

## HISTORY

Scouting in our area officially began on August 30, 1930 when a Charter was issued to a **GROUP OF CITIZENS** of Holt, Mo. for Troop 313. They met at the Holt School each week at 7:30 p.m. The Troop was comprised of the following members:

### ADULTS

William Moore, Scoutmaster  
Emory Nash, Committee Chairman  
W. S. Hulen, MC  
J. M. Harris, MC  
Milton Isley  
Roy Powell

### SCOUTS

Roy Powell Jr.  
Windall Powell  
Arthur Downey  
Bryon Eberts  
Robert Harris  
Lloyd Troxler  
Clifton Brodley  
Marcus Goose  
Glenn Wayman  
Clyde Taylor  
Jimmie Griggs  
Wilton Powell  
Billie Griggs  
Gill Nash  
Elmer Baber  
Norton Porter

The Troop operated for three years. Following the 1932 Scout year, the Charter was not renewed and our area was without a non-denominational Troop until 1936, when Troop 313 was re-organized and chartered to the “Ancient Free & Accepted Masons” and the “International Order of Odd Fellows”, both located in Kearney. The following is a listing of individuals involved in the “new” Troop 313:

**Adults:** Reynolds Klepper (Scoutmaster), Lloyd Kelly (Assistant SM), Charles Smith (Committee Chairman), S. T. Kelly Jr., C. W. Hessel, S. J. Chapman, M. W. Ragland, and W. D. Groom, each serving the Troop as Committee Members.

**Scouts:** Lewis Francis, Albert Francis, Clarence Hessel, James Thompson, Albert Gentry, Jack James, Otto Oder, Lawrence Oder, George Wilkerson, John White, John Barr, Keith Eaton, Ray Gentry, J. W. Boy, Sam Chapman, James Hall, Billy Eddins, Emmitt Gaw, and David Oder.

In 1938, because of some formalities, the I.O.O.F. became the single chartered organization for the Troop, and except for 1947, 1948, and 1949 continued to be the Sponsor until Troop 313 ceased in 1962.

Troop 313 produced the first **Eagle** class in 1939. This class was comprised of two young men: Samual Clay Chapman (now Dr. Chapman of Liberty, Mo.) and John

Franklin White (now Dr. White of Springfield, Mo.). It is a bit ironic that our first two Eagle Scouts followed the same career paths, both becoming Doctors of Optometry.

Troop 313 functioned until January 1962. The Charter was not re-newed, and the Troop officially ceased to exist in June 1962. During it's Chartered life, Troop 313 produced 22 Eagle Scouts under the direction of 14 different Scoutmasters.

Once again, between 1962 and October 1964, our area was without a locally sponsored Troop. However, in October 1964, Kearney again felt the need for Scouting and the **Kearney Lions Club** was granted a Charter for Troop 397 (the number 313 was unavailable, as it had already been assigned to another locality). The following individuals made up the first membership of Troop 397:

**Adults:** Larry Bogart (Executive Officer – Kearney Lions Club), Robert Eldridge (Scoutmaster), William Lowrey (Committee Chairman), Robert Rice (MC), and Robert Whipple (MC).

**Scouts:** Randy Crockett, Mike Crump, Norton Ervin, John Koehler, Kim McCubbin, Greg Moore, Dennis Shanks, Charles Sharp, Charles Teaney, Gary Teaney, Monty Thompson, Chris Wilkerson, Jerry Woolery, and Gary Woolery.

Troop 397 continues to function today, and thrives as one of the finest Scouting programs within our Council. The troop currently has over 52 scouts and 48 registered leaders...and proudly has a history of over 120 Eagle Scouts.