

# History of Girl Scouts of Western Ohio

## Appleseed Ridge History (Lima Area)

- 1916 The Golden Eaglet was established; girls in the Appleseed Ridge area from Hancock, Putnam, Hardin and Auglaize counties completed this award. They are on display at the regional Girl Scout Center.
- 1917 Girl Scout "Lone Troops" were started in the area.
- 1920 Girl Scout Council of Kenton was chartered on January 19th.
- 1924 Girl Scout Council of Kenton disbanded.
- 1929 Columbus Grove Girl Scout Council was chartered on November 16. At some point this council was disbanded.
- 1931 Sidney had Girl Scouts in a Lone Troop. Lois Folkerth was a member of Oak Troop #1 and passed her Tenderfoot rank.
- 1938 Girl Scouts of Allen County was chartered.
- 1940 First record of Girl Scouts in Hancock County.
- 1940s to 2007 Cookie sale monies were used to assist troops with activities and to provide the Council with funds for camp improvements, the funding of programs and Council operations.
- 1942 Kenton area Girl Scouts were chartered again under the name of Simon Kenton Girl Scout Council.
- 1942 Sidney was originally chartered as a local council.
- 1943 Van Wert Council of Girl Scouts was chartered.
- 1943 Logan County Girl Scout Council was first chartered.
- 1945 Hancock County became an "Association" Council.
- 1946 Kiwanis Club purchased 20 acres of land for the Lima Girl Scouts. Accepting for the Girl Scouts were Mrs. Raymond P. Smith, Commissioner, and Mrs. Henry Rochelle, Camp Chairman.
- 1948 The first campaign was held to help with the building of the Sweetbriar Lodge at Camp Woodhaven.
- 1949 Simon Kenton Girl Scout Council disbanded.
- 1950 Councils combined to form larger councils. Fort Amanda Council served Allen, Auglaize, Hardin, Van Wert, and Mercer counties.
- 1950 to 1962 Mrs. R.W. Augsburger served as President for Fort Amanda Council.
- 1950 HoW House was built. "HoW" stands for Heart of Woodhaven.

- 1953 Tri—Ridge Council was incorporated to include Hancock and Putnam Counties
- 1958 Logan County Girl Scouts became incorporated and became Hi— Point Council of Girl Scouts of Logan County.
- 1958 Sidney changed their name to Sidney Ohio Girl Scout Council, Inc.
- 1959 Fort Amanda Girl Scout Council purchased 265 acres of land to form Camp Myeerah. As the original purchase was cleared land, tree plantings were a major project to start the camp facility.
- 1959 In June, Camp Myeerah was dedicated. Mrs. Lyn Timmerman was Council President and Mrs. Boyd Travis was Chairman of Sites.
- 1959 Girls from Allen and Hancock Counties had a patrol at the second Round Up in Colorado Springs, Colorado area.
- 1960s The Lodge at Camp Myeerah was built, the Log House was moved from SR 540 to its current position and the lake construction took place. The main well was drilled. Mr. James A. MacDonnel was the Chairman of the Camp Development Committee.
- 1962 Platform tents were built at Camp Myeerah.
- 1962 December 18 Articles of incorporation were filed for the forming of Appleseed Ridge Council.
- 1962 A patrol attended the third Round UP in Button Bay, Vermont, from Shelby County.
- 1963 The First Class Award replaced the Curved Bar. ARGSC girls responded and earned this award.
- 1963 Paulding Co. operated as a Lone Troop and was part of the merging process with Appleseed Ridge.
- 1963 Appleseed Ridge Girl Scout Council was born and brought together Fort Amanda, Tri—Ridge and Paulding Co. Lone Troop. The new board president was Mrs. William Glover.
- 1963 The new council, Appleseed Ridge, embraced Allen, Auglaize, Mercer, Hardin, Hancock, Paulding, Putnam and Van Wert counties serving some 5,300 girls.
- 1965 Girls from council attended the fourth and final Round Up in Farragut, Idaho.
- 1967 Hi-Point Council was accepted into Appleseed Ridge Council, bringing all of Logan County into Appleseed Ridge.
- 1968 Sidney and Shelby County Girl Scout Council was the last county to merge with Appleseed Ridge Girl Scouts. They brought with them Camp Brookside, which is owned by the Sidney Community Foundation for the lifetime use by Girl Scouts.
- 1970s The Tree Houses and Shower House were built at Camp Myeerah.
- 1970s The Log House at Camp Myeerah served as a nature center. Today it houses a wood burning cook stove and beds for group overnights.
- 1978 Shagbark Environmental Center was open, serving our girls and many school groups with a variety of nature programs.

