

Shawnee Twin Lakes Association Oklahoma Centennial Edition Check out our Web Site at: www.shawneetwinlakes.com

HISTORY OF THE SHAWNEE TWIN LAKES

A Trip Down Memory Lane (or maybe just a history lesson for the "youngsters")!



What better time than the year of our state's Centennial to reflect on the history of one of Shawnee's most valuable assets – the Shawnee Twin Lakes.

When Lake #1 was built in the 1930's (during the Great Depression), it was touted to be "a mammoth 900-acre lake that would end Shawnee's water woes forever and be one of the state's most outstanding pleasure resorts".

And although the lake is unlikely to serve Shawnee's water needs "forever", it has certainly served the city well over the past 70 years and provided recreational opportunities for several generations of visitors.

I hope that in reading these articles, you will gain a greater appreciation for the Shawnee Twin Lakes and also the leaders and citizens of the past who had the foresight to make them a realization.

Linda Agee, Chairman Shawnee Twin Lakes Association

Note: Most of the historical information in this newsletter was taken from archived issues of the "Shawnee Morning News" (on microfilm at the Shawnee Public Library).

An Overview ...

The Shawnee Twin Lakes, on the South Deer Creek in Pottawatomie County, are municipal lakes owned and operated by the City of Shawnee. Lake #1 was built in 1935-1936, covers a surface area of 1,336 acres and has 16 miles of shoreline. Lake #2 was built in 1960, has a surface area of 1,100 acres and 9 miles of shoreline. The lakes are connected by a 10-foot-deep canal constructed in 1962.

Shawnee residents approved a referendum in 1994 permitting full recreation on Lake #1, which includes swimming, skiing, and personal watercraft. Only boating and fishing are allowed on Lake #2.

In 1998, the City Council approved full-time residency for lessees of city-owned lots around Lake #1. Before then, the lots could be occupied only a specified number of days per year. No residences are allowed on Lake #2.

The Isaac Walton Park was established in 1935 and offers 15 camp sites, a pavilion, eight picnic areas with grills, swimming, playground equipment, restrooms, lighting, and paved parking. The Glen Collins Memorial Park (formerly named "Stonehenge") was developed by city crews in the 1960s, is located between the two dams, and has a pavilion, picnic areas with grills, swimming, basketball, volleyball, playground equipment, restrooms, lighting and paved parking.

There is also a fully enclosed all-weather fishing wharf on Lake #1 and several additional picnic areas.



Works Projects Administration (WPA) What was it?

The Shawnee Municipal Lake (Lake #1) was constructed in 1935-1936 as a WPA project. The WPA was the largest and most comprehensive "New Deal" agency, employing millions of people throughout the country during the Great Depression. It expanded the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) program which began under Herbert Hoover and continued under Franklin D. Roosevelt. Until it was closed by Congress in 1943, it was the largest employer in the country.

About 75 percent of WPA employment and expenditures went to public facilities and infrastructure such as highways, streets, public buildings, airports, utilities, small dams, sewers, parks, city halls, public libraries, and recreational fields.

Another, similar public works project was the National Youth Administration (NYA), which was a federal program created to provide training and employment for disadvantaged youth. Many of the improvements around the lake (some still standing today) were built by the WPA and NYA.

Chronicles of Shawnee Lake #1

Choosing a Location

When Shawnee City Manager T.E. Thompson began hunting for a lake site in 1932, he considered the area that eventually became Shawnee's municipal lake, noting that a dam at the north neck of the valley was all that was needed to impound the waters of Deer Creek.

The lake site was situated in a huge natural basin, and a half-mile long mountain of dirt and stone already forced Deer Creek waters into unaccustomed proportions. In one of the ice ages, some south-moving glacier bit into the earth there like a giant plowshare, forcing up the low hills on either side to form natural walls for a shallow reservoir. When the glacier retreated some millions of years after forming the basin, it left the area only thinly covered with soil. A solid rock base is not far below the surface, as construction supervisor Elmer Edge and his engineers later found when they sought footing for the 75-foot intake tower which rises above the dam. They found the rock base again at the western end of the dam as they sheared away the surface earth to make the spillway and the 320-foot concrete bridge crossing it.

