

A brief history of Boy Scout Troop #465 as remembered by David Callahan.

Assistant Scoutmaster 1963 – 1965

Scoutmaster 1965 - 1966

September, 2021

In the summer of 1963, I realized that I would like to start a Boy Scout Troop since I had experience as a Boy Scout, Explorer Scout, and Life Scout.

The troop I was part of earlier was disbanded. A group of men from Hickory Flat met with me to organize a troop since I was 19 years old and unable to be a Scoutmaster until age 21. Bob Johnson volunteered to be Scoutmaster, but I would be in charge of the day-to-day operations. I was Assistant Scoutmaster until March of 1965 when I became 21.

While leading the troop I had many great experiences with troop #465 for 3 plus years. The boys learned many new skills in that time. Some of them from our Troop were able to go on and earn Eagle Scout, creating a good foundation for life skills.

George Lingefelt was my Assistant. In August of 1966 I was moved to the night shift at Lockheed Aircraft. Raleigh McClure, committee chairman, and George decided to dismissed me as a Scoutmaster, much to my regret.

In the beginning we had a need for additional transportation for our field trips. Almon Roper, a father of one of our scouts, was able to secure a civil air patrol bus, from Dobbins Air Force Base, for us which was a BIG plus for our activities.

On one of our trips to the Smokey Mountains, there was a problem with the engine. Mr. Roper was able to “BABY” the bus back to Hickory Flat late on a Sunday.

As a Scout Master, on a week long trip to Lake Winfield Scott, I pulled 2 scouts safely to shore when they got in trouble swimming and were tangled together fighting each other.

We participated in the Atlanta Area Scout Show at Fulton County Stadium where the boys built a “Monkey Bridge” on the field with rope they made from bailing twine.

As a troop we were the first people allowed to hike Trail #2 in Kennesaw Mountain National Park.

Scout dad, Jack Payne was the “Fastest Zipper” in the camp site when there was a Bear outside his tent in the middle of the night.

The only time our scouts did not count off, Jimmy got left at Vogel State Park.

Lesson learned: Don't wander away from camp!

Fundraisers yearly: Chicken Suppers

Hickory Flat PTA Sponsor. Troop met at Hickory Flat Elementary.

The troop participated in several District Camporees and Activities.

August, 1965 Troop marched in Old Soldier's Day Parade in Alpharetta.

October, 1965 Troop marched in Youth Day Parage in Roswell.

August, 1966 Troop served as Honorary Ushers at David & Ann's wedding.

1965 Troop toured Dam at Lake Allatoona.

My service: Assistant Scout Master, Scout Master, Order of the Arrow, later

Formed an Explorer Post in Roswell, Georgia and a guest speaker at Atlanta Area

Council of Boy Scouts meeting for Special Recognition for various positions in

Scouting.

It is gratifying that Troop #465 is still going strong today and that Johnny Ballard, one of the originals members, is still involved.