

# Camping at Pike Lake 1917-1956

In 1917, Acting Captain, Mrs. Emily Gould, took a group of Girl Guides to the first camp at Pike Lake. They used a local cottage and a few tents. A group of women from Girl Guides and the Boy Scouts Association made plans to build a hut at Pike Lake on the Motor Club property. Teas and Tag Days were held to raise funds and the IODE (a Canadian women's charitable organization that has been serving Canada since 1900) and local merchants contributed. The Girl Guides and Boy Scouts both used the Hut for some years until the Boy Scouts moved to Beaver Creek.



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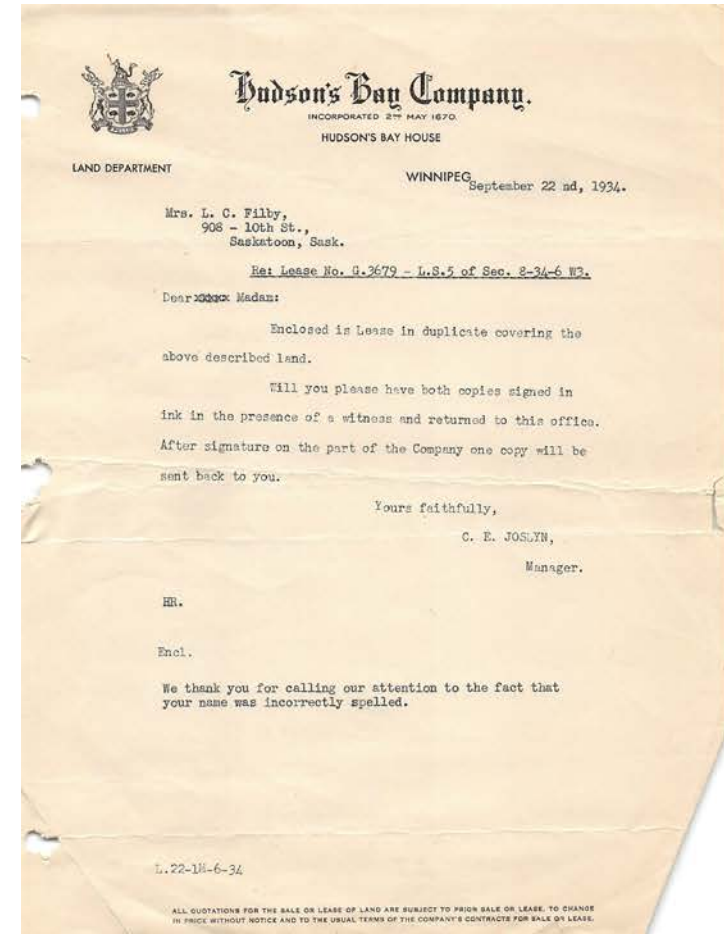
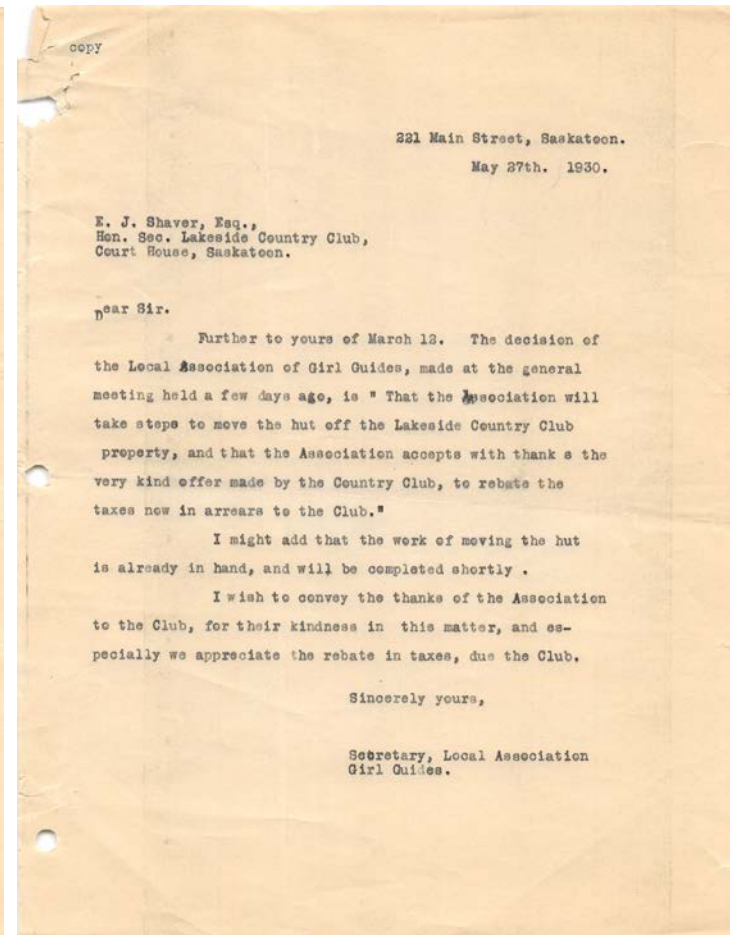
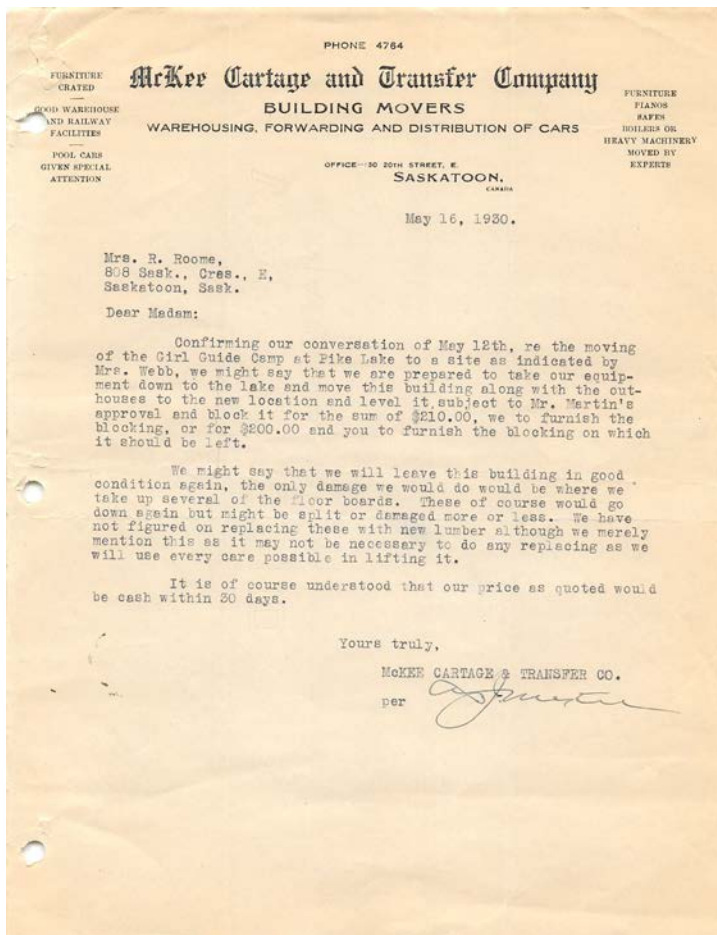
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## MOVING THE OLD HUT