- 1980s Reconstruction of the Tree Houses at Camp Myeerah took place making these the wood structures they are today.
- 1980s The Adventure Challenge program began at Woodhaven Program Center. The council quickly established a local reputation for its outdoor adventure programs.
- 1980s Covered Wagons, a favorite overnight campsite at Camp Myeerah, were built with real wagon wheels and canvas tops.
- 1981 The dorms and greenhouse were added to Sweetbriar at Camp Woodhaven.
- 1984 Camp Woodhaven was renamed Woodhaven Program Center.
- 1984 The first Girl Scout Daisy Troop of the council was led by Mrs. Jerry Brose, a volunteer from Mt. Victory.
- 1984 Camp Unaliyi was sold.
- 1985 Pottery and photography were introduced to Woodhaven Program Center.
- 1985 Outreach programs started with START (Striving, Teaching, and Reaching Together).
- 1989 Rose Marie Duffy Lodge was built at Camp Woodhaven.
- 1992 The Troop House was built to provide girls with the modern accommodations some of our members were looking for.
- 1994 The Council Service Center (Eileen Webster Dicke Council Service Center) was completed at Woodhaven Program Center. This was our first capital campaign as Appleseed Ridge.
- 1997 The Log Cabin attached to Sweetbriar was dedicated, the home of our Girl Scout Museum.
- 1999 Girl Scouts of Appleseed Ridge received the first Non-Profit Business of the Year Award from the Lima Area Chamber of Commerce.
- 2001 Girl Scouts of Appleseed Ridge added the Girl Scouts Beyond Bars program through a partnership with Lima Correctional Institution, becoming the only council in the country to operate a program for incarcerated fathers and daughters. Mother and daughter programs were created at Ohio Reformatory for Women with Girl Scouts – Seal of Ohio.
- 2003 20 acres along Cole Street, east of existing Woodhaven Program Center, was added to the site.
- 2005 Four handicap accessible tents were added to the unit at Camp Myeerah.
- 2004 Tri-Moraine Audubon Society helped to establish Camp Myeerah as an Important Bird Area.
- 2006 The addition of a Wet Lands and board walk provide for cleaner lake waters and a multitude of nature study opportunities.
- 2006 A prairie was planted which will allow for the study of wildlife native to Ohio grass lands and will contribute to the habitat for birds was planted at Camp Myeerah.

- 2006 The Pottery Studio was moved to the Council Service Center Garage to allow pottery to become a year-round activity.
- 2006 Girl Scouts of Appleseed Ridge received national press coverage for its Girl Scouts Daddies and Daughters program.
- 2007 The Girl Scouts Beyond Bars program received the Gold Star Award from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections.
- 2007 An addition to the Rose Marie Duffy Lodge was made for additional storage and improved operation.

