



1962

# THE HISTORY OF THE CAMP CRESTS

Part Seven: The beginning of the Swiss Embroidered Era 1961—1971  
(Article by Ken Wrigglesworth)



1961

For the first dozen years of the camp, from 1947 to 1960, the crests were printed using screen transfer techniques onto felt or silk (canvas-backed). Starting in 1961 the crests were made using the “Swiss Embroidered” technique, which is the manufacturing method used to make the crests until present day. One of the greatest advantages of this style of crest is durability. These crests could stand up very well to being sewn onto a

jacket, blanket or pack, wear well and survive multiple spins through the laundry. Ken Cooper, who was responsible for ordering the camp crests in the 1970s and 1980s when he was Director of Camping, says it was Don MacLean who took care of this in the 1960s. Ken recalls having input for crest ideas for a few of the years. For example, when a new program was added at the Camp, such as sailing in 1966, archery in 1967, and rifle range in 1969, he suggested these activities be commemorated on the camp’s crest for that year. Don would take these ideas to Grant Emblems, and a graphic artist on their staff would come up with a design for approval. It is possible to recognize the hand of an artist in a couple of subsequent years, such as 1961, showing a map of Kennabi Lake, and 1962, with a scout solo-paddling a red HSR Peterborough cedar-strip canoe. Both these crests were two-colour embroidery, and both were undated (shown above upper left and right). The crests for 1966 and 1967 also stylistically show the hand of the same designer.



The 1960s crests thematically represented camp activities such as fishing (1964—plus Camp Ranger J.C. Moore with a prize Lake Trout, probably caught at Hurst Lake), Sailing (1966—the first year of the sailing program: Ian Jones and Dave Kennedy rigging the first boat on the lake, a “Flying Junior”), and Archery (the range opened in 1967. Was safety an issue with that shot up in the air?)

Another repeating style was the cartoon Scout. This large-headed character appears on two crests for 1963, 1965, 1968, 1969 and 1970. On one of the 1963 designs the Scout is proudly holding a staff with a yellow pennant: probably meant to be the “Camp Chief’s Award”. Ken Cooper explained that only one of these Pennants were awarded weekly to a Group that had an outstanding week at camp, such as an ambitious pioneering project, canoe trip, or winning the regatta. The 1969 Crest commemorated the opening of the Rifle Range . The Range was constructed and tested the summer before, in 1968, with the assistance of the range instructor from the Boy Scouts of America Camp that used to be located near Minden. Ken Cooper pointed out that the BSA Rifle instructor was provided and paid for by the U.S. Military; when the Canadian Government was approached for a similar arrangement, no support was available. The BSA Instructor designed the range and suggested the safety procedures to be used. In 1970, the Scout no longer wears a stetson; this was the first year the uniform changed to the Scout Beret and red sash for badges.



The 1960s crests depicted a variety of HSR activities including animal tracking, canoeing, stalking and winning the Camp Chief Award Pennant



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The long running Sydney Joe Totem crest, available from 1961 to 2001, was updated with the Kennabi Lake version

The photograph at the bottom of the previous page shows a composite troop out on their canoe trip, near the saw mill and veneer factory in Wilberforce. The HSR composite program used green coloured canoes, a legacy left over from when it was run

as Camp Kennaway in from 1954—58, and a separate camp from the Lake Troop camping, which had red canoes, as seen on the 1962 and 1965 crests. The HSR bear makes an appearance on the 1968 crest, with a cub comically hiding on the opposite side of a large tree stump from the scout who is presumably stalking him. And there is a reference to the bear

on the other 1963 crest which shows a scout inspecting a large paw-print track with the help of his side-kick, and imaginary rabbit. The activity depicted in tracking and nature observation. The 1971 crest is an oddball design, with the graphic showing a faceless scout, also wearing the green beret debuted in 1970, dumping trash in Kennabi Lake while a slogan "DON'T!" is forefront. Also of note stetson-wearing scout character appeared on the crests of other Toronto Area camps, such as the 1963 Camp of the Crooked Creek and 1966 Goodyear Memorial.

The final two crests to mention from the 1960s were already referenced in part 5 of this series, about one of the HSR emblems "Sydney Joe" the Totem pole, and the 1964 variation which shows the Woodcraft emblem, discussed in part 6 of this history series (both seen above). Of note is the undated Totem pole was first introduced in 1961, and was available for the next 40 years until 2001. At that time it was replaced by a redesign, still featuring the Sydney Joe image, but smaller, on a red diamond with the words "Kennabi Lake" instead of "Haliburton Scout Reserve". This variation is still available for sale at the HSR Trading Post. For collectors, the 1964 Woodcraft emblem crest is tricky to find. The 1964 "fishing crest" seems to outnumber it by at least 10 to 1. It could be that this crest was a hasty re-order during the summer of 1964 because the other design sold out, and was manufactured in far fewer numbers. This was Ken Cooper's first summer on staff at HSR as Camp Chief, but he can't recall the circumstances of why the yellow 1964 Woodcraft is so much less common than the fisherman: "Gosh, that was more than 50 years ago", says Ken, now 92, "my memory is still pretty good, but I can't help you with that mystery!"



Some views of the newly completed rifle range as seen in late-summer 1968, and commemorated on the 1969 crest during its first full summer of operation. The 1970 rowboat and 1971 "Don't Litter" scouts are modeling the new addition to the uniform that year: the green beret, replacing the traditional brown stetson, as seen in the 1969 crest, and the crests from other Toronto Area Camps