Around 1925, plans for a golf course at Pike Lake were beginning and the Girl Guides were asked to move the Hut, as it was on the side of the first fairway and very dangerous. It was 1930 before this was done, but the land was taken over by the local cottagers and called the Lakeside Country Club. Frank Martin owned the quarter section south of the Club property and offered to lease the property to the Girl Guides for \$40 per year. After his death a few years later, the property reverted back to the Hudson's Bay Company. The camping committee tried to negotiate with the HBC Land Development office hoping to purchase a few acres of land. They were not able to purchase land, but did receive a reduced rate on their lease.



Quote from McKee Cartage and Transfer Company  
to move Hut – May 16, 1930

Letter to Lakeside Country Club  
confirming moving Hut – May 27, 1930

Letter from HBC Land Department  
regarding lease – September 22, 1934

# Camping at Pike Lake 1917-1956

Star Phoenix Article May 21, 1931

## District Camp At Pike Lake Is Delightful Spot During Summer Months For Guiding Activities

The district camp is at Pike Lake—a large bungalow, with wide, screened verandas on three sides, about fifty yards from the road, facing the lake. Although tents are not used, and a bungalow may not be suggestive of life in the open, the fact is the Guides are out of doors all of the time. The sleeping cots are along the sides of the verandah, and the dining room is across the front, the large hall being used only in case of wet weather, or sometimes in the evenings, for a sing-song, when the mosqu-

er, or sometimes for a sing-song, when the mosquitoes are troublesome, or rain prevents an outside campfire.

The camp activities are conducted strictly on the patrol system; a Guide works, plays, and performs her various duties as one of a patrol. The cots are so placed that she also sleeps with her particular group, under the charge of her Patrol Leader.

### PATROL DUTY

For the purpose of dividing equally the daily duties, the work is divided among the girls, so that each patrol has a different duty daily, the easy days alternating with the hard ones. Numbers permitting, five patrols is the ideal number at camp, then the duties are: cook, orderly, sanitary, messengers and mess-orderlies. If the camp is sufficiently large, there is a spare patrol, which has a "day off," and whose chief concern is looking after the entertainment of the camp for the day, or getting up a stunt for the campfire.

A Guide's day at camp begins at 7 a.m., when she rises promptly—let us hope—at the sound of the Captain's whistle. In some camps there is a morning dip, but in all camps, 8.45 sees the Company in full uniform, assembled for the raising of the colors. Prayers follow, and then breakfast. "Chores" come after, and at 9.30, inspection of beds and camp. During the next hour or so, some part of Guide work is undertaken—signalling, first aid, the compass, heights and distances, or work in connection with one of the out-of-door badges, Nature Lover's, Hiker's, etc. Everyone then makes ready for the first swim of the day, and when all are back from the beach and again in tidy uniform, the cooks—those self-sacrificing ladies, who have had to miss their first swim—sing, or shout, or whistle (on the official instrument, of course) that dinner is ready, which invitation everyone accepts.

Rest hour comes between two and three o'clock, when each girl is required to lie down for one hour. She may read one of the many jolly books brought out to camp, she may write, or study up her badge work, but keep silence she must. After the afternoon swim, there is free time until supper, about half past

six. Afterwards, the color party takes down the flag, and there is free time until campfire, which to most Guides is the jolliest part of the day.

They sing—and how they love to sing—yarn, talk over the happenings of the day, until about nine o'clock, when "Taps" is sung, and they return to the house. Lights out at 9.30, and silence—a welcome one this time—falls on the camp. The long, full day is over.

Sunday is observed by a "Guide Own" service in the morning.




1932

1926

## GUIDES SHOW SKILL IN PIKE LAKE ACCIDENT

Joy Coulter, Captain of St. James' Company First Aid Team, Applies Splint



Saskatoon's 1st Company, Girl Guides, who have just returned from their annual camp at Pike Lake were put to the test and passed it creditably when they were called to administer first aid to one of the St. James' Company Scouts, Jim Pattison, who had the misfortune to break his arm during camp week for the Scouts in an adjacent bluff.