**Buckeye Trails History (Dayton Area)**

- 1916 Four Girl Scout troops met at Christ Episcopal Church.
- 1918 Dayton Council was organized through the efforts of Mrs. George M. Ander with the support of Mr. John H. Patterson of the National Cash Register Company. There were a total of 200 girls at that time.
- 1921 Dayton Girl Scout Council was issued its first charter from the Girl Scout national organization; membership was 500 girls in 21 troops.
- 1922 First troop established in Greenville, Ohio.
- 1923 First established camp site on Mad River Road south of Dayton. Wilmington Council is formed.
- 1925 First Troops formed in Piqua and Piqua Council established.
- 1926 First Cookie Sale in Dayton. Girls baked and sold the cookies; first franchised sale of commercially baked cookies was in 1936. The cookie sale was an annual event since 1926, except for three years during World War II.
- 1931 Day camping was introduced in Dayton. First troop established in Springfield.
- 1934 Springfield Council was chartered with seven troops.
- 1936 Property was purchased near Morrow, Ohio and named Camp Whip-Poor-Will Hills.
- 1937 Camp Whip-Poor-Will Hills opened to girls. Resident camp started using six platform tents. Troop camping began in the newly-built Grace Cullen Cabin.
- 1946 Greene County Council formed.
- 1949 Donation of land near Bellefontaine, Ohio and named Camp Mac O'Chee.
- 1950 Dayton Girl Scout Council located at 224 North Jefferson Street, Dayton.
- 1953 Wilmington Council expanded to become Clinton County Council including a portion of Warren County.

- 1955 Camp Greene in Yellow Springs was purchased with the help of the Xenia Rotary Club. Dayton Council moved to the United Way building on Salem Avenue.
- 1958 Purchased 50.13 acres in Miami County named Camp Rolling Hills.
- 1960 Dayton Council and Greene County Council merged to become Dayton Area Council. Mad River Valley Council formed (Clark and Champaign counties) Green Valley Council formed (Darke and Miami counties).
- 1963 Dayton Area Council, Mad River Valley Council and Clinton County Council merged to become Buckeye Trails Girl Scout Council.
- 1965 Little House in Greenville deeded to the Council.
- 1968 Buckeye Trails Girl Scout Council jurisdiction extended to include Green Valley Council.
- 1982 Camp Mac O'Chee was modified for accessibility to campers with disabilities.
- 1983 Buckeye Trails purchases Shoup Mill School from Dayton Public Schools and opens the Girl Scout Program Center providing additional programs for girls, a Girl Scout Equipment Shop and Corporate Headquarters.
- 1988 First high ropes challenge course was constructed at Camp Whip-Poor-Will.
- 1992 Little House in Darke County was rebuilt.
- 1996 Mary Rollins Dining Lodge was rebuilt at Whip-Poor-Will and Camp Mac O'Chee was sold.
- 1998 Rainbow Lodge was renovated and pool added to Camp Rolling Hills.
- 2002 Reinstated horse program at Whip-Poor-Will and rebuilt climbing wall.
- 2004 New Challenge Courses installed at Camp Rolling Hills and Camp Greene.
- 2006 Preble County joins Buckeye Trails Council. Construction is completed and the council moves into the new Urban Campus.

**Great Rivers History (Cincinnati Area)**

- 1916 Girl Scouting begins in Cincinnati. The name of the council is Cincinnati and Miami Valley Council of Girl Scouts.
- 1918 Girl Scouts attend summer camp in Terrace Park, Ohio, on property donated by the Hirsch family.
- 1920 Girl Scouting begins in the Middletown, Ohio area and is designated as Middletown Girl Scout Council.
- 1921 The seventh National Council session is held in Cincinnati, Ohio and membership totals 112,515. The National Training Camp for leaders is held in Cincinnati and Camp Wildwood in Middletown opens.
- 1926 National President, Anne Hyde Choate, visits Cincinnati Ohio.

