
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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MS 1408

**Camp Fire Girls. Southern Arizona Council
Records, 1920, 1954-1996 (bulk 1985-1996)**

DESCRIPTION

Materials from the National and Southern Arizona Camp Fire Council of Camp Fire USA, 1920-1990, including publicity materials, photographs, slides, newsletters, annual reports, Ada Peirce McCormick items, scrapbooks, books and programs.

13 boxes, 8.5 linear ft.

ACQUISITION

The collection was donated to the Arizona Historical Society by Beverly E. Field in 2004.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

COPYRIGHT

Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society-Tucson, Archives Department.

PROCESSING

Dena McDuffie processed the collection in May 2010.

ARRANGEMENT

In five series: Printed materials, 1920-1996. Photographs, 1985-1996. Publications and Misc., 1968-1990. Scrapbooks, 1965-1967. Audio/visual. Arranged topically within type of material; the photographs in this collection came to the Historical Society with minimal identification. Entries noted "Scrapbook" pertain to photographs removed from scrapbook for conservation purposes.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Camp Fire USA is a nationwide American youth organization founded in 1910 as the sister organization to the Boy Scouts of America. The organization has been co-ed since 1975. Its programs emphasize camping and other outdoor activities for youth. Native American culture has long served as the inspiration for ceremonial activities and attire, camp and council names, respect for nature and the environment, and the use of symbols by many councils. The organization states its Mission as: "Camp Fire USA builds caring, confident youth and future leaders." Its slogan, "Give service," indicates the importance of family, club, community, council and country. The traditional symbol is two crossed logs and a three-tipped flame. The word WoHeLo is a combination of the first two letters of the words "Work", "Health" and "Love". WoHeLo is often used as a greeting or password or in correspondence. The Wohelo Medallion is the highest achievement earned in Camp Fire. The medallion takes four years to earn and "is the symbol of present achievement and growth, as well as of outstanding, skilled service to others."

Representatives from Tucson applied for a Camp Fire charter in Tucson in 1966 and the Southern Arizona Camp Fire Council was founded.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Campfire collection primarily contains photographs, but also some correspondence, advertising materials, publications, etc., relating to the Southern Arizona Council of the Camp Fire organization. The majority of materials date to the 1990s. The "gem" of this collection is a scrapbook of Camp Fire materials, dated mid-1920s, compiled by Ada Peirce McCormick (related material at MS 1367). Also of interest are photographs of children participating in Camp Fire activities and various handbooks of the organization.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

SERIES 1: PRINTED MATERIALS

Box 1

Activity, Awards and Ceremonies [Recognition is an important part of all Camp Fire USA programs. For their participation, growth and achievements, youth receive distinctive items such as beads, emblems, pins and certificates.]

F. 1 Activity, Awards and Ceremonies, Grand Council Fire [The 1914 edition of *The Book of the Camp Fire Girls* includes the following: "The Grand Council Fire is for friends and the public. It includes all the Camp Fires of one locality or one institution. Each Camp Fire is a unit in the Grand Council Fire just as each girl is a unit in the Council Fire."]

- F. 2 Activity, Bicentennial, 1976
- F. 3 Activity, Downtown Teens in Action, 2003
- F. 4 Annual Reports, 1976-1996
- F. 5 Certificates (See also Box 9)
- F. 6 Correspondence
- F. 7 Flyers & Brochures
- F. 8 History
- F. 9 Meetings
- F. 10 Membership
- F. 11 Miscellaneous

- F. 12 People, Jane DeShaw, poetry
- F. 13 People, Ada Peirce McCormick [The highlight of this collection is McCormick's scrapbook of her days as a teacher of campfire leadership at Lock Haven Normal School in Pennsylvania in the mid-1920s. The scrapbook includes class assignments, invitations, newspaper clippings and wonderful photographs of Camp Fire group activities. Also includes 1914 issue of *Wohelo* magazine for girls, a 1989 article about the Little Chapel, a nondenominational chapel on the University of Arizona campus which was established by McCormick, and 2 copies of *Ada: The Biography of a Woman Ahead of Her Time* by Roger J. O'Mara, 1914-1989]
- F. 14 People, Connie Jean Russell, History of her campfire years, created in completion of her work to earn the Wohelo Medallion, the highest honor given in the organization

Box 2

- F. 15 People, Katy Siple, Miscellaneous
- F. 16 People, Judy Wilder and Ellen Roberts, Campfire Memory Book

SERIES 2 : PHOTOGRAPHS

- F. 17 Photographs, Activity, Awards and Ceremonies, black & white
- F. 18-19 Photographs, Activity, Awards and Ceremonies, color
- F. 20 Photographs, Activity, Awards and Ceremonies, Album A, ca. 1995
- F. 21 Photographs, Activity, Awards and Ceremonies, Board of Directors and Renovations, Album C, 1993
- F. 22 Photographs, Activity, Camping, black & white [Since Camp Fire's inception it has been about camping, and getting girls out in the wilderness to learn. Camp Fire USA is the largest coeducational nonsectarian camp provider, operating over 130 day and resident camps throughout the USA, and annually serving over 61,000 youth.]
- F. 23 Photographs, Activity, Camping, color
- F. 24 Photographs, Activity, Camping, photos from scrapbook, 1990
- F. 25 Photographs, Activity, Camping, Spring campout, Sierra Vista, Arizona, April 6-7, 1991
- F. 26 Photographs, Activity, Camping, Album B, November 15, 1992
- F. 27 Photographs, Activity, Crafts, black & white
- F. 28 Photographs, Activity, Crafts, color