Guide Joy Coulter, captain of the team winning the Wallace Nesbitt medals for first aid, straightened the arm, applied a splint, directed the stretcher-bearers so expeditiously as to win the praise of the physician and nurse who attended the patient on his arrival in town.

Thirty girls were in camp and have reported a first rate holiday in spite of the fact that one day, by actual experiment, they were able to cook eggs in a frying pan by the simple method of exposing them to the sun on the back step of the Guide cottage.

Christ Church Guides have succeeded them at camp and will be at the lake on July 13.

Star Phoenix Article 1926

1956



# Camping at Pike Lake 1917-1956



## Gives Report on Girl Guide Summer Camping Activities

Highlighting the October meeting of the Saskatoon Girl Guides Association was an interesting report on the summer camping activities of Saskatoon Girl Guides. This report was given by Miss Lorraine O'Connor, camp adviser for Saskatoon division.



A brief summary of the camps is as follows: June 13 to June 15, 14th Saskatoon Company, School for the Deaf, with commandant Miss Mary Kirrham; June 30 to July 7, 10th Company, St. Mary's and 16th Company, Brunskill, with commandant Miss L. O'Connor; July 3 to July 10, 9th Company, Christ Church, commandant, Miss Lois Gould; July 10 to July 17, 7th Company Mayfair, with commandant Mrs. P. Ward; July 12 to July 18, 1st Sutherland Company at Watrous with Mrs. J. Enright as commandant; July 22 to Aug. 1, 1st Saskatoon Company, Miss Betty Mauchel, commandant; Sept. 6 to to Sept. 8, 1st Cadet Company, commandant, Miss B. Mauchel.

In all 112 Guides and cadets as well as 25 Guiders camped this season, with the campsite at Pike Lake in operation for a total of 37 days. Two Guiders, Mrs. P. Ward and Miss Lois Gould, were granted their campers licenses this year. No serious accidents occurred, and no cases of illness.

Seven Girl Guides and two Guiders from Saskatoon attended the patrol leaders' camp at Lebreton. Two cadets attended the 'teen-agers' camp at Doe Lake, Ontario. Miss Betty Mauchel attended the Alberta Provincial

### NEW TENTS

The Kinsmen Club of Saskatoon generously donated sufficient funds to make possible the purchase of three new large-size tents complete with tent bags, pegs, etc. These much-needed tents were put to immediate use, and it is hoped that more might be purchased next camping season. The Saskatoon Local Association also contributed considerable equipment to the Pike Lake campsite this summer, which improved the equipment situation to a great extent. The urgent need at the present was with regard to the Girl Guides Hut—either extensive repairs would have to be made or a new structure erected; the feeling was strong for a new structure that could be heated at least in part.

Camping, said Miss O'Connor, was a much-needed balance for many of today's growing girls, due to the excitement and over-stimulation of modern living. Simple out-of-doors living helped to develop self-reliance, co-operation, and good health as well as a knowledge and love of country. Girl Guides were given many opportunities to camp, for a day, a weekend or for several weeks. The activities were planned to give practical expression to the Promise and Laws of a Girl Guide so that a girl might develop as a person and as a member of society through the give and take of ordinary life.

girls her own age. Saskatoon Division looked forward to accommodating a greater number of girls at future camps at Pike Lake campsite.

## Brownies Enjoy Pike Lake Camp

With camping now in full swing in all parts of the province, more than half a hundred Brownies recently participated in the first week-long Brownie camp to be held at the new Girl Guide hut overlooking Pike Lake. Representing five city packs and the airport, these eager-for-adventure youngsters ranging in age from nine to eleven years took part in a program, which was packed full of activity from rising time in the morning until after campfire at night. Twelve leaders staffed this large camp, which was divided into units, each enjoying two swim periods a day under the supervision of Miss Gail Baerg. Brownie work was conducted at alternate sessions and directed by Mrs. Grace Thomson. Mrs. Bea Byers was in charge of handicrafts.



An experienced and much-respected quartermaster was Mrs. G. H. Morgan, who had as her capable assistant, Mrs. C. Stacey. Five junior leaders were on hand. The camp was especially grateful to Miss Louise Betourney of the nursing staff of University Hospital, who so efficiently took care of the needs of the Brownies.

It was a successful camp with Mrs. Etta Stacey as commandant. Each child was given an opportunity to live with her sister Brownies through the give-and-take of everyday life in a group of girls of her own age. Packs represented were St. John's, Christ Church, St. James, Brunskill, North Park and Airport Pack.

## Girl Guides Camp at Pike Lake



GIRL GUIDES from St. Mary's and St. Joseph's Companies were the first to enjoy camping at the Guide Hut at Pike Lake this summer, and here the 24 girls who attended are to be seen grouped in front of the cottage. Those in charge of the camp were: Captain, Miss T. Gleason; lieutenant, Miss Myrtle Aldred; swimming instructor Mrs. Jack Wrightson; nurse, Miss H. Gleason. Mrs. Aldred was camp mother. Christ Church company will be at the lake July 23 to 30, and St. James' girls go August 1 to 25.

Star Phoenix Article July 21, 1949

# Camping at Pike Lake 1917-1956



READY for morning tent inspection are Patrol Leader Patti Thompson, 13, of Albert Company and Dawn Hodgson, 13, from All Saints.

## Star Phoenix Article 1956

Learning to cook over an open fire, sleeping under canvas, hiking, nature study, campfires, morning and evening flag raising and lowering ceremonies are all part of a Girl Guide camp.