Construction

On October 16, 1934, the Shawnee City Commission accepted the federal government's offer to purchase \$555,000 in Works Projects Administration (WPA) bonds to build the Shawnee Municipal Lake. The city agreed to pay 4% interest and make annual payments of \$25,000 and a final payment of \$30,000 in 1959. The lake was Shawnee's third WPA project and the largest in the county. The first project was Jefferson School and second was the municipal courthouse.

City leaders saw the project as not only a long-needed source of water for the city, but also as a major factor in alleviating local unemployment during the Great Depression. The City Commission assured the city labor trades council there would be no age limit for laborers as long as applicants were able-bodied, and it was agreed a labor committee would work with commissioners while the lake was being built and that the rigid rules of the WPA, designed to distribute jobs to the eligible and deserving unemployed, would be included in all agreements between the city and contractors.

Plans and specifications for the 900-acre lake to be located in the Deer Creek area 9 miles west of Shawnee were completed by consulting engineer W.R. Holway in October 1934. On December 10, the city accepted bids from 20 contractors for five lake projects: 1) Clearing the site; 2) dam construction; 3) 27-inch pipeline to the old well station; 4) 20-inch pipeline from the well station to a new filtering plant; and 5) new filtering plant.

Because a large turnout was expected during bid opening, it was moved from the Council Chamber to the larger Superior Courtroom, but even so it was filled to capacity and overflowing into the hallways. It was the largest group of contractors and businessmen assembled in Oklahoma for any WPA project. In the crowd were businessmen who saw in the lake the city's need for a permanent water supply and laborers who saw jobs for 500 unemployed workers.

On December 13, 1934, bids were awarded to the following contractors:

- Dam, roadways and bridges: F.T. Odell (Missouri), \$166,310
- Pipeline (27-inch) from the lake to the old well station: Hill & Evans (Arkansas), \$152,365.
- Pipeline (20-inch) from the old well station to the new filtering plant: B&M Construction (Oklahoma City), \$65,263
- Clearing land for the lake: Kadane (Frederick, OK), \$10,400 (Note: Due to controversy, this project was not officially awarded until January 15, 1935).

Also on December 10, the city received the first \$100,000 in WPA funds for the lake project, \$80,000 of which was allocated to purchase land and right-of-ways. The city ran into problems during price negotiations with landowners and at one point, considered moving the lake to a different site. Instead, they sought and received approval from the WPA to condemn the land if necessary. Of particular interest was 570 acres owned by the R.W. Belcher estate which was to be the location of the dam. The estate wanted \$47.50 per acre but the city had allotted an average of \$30 per acre for the entire 2,700 acres. Prior to the beginning of condemnation proceedings, the R.W. Belcher estate and city reached a compromise, but the amount paid was never disclosed.

Many tracts platted around the lake were named after their former landowners (Bodkin, Renfro, Coffman, Hart, Magnino, etc.). Also included in negotiations was the acquisition of surface rights for 360 acres owned by the School Land Commission (North and South School Tracts) and 40 acres of Indian-owned land.

On January 22nd, 1935, the city received approval from Washington for a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp to be stationed at the lake. The CCC was one of Roosevelt's "New Deal" projects to provide work and

vocational training for unemployed single young men during the Depression. At some future date, 200 young men would be quartered at the lake during construction to plant trees, protect wildlife habitat, and assist in developing recreational facilities.

Construction officially began when a crew of 17 laborers reported to work at the lake on February 21, 1935. They began building offices and clearing the site where 450,000 cubic yards of dirt would be moved to build the dam. Rock from neighboring hillsides would also go into the making of the dam. It would be 2,500 feet long (not including a 320-foot bridge over the concrete spillway at the west end of the dam) and 55 feet high, with a 33-foot wide highway across the top. By mid-March the first concrete was poured.

Transportation to the work site was a problem for many laborers. Initially, those who had vehicles charged coworkers 10 cents per day but eventually the city obtained approval from the WPA to use lake funds for group transportation using "Work Trucks". Workers either brought their lunch or ate at the "Dam Café" which was constructed on a hill just west of the dam site.

Kadane Construction began clearing the site for the lake bed on March 25th, 1935. Later that year, the company's president died and work was delayed while the company reorganized. The bonding company for Kadane eventually completed clearing the site about a year later.