Box 3

- F. 29 Photographs, Activity, Food and Cooking, black & white
- F. 30 Photographs, Activity, Food and Cooking, color
- F. 31 Photographs, Activity, Fundraising, black & white [Every year Camp Fire councils sell Almond Roca, Mint Patties and Almond Caramel Clusters. Money made from these sales goes to benefit Camp Fire groups, Camp Fire
- F. 32 Photographs, Activity, Fundraising, color
- F. 33 Photographs, Activity, Fundraising, Navajo rug sale, black & white, 1985
- F. 34 Photographs, Activity, Fundraising, Navajo rug sale, color, 1985
- F. 35 Photographs, Activity, Fundraising, photos from scrapbook, candy sales, 1990-1991
- F. 36 Photographs, Activity, Fundraising, Album B, 1993
- F. 37 Photographs, Activity, Fundraising, Album A, ca. 1995
- F. 38 Photographs, Activity, Fun runs, black & white
- F. 39 Photographs, Activity, Fun runs, color
- F. 40 Photographs, Activity, Fun runs, April 20, 1991
- F. 41 Photographs, Activity, Fun runs, Album B, 1993
- F. 42 Photographs, Activity, Fun runs, Album C, 1993
- F. 43 Photographs, Activity, Fun runs, Album A, ca. 1995

- F. 44 Photographs, Activity, Hiking, black & white
- F. 45 Photographs, Activity, Hiking, color
- F. 46 Photographs, Activity, Horseback riding, black & white
- F. 47 Photographs, Activity, Horseback riding, color

Box 4

- F. 48 Photographs, Activity, Meetings and education, black & white
- F. 49 Photographs, Activity, Meetings and education, color
- F. 50 Photographs, Activity, Miscellaneous, black & white
- F. 51 Photographs, Activity, Miscellaneous, color
- F. 52 Photographs, Activity, Miscellaneous, Mini-Olympics, May 3, 1985
- F. 53 Photographs, Activity, Miscellaneous, black and white, 1985
- F. 54-55 Photographs, Activity, Miscellaneous, color, 1985
- F. 56 Photographs, Activity, Miscellaneous, Sierra Vista Council Fire, May 13, 1989 and December 1989
- F. 57 Photographs, Activity, Miscellaneous, photos from scrapbook, 1990-1991
- F. 58 Photographs, Activity, Miscellaneous, Album B, 1993
- F. 59 Photographs, Activity, Miscellaneous, Album A, color, ca. 1995
- F. 60 Photographs, Miscellaneous, Album A, black and white, ca. 1995
- F. 61 Photographs, Activity, Miscellaneous, 1996
- F. 62 Photographs, Activity, Miscellaneous, Pima County grant, community service project, applied leadership, 1996-1997
- F. 63 Photographs, Activity, Miscellaneous, 1999
- F. 64 Photographs, Activity, Parades, black & white
- F. 65 Photographs, Activity, Parades, color
- F. 66 Photographs, Activity, Performances, black & white
- F. 67 Photographs, Activity, Performances, color
- F. 68 Photographs, Activity, Play, black & white

Box 5

- F. 69 Photographs, Activity, Play, color
- F. 70 Photographs, Portraits, Single, black & white
- F. 71 Photographs, Portraits, Single, color
- F. 72-73 Photographs, Portraits, Group, black & white
- F. 74-75 Photographs, Portraits, Group, color
- F. 76-77 Photographs, mounted, miscellaneous
- F. 78. Photographs, Slide show, I-67, Camp Fire
- F. 79 Photographs, Slide show, Nationals, Curtis, Adv, TV, Theatre set
- F. 80 Photographs, Slide show, Service club, set, J Jones

Box 6

SERIES 3 : PUBLICATIONS AND MISC.

- F. 81 Publications, Books, Awards and ceremonies
- F. 82 Publications, Books, Bluebirds
- F. 83 Publications, Books, Ceremonials
- F. 84 Publications, Books, Handbooks
- F. 85 Publications, Books, Miscellaneous

Box 7

- F. 86 Publications, Books, Music
- F. 87 Publications, Books, Native Americans
- F. 88 Publications, Manuals, Starflight K Trail, kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade curriculum
- F. 89 Publications, Manuals, Adventurer Wood Gatherer, Level 4, 4th grade curriculum
- F. 90 Publications, Manuals, Adventure Fire Maker Record Book
- F. 91 Publications, Newsletters, "Flame and Feather," 1968-1999

Box 8

- F. 92 Publications, Newspaper Clippings, 1968-1999
- F. 93 Uniforms
Awards

Box 9 Awards

SERIES 4: SCRAPBOOKS

Box 10 Scrapbook, 1954-1955 and Certificates; Scrapbook, 1957

Box 11 Scrapbook, 1960s

Box 12 Scrapbooks, 1966-1967

SERIES 5: AUDIO/VISUAL

Box 14 Campfire PSA reel-to-reel
 "Campfire"
 "Quality chocolate sale"
 "Sean Elliott PSA"
 "Wonderful memories"
 "Creek Walking" (betamax format)
 Navajo rug sale (U-matic format)
 Southern Arizona Council, Council Fire song tape (cassette tape)

Box 15 Campfire videos
 "BASICS candy sale
 Campfire Boys and Girls history video
 Camping/Club programs
 "Chris and kids: Youth expo"
 "Community family club: Spanish version" (2)
 "Count on me kids" (3)
 "Creating a Peaceful Community with Peacebuilders"
 "Creek Walking"
 "I'm Peer Proof" (4)
 Lute Olson roast of Jerry
 Navajo rugs and J.B. Tanner
 "Self-Reliance: A Foundation for Life"