For more than 40 years blue-uniformed Guides have camped at Pike Lake. The hut high on a hill is a familiar landmark (the present building was a gift of the Kiwanis Club several years ago) but not too many visitors to the lake see the tents nestled in the bluffs behind the building. While the hut is the headquarters of the girls and their leaders, camp is their own particular group of tents, fireplace, flag and dining shelter.

Before this summer ends more than 400 of the 1,300 Guides and Brownies in Saskatoon will have had a camping holiday. Usually not more than one company of 24 Guides is in tents at one time, with about 18 Brownies, their younger sisters, having the use of the hut for a pack holiday. But the first week in July saw the largest group of the season with 100 attending what was called a training camp for leaders and Guides.

When a Star-Phoenix photographer and reporter visited them one afternoon camp routine was well under way. The girls were from seven city companies: St. Timothy's, St. James, Holliston, All Saints', St. Philip's, Brunskill and Albert. As well there were 11 Rangers (girls 15 and over) who were acting as junior leaders, their own Guiders, and a headquarters staff of seven.

They were divided into three camps, and each site was spic and span. There were the bell tents, where the girls slept, a workmanlike fire-place which they had constructed, a dining shelter (under canvas in two camps) circled around a flag pole from which the Union Jack waved in the breeze.

Miss Betty Mauchel, Guider in charge, has had a great deal of experience having taken part in camps in four provinces, including the world camp in Ontario, and in the United States. She had praise for the Pike Lake site, which

she said compared favorably with most she had seen. It had space, the land was suitable, there was good drainage (important for tenting), the soil was easy to dig and there were the poplar bluffs for shelter and shade.



But the exploding youthful population, which has overcrowded schools the last few years, has affected the Guide movement too. There are more Guides and Brownies in Saskatoon than ever before in its history, and there would be even more if there were more voluntary leaders. The camp site, which seemed so spacious at one time, is hardly large enough for all those who would like the use of it, and there is talk that since Pike Lake is now a government park the Guides may lose some of their land.

Leaders agree a 10-day period is usually the most satisfactory, but it has been cut to a week for each company. Except for the swimming instructor, who is on duty for the entire season and whose salary comes from United Appeal funds, all leadership is voluntary.

A typical day at camp begins at 7 o'clock in the morning when those who are the cooks for the day begin breakfast preparations. The color ceremony is three-quarters of an hour later, and breakfast is expected by 8 o'clock. Daily tent inspection is at 10 o'clock when everything must be in order. The program activities might be hiking, nature study, swimming (by Wednesday not one case of itch from the lake had been reported), or the girls might work for one of their badges. After noon lunch there is a rest period, before the afternoon activities, and in the evening for the big camp there might be a joint campfire, or perhaps folk dancing.



Camp uniform is navy blue shorts, lighter blue blouse and a navy hat.

Civilization creeps closer each year, and as Miss Mauchel explained "we have quite a time being primitive nowadays." Most girls bring sleeping bags and air mattresses, gone are the old paillasses "because we can't get straw." There are restrictions about building fires, and campfire cooking can be expensive when wood costs from \$14 to \$18 a cord. Hikes must be planned to end at a public picnic ground, and for an overnight hike permission must be obtained from a sympathetic farmer to camp on his land.

No trees may be cut, and any wood for handicraft or as a flag pole must be brought from town.

There is no ice for ice boxes and an electric refrigerator was a necessary expense for headquarters, where supplies are kept and sent out to the camps each day by the quartermaster, Mrs. J. W. Brecknell, who is also deputy provincial commissioner.

How do girls accustomed to all the modern conveniences respond to primitive life? Miss Mauchel was pleased at how well they had set up their tents in last Saturday's high wind. The Guides themselves appeared to be thoroughly enjoying preparing their own meals, most of which were a "one-pot" type, such as campfire stew, with salads and puddings. They consumed about 40 quarts of milk, 60 dozen eggs, and 20 loaves of bread in a day.



There was one youngster who looked a bit puzzled when she discovered her job was to fill the dishpan and heat the water. It appeared there was a dishwasher in her home and she had no idea what the order meant.

In recent years the Kinette Club has donated equipment to the camp, but there never seems to be quite enough of such things as rakes, shovels and cooking utensils. Tents are borrowed from the army. The Saskatoon area council gives what financial support it can and each company pays a ground fee for the use of facilities, but officials find costs are rising and dollars must be stretched to keep each girl's fee as low as possible. "We hope the \$10 each pays will cover the food," said the quartermaster.

Preparations for camp began during the winter when leaders took special classes from expert advisers. Pike Lake site saw the first of the season's activities early in the spring when some groups went out for the weekend, and these excursions were continued in May and June. Until the end of August there will be scarcely a dull moment, with newcomers arriving weekly.

# A New Home – BP Lodge


In the 1950s it became clear the Girl Guides needed a new home at Pike Lake. The old Hut had a leaking roof and there were 'many mice and mosquitoes'.

The Kiwanis Club of Saskatoon provided the funds to build the new lodge, which was built on the same location as the old Hut, overlooking Pike Lake.

The building was estimated to cost \$15,000 and took almost 2 years for the building to be complete. Girl Guides had a 99 year lease on the grounds where the building was erected.

**Mrs. F. H. Webb Recalls**  
**Early History of Guide Hut**

The local association of the Saskatoon Girl Guides held its monthly meeting when business in relation to Guide activities was dealt with. Mrs. Andrews, district commissioner, gave a report on progress activities at St. John's, St. Paul's, Sutherland, Mayfair and the Airport. Some discussion took place regarding the sale of the Guide hut at Pike Lake, and it was generally agreed that the hut should be disposed of by next spring.



