

## Explorer Base



(2012 Early Bird Registration Patch)

In 1953 the Tulsa Area Council leased an area of land at Whitehorn Cove on Ft. Gibson Lake near Wagoner, Oklahoma to establish a camp for Explorer Scouts. It was a primitive camp with no facilities. The purpose of the camp was a high adventure camp for older and experienced Scouts. At this time the Council had a large contingent of Explorer Scouts (1200 Scouts) and a need existed for these Scouts to 'get away' from the younger Scouts and have excursions and projects for older Scouts

A 1956 Tulsa Area Council capital campaign raised money for improvements to the council camps in which a portion was earmarked for Explorer Base. Those improvements included a small dining hall with kitchen facilities, 10/15 campsites, 'one holers' toilets and some running water to the campsites. In 1957 Tulsa Area Council merged with Creek Nation Council out of Okmulgee and formed Indian Nations Council.

The camp was used the Explorer Scouts and also for weekend camping and training courses. Wood Badge, Pine Tree and other adult outdoor training were held at the camp until 1984. Lodge 138, (under the name of Yaqui, Daw-Zu and Ta Tsu Hwa) held many Ordeals, Brotherhood and Vigil Ceremonies at Explorer Base and provided hundreds of hours of Cheerful Service.