The intake tower (looking like a miniature lighthouse) had three wire-covered spouts spaced at 10-foot intervals on different sides of the tower so that water could be drawn from different levels of the lake. In spring and winter, when temperature changes and sediment carried into the lake by seasonal rains stirred the depths, a caretaker (who lived nearby) would select the best level from which to draw water.

In early December 1936, a final contract was awarded to remove Magnolia Oil pipeline from the lake basin and by December 15, the lake was completed except for a few minor touches. Elmer Edge, engineer in charge of construction, estimated "two more weeks of brush burning and installation of white guard rails atop the dam would mark the end of all that man could do toward building the reservoir". Thereafter, he said, it's a matter of time and rainfall. The final cost to complete all five of the lake projects was \$755,000.

The Waiting Begins

1936 was a "Dust Bowl" year. With drought and summer temperatures reaching as high as 118 degrees, the city's water situation became critical. During August, the city's 24 wells could no longer meet the 2,000,000 gallons per day demand and the city had to rely on 750,000 gallons of its reserves. Ironically, this was also when workers were completing the new municipal pool in Woodland Park.





Dust Storms in Texas (top) and Oklahoma

In September 1936 when the lake was 15 feet deep, city engineers predicted it might reach a depth of 30 feet by spring and if so, could be used as an emergency water supply; however, by the following spring, the lake had risen only a couple of feet.

In April 1937, the city tested a portable pump at the lake after the Supreme Court ruled in favor of farmers who claimed three of the city's wells were pumping water from underneath their property and should be shut down. The tests were necessary to ensure the city could pump water from the lake should drought endanger the city's reserves. That summer and into the winter of 1938, the city's wells failed to such an extent the city had to rely on water from the lake 2-3 times per week to replenish the well's basins. At that time, the city's annual consumption was around 400,000,000 gallons.

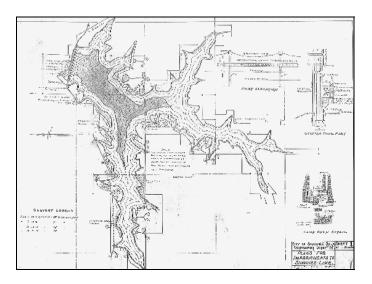
Before a cutover could be made to the new water system, costly and time-consuming modifications had to be made to the city's water distribution system. In November 1938, the city received a \$37,000 WPA grant to install new water mains and remove the old ones from the city's abandoned well farms west of the city. During 1938-1939, the lake level hovered around the 30foot mark but did not rise substantially until November 1941 when torrential rains raised it to a record high of 40 feet (just five feet shy of its maximum 45-foot depth).



Aerial view of lake June 5, 1938 - 28 feet deep, covering 530 acres.

Other Improvements

After the lake was completed, the city filed for another WPA project to improve the lake by adding sod to the north side of the dam, building roads, landscaping around cabin sites, and constructing a hatchery and brooding ponds.



This map of Lake #1, dated August 20, 1937, was drawn by the Shawnee Engineering Department and outlines "Improvements to Shawnee Lake". The shaded area denotes the portion of the basin submerged at that time and the remaining area that was to be "cleared and grubbed." Spillway elevation was 1072.5. Although not visible in this reproduction, the map also shows lease lots that had been platted around the lake. In December 1937, a crew of WPA workers began construction of a 12-mile road around the lake and a beautification project that included sodding the dam, removing trees and brush from the unfilled portion of the lake basin, adding camp ovens, picnic tables, and benches to recreational areas around the lake, and building a brooder pond on the north side of the dam.

Cabin Sites

When city engineers initially drew up plans for the lake, they platted cabin sites around the shoreline for the city to lease to individuals and clubs. The city expected to lease from 200-300 lots. By July 1936, 70 people and one club had taken advantage of this opportunity.

At that time, 1-acre lots with 200 feet of lake frontage were leased to individuals for 10 years at a time (with an additional 10-year lease option) at the rate of \$5 per year. Lessees were permitted to build a boathouse and structures on the lot, but would be required to conform to sanitary and boating, hunting, and fishing regulations yet to be established by city ordinance.

Initial demand for these cabin sites was high but waned during the hot, dry weather. Many living outside the city and county requested them, but city officials decided to issue leases only to local residents until the greater part of them were taken. As a result, interested parties were required to register with the city.