Smith's cottage, as well as in tents. Later plans were made for a hut to be built at Pike Lake. Mrs. William Johnston of St. George's Church, Miss Muriel Bell, Mrs. Sid Johns, Miss Eva Millar and many other women of the city, as well as the Boy Scouts, organized a tag day, which brought in \$750. Merchants were very liberal with their donations and also the Daughters of the Empire. Teas were held and potatoes grown. The Rev. Mr. Homes of St. George's Church and Mr. F. Dibble were interested and helped in every way possible. **HOLMES**

The hut was used by both Scouts and Guides for some years, until the Scouts moved to Beaver Creek.

For many years the caretaker of the Lakeside Country Club, Mr. Fred Reeves, has been a mountain of strength. He has attended to the fuel and water supply, the fire guard and many other things which go for safe camping.


Today there are many Guides, and mothers too, who look back upon happy days in the Guide Hut regardless of its leaking roof, its oil lamps, and its many mice and mosquitoes.

A letter from Lady Baden Powell was read referring to her visit to Saskatoon in September. She expressed great pleasure and enthusiasm for the rally, and especially commended the Brownies and Guides who had driven in many miles for this gathering.

Mrs. F. H. Webb had prepared a history of the Guide Hut at Pike Lake. Many Guides from Saskatoon and elsewhere have spent many happy camping days in this hut. Thanks to the Kiwanis Club of Saskatoon a new building is to be ready for camping activities in 1956. It was in 1917 that Acting Captain Emily Gould and a group of Girl Guides held their first camp in Canon

Star Phoenix articles 1955

THE GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION  
 SASKATOON LOCAL ASSOCIATION



Saskatoon, Sask.  
 1833 Elliott Street,  
 May 22nd, 1953.

Mr. S. B. McInnes, President,  
 Saskatoon Kiwanis Club,  
 Telephone Office,  
 SASKATOON, Sask.

Dear Mr. McInnes:

As requested by you in our recent telephone conversation, I would like to place before the Kiwanis Club the need of the Saskatoon Girl Guides Association for a new camp hut and furnishings on our present camp site at Pike Lake. The present structure has been in use for some forty years, and has now reached such a stage of dilapidation that we feel it is inadvisable to invest further in repairs. We would ask your serious consideration of our request when choosing your next community project.

Attached is the necessary information to acquaint you with our needs and to point out the importance and usefulness of such a project.

We feel that the Kiwanis Club should be well experienced to deal with our request after the splendid camp they have erected for the salvation army at Beaver Creek. Any investment in the furtherance of a youth movement pays its own dividends and in many ways creates its own favorable publicity in the community.

Might we extend to Mr. McInnes and his committee an invitation to inspect with us the present hut at Pike Lake. I am sure this would convince them that our request is not only necessary and well founded but even urgent.

Anticipating your consideration and approval, I am

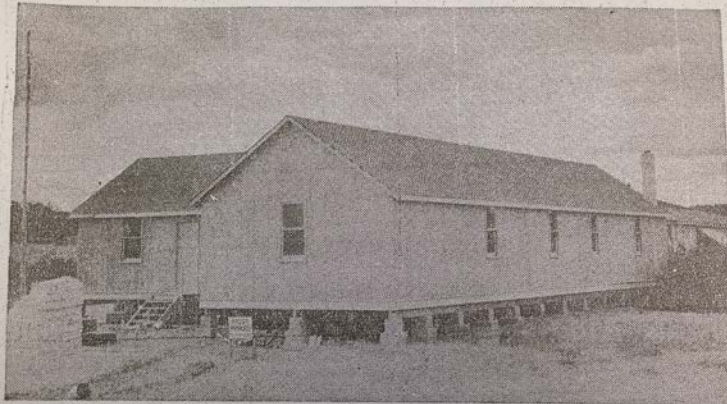
Yours sincerely,  
 (Mrs.) Margaret Mallin,  
 President;

Per  
 Secretary.

MD/SD

Letter to Saskatoon Kiwanis Club requesting support for new hut 1953

**Apple Sales Help Girl Guides**



Saskatoon Kiwanians, through the proceeds of their apple day, are providing the funds for this Girl Guides' hut which is nearing completion at Pike Lake. It will provide facilities for a camp holiday for nearly 100 more Guides in 1956 and will enable the Guides' association to put its experimental Brownie camp on a permanent basis so that more girls in the 8 to 11 age group can be accommodated. Using the old hut, at the right rear, the Guides maintained a camp for 53 days this summer, attended by 196 campers. Guides from Zealandia and Dinmore also used the facilities. The new building provides a common room measuring 20 by 28 feet. It also houses a kitchen, dining room, sick bay and officers' quarters and will be furnished with stove, refrigeration unit, built-in kitchen cabinets, dining tables, chairs and benches. It will have running water. The hut represents about two-thirds of the new facilities being provided by Saskatoon Kiwanians. A dormitory, measuring 18 by 60 feet, will be erected in the spring. The total cost of the two buildings is estimated at \$15,000 which will be paid from Kiwanis apple day receipts. Kiwanians are conducting a house-to-house canvass, starting today, in an effort to sell more boxes of apples. Apple day is Saturday, Oct. 1.



# BP Lodge Opening – July 1956



*BP Lodge official opening July 1956*

BP Lodge, named after the founder of the Scouting and Guiding movement, Lord Robert Baden-Powell, was officially open in July 1956. The 'hut', as it was referred to in its early days, was financed by the Saskatoon Kiwanis Club and building was starting in 1955. The common room, large kitchen, dining room, and the staff quarters were built the first year and the dormitory side was erected in 1956.

President of the Kiwanis Club, Mr. Hub presented the keys to Mrs. Ferguson, President of the Girl Guides Association in July of 1956 with dozens of Kiwanis and Guiding members on hand. Later that year, a septic system, electric power and, running water were installed.