- 1928 New uniforms of "Girl Scout green," are adopted and Girl Scouting begins in Batesville, Indiana.
- 1929 Cincinnati council's name changed to Cincinnati and Hamilton County Council of Girl Scouts, Inc. Also, a Girl Scout troop is started at the Hospital for Crippled Children in Cincinnati.
- 1930 The Butterworth property is leased in Fosters, Ohio for Camp Katherine—later renamed Camp Butterworth.
- 1932 Troops in Franklin, Ohio become part of Middletown Girl Scout Council.
- 1935 National President, Birdsall Otis Edey, visits Middletown.
- 1936 Cincinnati establishes Mariner Girl Scout program for girls who desire to join a water-based program and Camp Wildwood in Middletown is destroyed by fire.
- 1936 The National Council Meeting is held in Cincinnati.
- 1936 Camp John Claire opened in Batesville, Indiana for summer day camp.
- 1940 Mariner Girl Scout program is adopted in Middletown.
- 1953 The National Council meeting is held in Cincinnati.
- 1953 Land is acquired in Waynesville, Ohio for Camp Stonybrook. Also, Middletown council's jurisdiction includes Waynesville, Wayne Township in Warren County. The name is changed to Middletown Area Girl Scout Council, Inc.
- 1956 Cincinnati council's jurisdiction includes Clermont County. The name is changed to Greater Cincinnati Girl Scout Council, Inc.
- 1957 Girl Scouts collaborate the Boy Scouts in United Clothing Drive. Middletown council's jurisdiction includes Mason, Ohio.
- 1959 Camp Ross Trails opens in Ross, Ohio.
- 1963 Wing Girl Scout program is adopted in Franklin, Ohio for girls interested in aviation.
- 1964 Great Rivers Girl Scout Council is merged with Middletown, Hamilton and Dearborn Hills Area councils and the Girl Scout Organization of Batesville.
- 1976 Camp Timber Hill is donated.
- 1976 The Girl Scout Center in Blue Ash, Ohio is dedicated.
- 1989 Camp Ross Trails is closed.
- 1996 Ground is broken for the office addition in Blue Ash, Ohio.
- 2006 Camp Timber Hill is sold and Friendship Lodge is dedicated at Camp Butterworth.

## Maumee Valley History (Toledo Area)

- 1914 First troop is founded in Toledo, Ohio.
- 1917 First Charter in the United States is issued to Toledo Council on May 6 and signed by the founder of Girl Scouting, Juliette Gordon Low. First troop was composed of 32 girls.
- 1918 Outlying towns including Bowling Green, Maumee, Rossford, Weston, and Perrysburg are invited to join the Toledo Council.
- 1920 Girl Scouts become part of the Community Chest. Camp Segur, the first establishment camp, is on Catawba Island.
- 1922 First Girl Scout Brownie group is organized.
- 1923 Toledo Council has the first handicapped troop in the nation.
- 1925 Edward Drummond Libbey leaves a bequest of \$25,000 for a campsite.
- 1927 In 10 years, the council has grown to 1,137 girls registered in 58 troops, and 109 adults.
- 1928 Toledo sold its first Girl Scout Cookies. 4,000 were sold.
- 1929 The "Little House" drive is started (Center for Girl Scout Activities). Toledo is chosen for a Regional Leadership Training Course. The first Senior Troop is registered.
- Early 1930s Toledo Council had troops East to Port Clinton, Ohio, North to include Temperance and Lambertville, Michigan and South to Bowling Green and Delta, Ohio.
- 1930 Troops provide baby clothing and food baskets for the needy. Camp Scholarship fund established; there are 10 recipients
- 1931 First day camp is held at Ottawa Park.
- 1932 Camp Segur is too small to meet Girl Scout standards.
- 1933 There is no established camp for the next three years. The Camp Committee is still seeking the ideal site.
- 1934 The "Little House" is built (on the Hardee family estate).
- 1935 Toledo Council bought land for Camp Libbey; construction began.
- 1936 More than a thousand attend the dedication of Camp Edward Drummond Libbey in Defiance, Ohio, on July 26th.
- 1937 Silver anniversary. Camp Libbey pool is finished.
- 1939 Linden House, to be used for overnight camping, is built at Camp Libbey.
- 1941 The emergency troop project is Bundles for Britain. A pioneer unit and a new sanitation system are built at Camp Libbey.
- 1943 Office headquarters moved to the Spitzer Building. Day Camp first charged attendance fee.

