

Hale Scout Reservation



(2009 Early Bird Registration Patch)

In the early part of the Twentieth Century a success business man in McAlester, Ok, Tom Hale became interested in youth work and organized a youth group in his church. In 1919 he affiliated the youth group with the Boy Scouts of America. Choctaw Area Council was formed and Mr. Hale served as the council president for many years.

Upon seeing the need for camping facilities to carry out the Boy Scout Camping Program Mr. Hale coordinated the effort of acquiring an area of land near Wilburton, Oklahoma known as Robbers Cave for a campsite for the Scouts. He purchased a great majority of the land himself and encouraged many others in the area to also donate land for the camp. Boy Scout camping took place from 1930 until 1961 when Robbers Cave became a state park. The state government exchanged the camp for an area of land near Talihina Oklahoma where the present day Hale Scout Reservation is located.

In 1973 Choctaw Area Council merged with Indian Nations Council who took over the operations of the camp. Indian Nations has been also worked to keep the vision of provide the best possible program for the youth. There are thousands of youth each year that receive a quality outdoor program, over 1300 Scouts complete rank advancement and approximately 20,00 merit badges are earned.