## Kiwanians Present Key to Girl Guide Hut

A DREAM that has been haunting Girl Guides for years came true Sunday when they were handed the key to the new Girl Guide hut at Pike Lake by the president of the Kiwanis Club, Mr. Hub Braithwaite. This spacious building, set high on a hill overlooking the lake, was the gift of the Saskatoon Kiwanians, and dozens of members, Guide officials and interested friends braved the mud puddles out to the lake to witness the opening ceremonies. Receiving the important key and welcoming the visitors was Mrs. J. Fergusson, president of the Girl Guide Association, who expressed the sincere appreciation of all Guides and Guiders for the generous gift. She thanked not only the Kiwanians who had given so generously but also the many companies and organizations that had contributed to the hut's furnishings. She mentioned, too, the pioneers who had carried on so faithfully when camping conditions were anything but pleasant. The new hut, she believed, would do

much to promote good Guiding. The opening prayer was given by the Rev. L. S. Van Mossel, representing the Ministerial Association and later Mr. Braithwaite unveiled the bronze plaque over the fireplace which bore these words: "Dedicated to the Service of Youth, Saskatoon Kiwanis Club, 1955-56." Last year the club built the common room and the wing with kitchen, dining area, officers' quarters and sick bay and this year the sleeping quarters and wash rooms were added. It had been a long procedure, he said, but a gratifying one and he paid tribute to several Kiwanians, who had fostered the idea three years ago and kept the club enthused. This year a septic system, electric power and running water had been installed and, as president of the Lakeside Country Club, he also mentioned that the club had granted the Guide Association a 99-year lease on the grounds. Greetings from the Boy Scout Association were given by the commissioner, Mr. L. H. Tooley, while Mrs. W. T. Mallory, provincial Girl Guide commissioner, expressed her delight at the new camp and told of the use to which it would be put this summer. This week the Brunskill and St. James' Guides under the leadership of Miss Betty Mauchel will be camp and next week the sur-



rounding hills will be covered with tents, for a provincial camp will be there making preparations for the World Jamboree which will take place in Ontario in 1957. This provincial camp will be the first ever to be held at Pike Lake and elaborate plans are being made for its success. The weeks following will see separate camps by the Christ Church, Airport, Dinsmore, St. George's, Mayfair, St. John's, St. George's, St. Mary's, St. Paul's and the 6th Company of Girl Guides. What proved another interesting feature of the occasion was the presentation of lovely framed pictures of Her Majesty, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, the former being presented by Mrs. F. H. Webb on behalf of the Hugh Cairns VC Chapter, IODE, and the latter by Mrs. J. Rogers on behalf of the Golden West Chapter. After the inspection of the new hut the guests were served coffee and Girl Guide cookies cafeteria style at the counter between kitchen and the dining area. Among those looking after the pleasure of the visitors were Mrs. J. Brecknell, secretary of the Guide Association; Mrs. F. Guppy, treasurer; Mrs. R. L. Newstead, camp convener; Mrs. Vern Dallin, honorary provincial secretary; Mrs. G. H. Morgan; Mrs. J. L. Cowan and Mrs. J. J. Lee, members of the social committee, and the following camp committee members, Mrs. F. H. Webb and Miss Marion Young.

# BP Lodge - Early Days



## Guiders to Meet At Pike Lake Hut

At the monthly meeting of the Saskatoon Guiders' Club a report was read by the camp adviser about the camping activities for the coming summer. The new hut, built for the Girl Guides by the Kiwanis Club, will be used all summer for camping by the Guides and Brownies. It was decided to have the next Guiders' meeting at the new hut so that the Guiders will have a chance to see it. Mr. N. Hepburn and Mr. F. Pascoe, two local Scouters, entertained with a showing of slides taken at the Jamboree last summer at Niagara-on-the-Lake.



## Make Visit to Pike Lake Camp

Members of the Saskatoon area council Girl Guide Association formed a work party and paid a visit to the Guide camp at Pike Lake Wednesday to inspect and prepare the hut for the camping season. Ways and means were discussed and new items added to the hut furnishings. A generous potluck luncheon was enjoyed after a busy morning.

Making the trip were: Mesdames J. W. Brecknell, W. Hennigan, F. E. Guppy, E. Lowe, B. Kroeker, H. Moss, G. Heighes, G. Cook, E. Petit, S. Derkson, M. McKie and Mrs. I. Andrews, camp adviser.

# BP Lodge

BP Lodge has seen many changes over the years. When the lodge first opened, the common room had an open ceiling and there were wooden floors and very little insulation throughout the building. The main kitchen had a wood burning stove.

A small deck was installed in 1981, but the full sized deck was not installed until 1989, and the ramp was added in the early '90s. In the summer of 2013, major repairs were done to fix the deck after a particularly snowy winter.

In 1983, a new well was dug to accommodate the addition of water taps near the outbuildings around camp.

In 1992, the main kitchen, which was referred to as the 'winter' kitchen, had a major renovation. New cupboards, sinks, and hot water tank were installed and new appliances were purchased. The kitchen already had an electric stove, but the old wood stove was officially moved out. That same year, the smaller 'summer' kitchen, saw the installation of plumbing, hot water tank, cupboards and appliances.

In 2012, the 'Raise the Roof' campaign was held, raising almost \$20,000; and a new, metal roof was installed on the building. The next summer, in 2013, new flooring was installed in both kitchens and dining rooms, a new water pump was installed and volunteers from Airline Hotels, through the United Way's Day of Caring, gave the entire outside of the building a fresh coat of paint.



*Lodge kitchen & dining room, 1956*



*Lodge kitchen & dining room, 1960s*



# BP Lodge Winterization

In the early days, BP Lodge was often referred to as the 'Brownie Hut', Nyeri as the 'Guide Hut', and Pathways as the 'Pathfinder Hut'.