- 1947 The first Senior Planning Board is formed. Neighborhood Chairmen are elected for the first time. The first unit of Counselors-in-Training (C.I.T.'s) is formed. Registered membership is 4,152 girls and 1,456 adults.
- 1950 The "Little House," now too small, is sold. Rotary presents us with a new Craft House at Camp Libbey.
- 1952 An infirmary (Pill Box), a gift of the Kiwanis Club, is built at Camp Libbey. The Zonta Club presents the council with a trailer to be equipped for Troop Camping. A South Toledo Girl Scout Senior Troop ushers at the United Nations in New York City.
- 1953 Troops collect toys and clothing for Korea, hold "patient" parties and make baby clothes for the Day Nursery.
- 1956 Girls plant 5,000 trees at Camp Libbey. Senior girls attend the first National Roundup near Pontiac, Michigan.
- 1957 9,053 girls registered in 493 troops, and 2,847 adults.
- 1960 Camp Libbey has a new water system. The Kiwanis Club gives the council new Unit Kitchens for Camp.
- 1961 Camp Libbey celebrates its Silver Anniversary. Over 1,300 girls participate in Troop Camping.
- 1962 The council is expanded to include all of Wood County and two Townships in Henry County and City of Fostoria
- 1965 Camp Libbey has a permanent caretaker and a new home is provided to the caretaker.
- 1966 Plans are completed to extend jurisdiction.
- 1967 The council's new name is Maumee Valley Girl Scout Council, Inc., and the jurisdiction includes Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Williams and Wood Counties, the City of Fostoria and a portion of Monroe County in Michigan. The Council serves 19,000 girls and 3,000 adults.
- 1968 Campus Gold Groups for former Girl Scouts attending college are organized at Toledo University, Bowling Green State University and Defiance College.
- 1970 Council Service Center moves in the Stranahan Community Services building.
- 1971 The council adds all of Ottawa County.
- 1974 Completed construction of the new pool at Camp Libbey. Selected by GSUSA as a test Council for the development of a pilot project with migrant children. Started a summer program in Spencer-Sharples in cooperation with the YWCA, E.O.P.A., and Lucas County Recreation Department
- 1978 Purchased 83 acres adjacent to Camp Libbey and approved long-range master plan for the site. (325 acres).



- 1980 Girls from 20 states attended a National Girl Scout Event sponsored by Maumee Valley Girl Scout Council which focused on ecology, wildlife and wetlands of Lake Erie and its tributaries. The Council completes a Capital Campaign for Camp Libbey development and undertakes major construction and renovation of camp buildings to enable the council to fully utilize the site year-round.
- 1984 Mrs. Betty Pilsbury, former President of Maumee Valley Girl Scout Council, is elected President of the Girl Scouts of the USA.
- 1985 The Council's operating budget exceeds \$1 million for the first time and the cookie sale proceeds are now the major source of operating income (42 percent).
- 1986 50th Anniversary of Camp Libbey.
- 1987 70th Anniversary of Girl Scouting in the Greater Toledo Area. 75th Anniversary of Girl Scouting nationwide. Maumee Valley Girl Scout Council sponsors the largest parade in Toledo's history on May 9, in celebration of the 75th Birthday Year.
- 1993 Moved into current building on Collingwood Boulevard in Toledo, Ohio. Dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony for building on Collingwood Blvd.
- 1995 A donation to Maumee Valley enabled an Old West end carriage house to be converted in the "Little House" a facility for council and troops to use.
- 2003 The council's community Service Project, Read to Succeed collected more than 26,000 books for children at 26 area schools.
- 2003 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Capital Campaign "Adventure Awaits" held for the new multi-purpose infirmary, new horse corral, high and low ropes course and Shoppe.
- 2006 Camp Libbey celebrates 70<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- 2007 Girl Scouts 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Council celebrates with a parade and service project for Making the World a Better Place.