Clubs and organizations were allowed to lease as much land as they desired, providing it was not too great an amount. The Shawnee Business and Professional Women's Club (BPWC) leased a scenic 10-acre plot to be used by the Camp Fire Girls, Rainbow Girls, Girl Scouts and other girl's and women's organizations besides the BPWC. A community house was built with brick donated by the city and labor by the National Youth Administration (NYA), a work program for disadvantaged young people. The NYA also built outdoor ovens and picnic areas on the grounds. The BPWC held its Open House on October 9, 1938, during National Business Women's Week.

Other clubs that leased cabin sites were the Postal Employees Recreation Club and the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. Postal employees collected stones from all parts of the United States during vacations and had them embedded in the rock walls of their cabin.

By January 1939, 80 out of 100 cabin sites that were staked had been leased and the city was planning to stake some more.

Recreation

In June 1937 several local "Prairie Land Sailors" participated in a sailboat race on the lake and offered free boat rides to spectators. At the time, there was only 1 mile of navigable water with a safe racing course of a half-mile straightaway.

By the summer of 1938, the lake had grown to 530 acres and was 28 feet deep. The City Council lifted the 12mile-an-hour speed limit set when the lake was "but a pond" and the first outboard motor races were held, attracting more than 3,000 onlookers. In addition to boating, duck hunting was allowed on the lake.

Though the city declared the lake closed to fishing until 1940, state and federal hatcheries stocked the lake with 500,000 fish (channel cat, crappie, bream, perch, and bass) and granddaddy bullfrogs over time. Shawnee theater manager and "ardent sportsman" Adam Hornbeck headed the city's Game and Fish Commission.

On Saturday June 1, 1940, hundreds of anglers arrived to await the official opening of the lake to fishing the following day -- an estimated 750 Day Permits and 400 Season Permits were issued. Pottawatomie County residents paid 25 cents for a Day Permit purchased at the City Clerk's Office (50 cents at the lake), and \$3 for a yearly permit.

A Time to Celebrate!

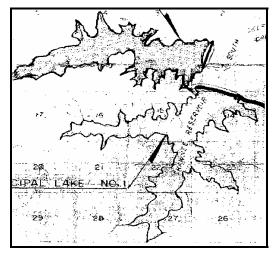
On July 20, 1937, Shawnee celebrated the completion of its WPA projects with an all-day ceremony.

The celebration started at 10 a.m. with registration at the Aldridge Hotel. The day-long program included:

- Music and Entertainment
- A Parade
- Games with Prizes
- Evening Buffet Dinner in the Aldridge ballroom.
- Presentation of Completed Projects.
- Bathing Beauty Contest.
- Diving Stunts, Water Sports, and Swimming at the new Municipal Pool.
- Dance in the Municipal Auditorium with Music by the WPA Swing Orchestra.

In addition to the lake, other WPA projects included the courthouse, municipal auditorium and gymnasium, athletic stadium, parks, municipal swimming pool, tennis courts, schools, roads, bridges, sidewalks, parks, cemeteries, and water and sewer infrastructure.

Fast Forward to the 1960's! Shawnee Lake #2



1960 drawing showing plans for Lake #2 (shaded)

The 1960s saw the height of the Cold War between the

U.S. and Russia, the election (and assassination) of President Kennedy, the Cuban Missile Crisis, Viet-Nam War, Civil Rights Movement, Man's first walk on the moon, Elvis Presley's release from the Army, and those terrible hairdos (at right) – *yes, that's me (Linda Agee, 1967).*



This is also when Lake #2 was built, although plans were being made as early as 1950 when city leaders, realizing how vital water was to the survival and growth of Shawnee, proposed a \$2,600,000 water improvements program which citizens approved.

Land for Lake #2 was purchased from individuals in 1959 and construction began shortly afterward. By April 1960, it was 60% complete and construction finished by year end, although it was estimated to take 2 years to fill.

Lake #2 was constructed with its own intake tower so the city could obtain water from either lake (towers on both lakes have three intake valves from which to draw water at different levels). The clay core of the Lake #2 dam extends 30 feet (from below the surface to the top), is 36 feet wide at its base, and tapers gradually until it is 20 feet wide at the top.