Win Parker wrote when she first started camping in the early 70s, 'all the equipment for camping on #1 (Nyeri) and #2 (Pathways) sites was stored in the storage room at the lodge (now the dorm side kitchen). We carried tents, a large patrol box with pots and pans, garbage cans, etc. to the first shelter, which had no kitchen addition then. The fridges were in the storage room too. At the end of camp all equipment had to go back. This was hard work.'

From the early days at Pike Lake, girls of all ages would spend weeks at a time in the summer at Girl Guide camp. In the early 1980s, it was clear that camping was changing. It was harder to find volunteers to staff camps all summer and the camping committee decided to update the facilities to meet the changing needs- winterization! Up to that point, the lodge had been heated with an oil furnace which was difficult to light and had a pilot light that had a tendency to blow out in a draft.

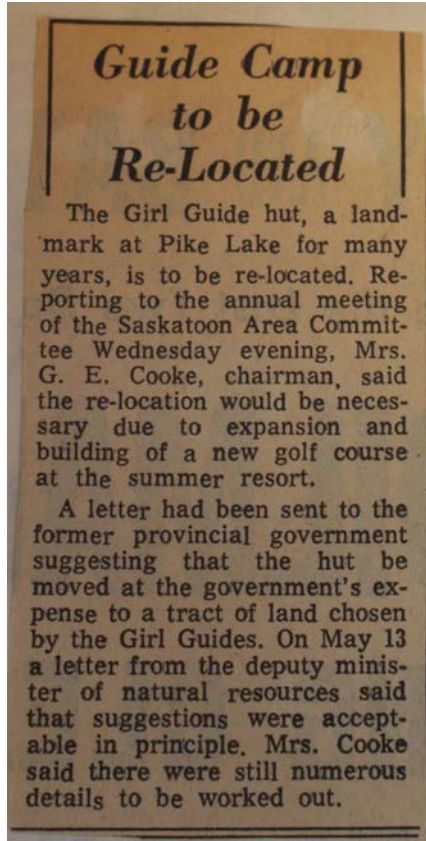
The work was done in three phases as money became available. The walls, floors and ceiling were insulated, windows replaced the old screens and wooden shutters, the brick siding was replaced with cedar, doors were replaced, and electric heaters were installed. Phase I of winterization was the large dorm rooms and small kitchen, phase II included the common room and staff quarters, and phase III was the kitchen/dining room wing and a large electrical upgrade.

Winterization was a leap of faith. The camp committee hoped that the time and money was well spent and it was; the camp was booked solid throughout the winter months! Between 1979 and 1985 over \$28,000 was spent winterizing BP Lodge and over \$17,000 was spent adding septic tanks, electricity and water lines to Nyeri and establishing the campsite at Pathways; a total of over \$45,000!



# Final Move & A New Name

In 1964, BP lodge was moved from its home near the lake to its current location.



*Star Phoenix article 1964*



## Trefoil Trails

In 1992, Saskatoon Area held a contest to create a new name for the camp at Pike Lake. Trefoil Trails was announced as the winner in April 1992.

Marj Martens, a long-time member, who camped at the old Guiding site in the 1930s, came up with the name. The word Trefoil was a special word to Marj, and she combined it with the word trails that reminded her of all the memorable, happy trails at the campsite. The two words together, 'Trefoil Trails' just sounded right as a tribute to Guiding.

**2017 marks the  
25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the  
Trefoil Trails name!**



# BP Lodge Through the Years



Baden Powell Lodge – approximately late 1950s



Baden Powell Lodge – approximately late 1980s



Baden Powell Lodge – Spring 2007



Baden Powell Lodge – August 2012  
as new roof is being installed

# BP Lodge Through the Years



*BP Lodge as it is now*

# BP Lodge



*Front of BP Lodge 1992*



*Inside BP Lodge 1992*



*Front of BP Lodge 1978*



*Back of BP Lodge late 1970s*



*Leader training at BP Lodge 1984*



# BP Lodge



# BP Lodge – We used to have a Pool!

An above ground pool was installed in 1984.

It cost just over \$2800 to install the pool and the deck and fencing around it. Filling the pool often emptied the well, so water had to be delivered.

For many years, a lifeguard was employed for the summer months – some people still refer to the small bedroom in the lodge as the ‘lifeguard room’.

The pool was removed in the early 90s.



*Swimming Pool Installation 1984*

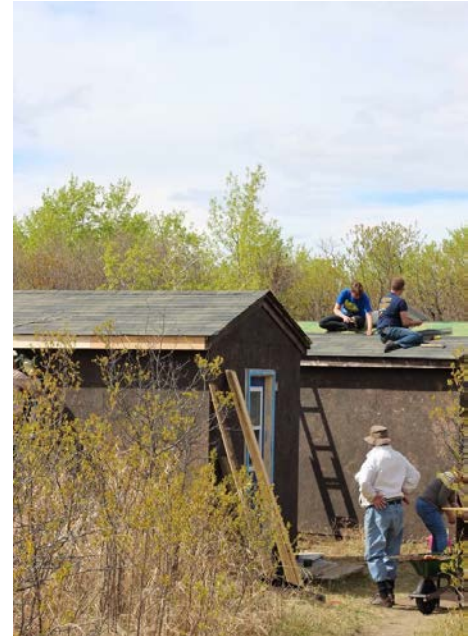


# Pixie Glen

In 1986, the Saskatoon Kiwanis Club once again supported camp, helping to build 3 sleeping huts known as Pixie Glen. The cabins were purchased as prefabricated kits for \$1000 each. Girl Guides could only afford to purchase two cabins that year so the Kiwanis Club purchased a third and club volunteers built them.

