

Sharing girl scouts stories of hawai`i

MAUI GIRL SCOUTS 1952-1958

Suzanne Terrell

“I learned skills I used for the rest of my life.” Our Girl Scout troop organized in 1952 for students of Kaunoa School in Spreckelsville, Maui. The troop met weekly for seven years at Baldwin Park in Paia. We stayed together until we graduated from the eighth grade in 1958. We worked on badges together and on our own.

We learned to prepare meals. I remember being taught to use a gallon can to cook food over a campfire. **We camped in a variety of places from Fleming’s Beach in Kapalua to Camp Pecusa.** In the summer some scouts went to spend a week at Camp Maluhia and Camp Kilohana. The troop also learned to cook through an extended series of classes sponsored by Ms. Henderson at Maui Electric. There **we learned about nutrition and meal planning.**

We also learned about taking care of ourselves. The scouts competed in preparing a sling for an injured arm. We also practiced how to wrap a sprained ankle. We took a first aid course. Then scouts competed while being timed with other troops.

Together **we took a course in horse care, riding and general equine knowledge.** The course was taught at Maunaolu College. We were taught to saddle, to cantor, gallop, or trot a horse. Finally, we learned to feed and care for a horse’s needs.

Our troop had many opportunities to serve others in the community. We rang the bell during the holidays for the Salvation Army. We also spent one afternoon a week at Hale Makua, home for seniors. In the late fifties the scouts worked as guides for the Bailey House, Hale Hoikeike and Museum. Some volunteered at Maui Memorial Hospital preparing trays for the evening meals, delivering flowers and running errands.

We paid ten cents for dues each week, had to meet uniform inspection, and tried to achieve perfect attendance. Each girl was responsible for supplying refreshments on a rotation. A scout could be rewarded at the end of the school year. One year the leaders chartered a fishing boat out of Maalaea Harbor.

Ruth Sawyer organized the troop, and she was assisted by a series of volunteer parents including Mr. Marian Wick, Mrs. Louise Smith and others. They brought in a variety of speakers. The leaders arranged field trips including one visit to Waihee Dairy. The scouts participated in roundups including an international day where we represented India.

The skills we learned included taking responsibility, serving as a role model to peers, earning badges, demonstrating independence and being a good citizen. On our own we had to independently earn badges which taught us to set goals and problem solve. These lessons we used for the rest of our lives.



1953 Kaunoa School Girl Scout troop:

Row three standing: Charlotte Tozer, Anne Haywood, Marilyn Wick, Marie Wells, Suzanne Terrell, Bazie Brandt, Jenny Ambrose, Camille DuBois
Row two: Judy Sawyer, Winona Ota, ?, Sally Liggett, Charles Leong, Carlie Holmes, Linda Milligan, Melanie Morrison
Row one: Carol Okafugi, Patsy Matsui, Sandra Cabral, Charlotte Miyamoto, Joyce Sueda, Stephanie Yamane, Stephanie Okada, Patty Ganiko