ACHIEVEMENT - RESPONSIBILITY - COURAGE

NOTICE

Item 1:

The Board of Directors of OKKPA, Inc. shall meet on Thursday, April 22, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. Place of the meeting shall be The Thunderbird Lodge located on the camp property in Cherokee Village, Sharp County, Arkansas.

Item 2:

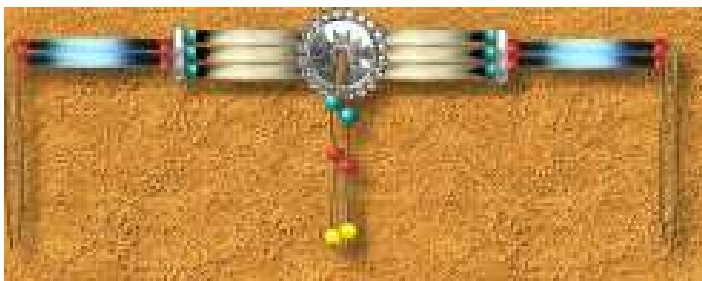
Special Guest Chef – Laura Bobbitt

We are delighted to announce that OKKPA will have a guest chef this meeting. It is Chef Laura Bobbitt (Miramichee). Some of the delicious meals planned are: a “drunk chicken” dinner, butt roast dinner, fish fry/grill, burgers and brats. We are looking forward to this

Item 3:

Partial list of work projects.

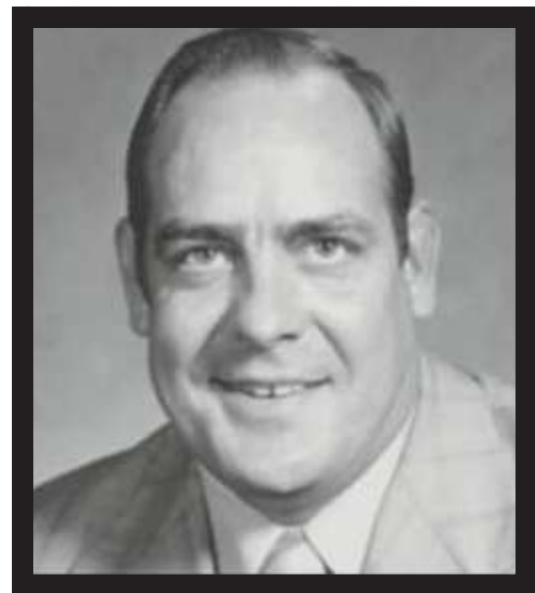
Enlargement of parking area to the right of the upper gate. Mulching and seeding of quadrangle. Power washing of various decks. Rerig dock “slide pole” setup.



Donations, Honorariums, and Memorials

Memorial to Carl A. Goolsby

Toyia L. Brown
David Fleming
John Fletcher
John Malmo
Joan A. Raleigh



Carl A. Goolsby

February 22, 2010

Donations

The following are also donations for the last few months

Union Pacific Fund
designated by Ron Naro
Victoria McCoy
First Data Corporation
designated by Rick Schmid

Our Core Values

INTEGRITY - ACHIEVEMENT - RESPONSIBILITY - COURAGE