The huts have remained largely the same since they were built. Power was added in 1988 and in 2015, Cosmopolitan International Service Club re-shingled all three huts and the next year installed vinyl siding. The hut doors are still painted pink, orange and blue to represent Sparks, Brownies and Guides.

Minutes from a meeting in 1992 show that there were plans to build a fourth hut.



# Nyeri

The shelter at Nyeri was built in 1970 with funds from the Saskatoon Kiwanis Club; the shelter cost \$2000. When the shelter was first built, campers used large screens and canvas on the 'windows' of the shelter to protect themselves from weather. In 1979, the kitchen addition was completed for \$1000. Electricity was added the same year, and water lines and a septic tank were added so the latrine could be built. Additional lights and electrical outlets were added to the shelter in 2016. In June 2017, volunteers from CNH Industrial, through the United Way Day of Caring, painted the shelter inside and out and cleared trails.

In June 2014, volunteers from SaskEnergy, through the United Way Day of Caring, helped give the latrine building a facelift; painting the inside and outside. Volunteers from the camp committee also worked on the shelter that year finishing painting, replacing screening and fixing doors.

In 1981, four platform tents were built near the main campfire pit. The platforms remained until the late 2000s. Today, campers can put up old Baby Bell and Ridgeline tents to get a taste of 'heritage' camping.

**Nyeri is named for Nyeri, Kenya, where Lord Baden-Powell is buried.**







# Pathways



The Pathways site was established in 1980 to give older campers a more 'rustic' camping experience. The shelter was built the first year but a roof was too expensive. Win Parker recalled, "We could only afford the bottom half and the rafters. For the roof we used spare canvas. Guiders went out one day, climbed up onto the rafters, and made good use of their knotting skills to secure the canvas roof. This served for two seasons (with several leaks) until we could afford the proper roof." Water and septic were added in 1982 and an outhouse was built.



In 2014, the old outhouse was torn down and a new one was built.

The roof was replaced on the shelter in 2011; 2015 major repairs occurred and the shelter was painted.



# Other Stuff Around Camp



In 1979, the Saskatoon Area Camp Committee formed a new 'Camp Operating Committee' that was responsible for maintenance and improvements at camp. The regular camp committee continued to plan camps and hold trainings. The first camp operating committee had 5 members.

In 1980, the garage was purchased. When taking some tents in for a repair, the company doing the repairs had a garage for sale for \$600. The operating committee had an impromptu meeting at the Dairy Queen and decided to buy it. A new garage door was built a few years ago.



The City of Saskatoon donated 30 bikes to camp in 1980 and they were used until the late 90s.



A new winter outhouse was built near the lodge in 1996 with support from the United Way.

In June 2013, Trefoil Trails and Bridging Rivers Area hosted the Girl Guides of Canada Chief Commissioner, in an event called 'Bridging with the Chief'.

***'Bridging with the Chief' June 2013***





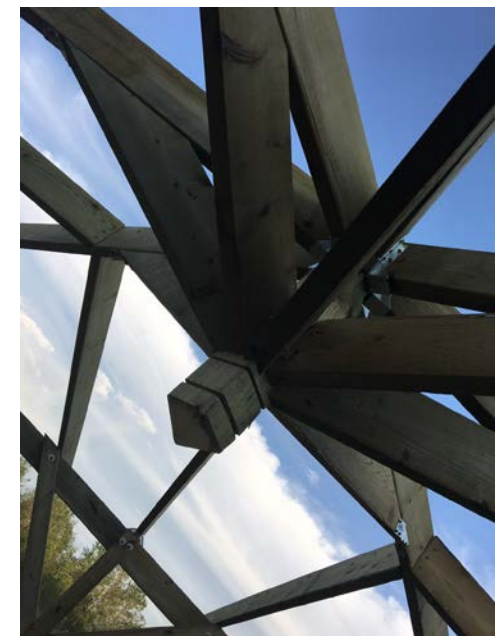
# 2017 – 100 Year Celebrations & Legacy Gazebo



2017 marked 100 years that Girl Guides have been camping at Pike Lake! To celebrate this milestone a celebration committee was formed and various activities were planned. A special crest and shirt could be ordered with the 100 Year Celebration design. The provincial Rally Packages featured 'heritage' style activities and a large sign was put up for the summer near the gates of the Pike Lake Provincial Park.

The committee also decided to build something permanent on-site as a legacy project. It was decided that a large 16'x16' gazebo would be built near the main fire pit on the Nyeri site. Over \$7000 was raised through a fundraising dinner, a paint night, direct donations, and support from the Trefoil Trails Camp Operating Committee and Provincial Council.

After months of planning, fundraising, and approval seeking, the gazebo was built in July. An official opening ceremony was held August 26, 2017.



A Message from Her Honour  
The Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

It is remarkable that Girl Guides started camping at Pike Lake in 1917! The committed volunteers who have maintained and developed the camp over the years deserve tremendous credit. Thank you, one and all, for giving girls such a great opportunity to experience the outdoors.

Camping is a wonderful way to connect with nature, and that connection can lead to a lifelong appreciation of our environment. Furthermore, camping is a great way to develop new skills while making new friends. To all who provide leadership to the Girl Guides of Canada – Bridging River Area, I thank you for empowering girls through mentorship and experience. To the members of Girl Guides, I commend you for taking advantage of this exceptional opportunity and I wish you the very best as you celebrate 100 years of camping at Pike Lake!

As you mark this historic milestone, I extend greetings on behalf of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada and a former Girl Guide!

Vaughn Solomon Schofield  
Lieutenant Governor  
Province of Saskatchewan