During construction of Lake #2, the City Council approved plans by Benham Engineering to raise the Lake #1 dam one foot and build a new spillway to raise the high-water mark to 1073.5. Later in 1962, a 10-foot canal was created between the two lakes.

And as many of you know, Lake Ranger Glen Collins reported to work in April 1968, serving for 38 years until his death on December 13, 2005.

News Accounts at the Time ...

Charles Lindbergh, Jr. Kidnapping -- 1934.

Probably no other single story claimed the place in the public eye more than the arrest of Bruno Richard Hauptmann, itinerant German carpenter, on charges of the murder of Charles Lindberg. Jr., a tragedy that inspired the sympathies of the entire world.

Federal Guns Wipe Out Pretty Boy Floyd in Ohio Farm Hills -

October 22, 1934. Phantom bandit is riddled with bullets in last flight from the "Law" with his own guns silent; Last words sought word of his pal, Richetti.



U.S. Bankers to Back New Deal - October 24,

1934. The American Bankers Association pledges support to Roosevelt after critics air grudge.

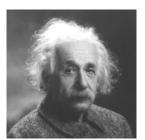


In addition to economic and banking reform, one of the most important legacies of President Roosevelt's "New Deal" was the Social Security System.

Strikers Against 40% Cut in Rations -

March 22, 1935. Food strikers cheer at news of being jailed for vagrancy – that meant they would receive "three squares" per day.

Einstein Makes New Discovery – June 1935



Professor Albert Einstein in a new theory today shows that matter may be only space in a peculiar form, the things that men recognize as atomic particles being little bridges in space and somehow made of space itself.

Earhart Plane Disappears in S. Pacific



July 3, 1937 – Search for Amelia Earhart and her navigator began today by the Coast Guard after her plane disappeared during a daring flight across the South Pacific. July 20, 1937 – Earhart search written off as another aviation mystery as U.S. Navy ships head homeward.

Germans Cry Out for More Jewish Blood

- August 2, 1935. Suppressed and smoldering German unrest had, as fuel for its fires tonight, new warnings to faltering Nazis, new repressive measures directed against Jews, "Steel Helmets" and "state enemies," an anti-Jewish demonstration near the Bayeriseherplatz, and lurid newspaper extras.

Services for Will Rogers – August 17, 1935

Funeral services for Will Rogers, world beloved humorist who died in an Alaskan airplane crash with Wiley Post, were set for 2 p.m. Thursday in Los Angeles.



Hindenburg Death Toll Climbs -- May 8, 1937.

Cause of disaster still shrouded as inquiry is ordered.

- October 3, 1936 -- Roosevelt Tells Nation America will Stay out of War
- June 22, 1940 -- Draft Bill Includes All Men from Ages 18 to 45
- December 7, 194 1 -- Roosevelt Makes Plea to Jap Emperor in Final Peace Bid
- December 7, 1941 --Japan Attacks Pearl Harbor



• December 9, 1941 -- Youths and even parents, stirred by news of Japan's attack on the United States, crowded the Shawnee recruiting station Monday and officials made preparations for a rush of enlistments.

Two New Ford V-8 Cars for 1938



Prices starting at \$599

And in Local News ...

Ritz Announces New Price Policy

- January 6, 1935. Announcement of a new price policy for the Ritz Theater was made Saturday. Attractions will be 10 and 15 cents for both matinee and evening. Penny days will be still held on Wednesdays and Thursdays.



Opening Today at the Bison Theatre

- *January 6, 1935.* Shirley Temple stars in the new Fox film production, "Bright Eyes".

Shawnee Mill Dedicates New Plant in City

- June 5, 1935. Virtually all of Shawnee and vicinity will join in celebrating when the Shawnee Milling Company, among the city's outstanding and best established industries, dedicates its new plant Thursday.

Site Selected for Municipal Auditorium

- October 1935. The municipal auditorium and gymnasium, (another WPA project) will face the south and be located between the new courthouse and the junior high school (November 30, 1935, a contract in the amount of \$119,181 was awarded to Link Cowen Construction).

Municipal Pool – *May 31, 1937.* The new concrete swimming pool in Woodland Park, a \$51,000 WPA Project employing 75 men, opened on May 31, 1937, attracting "thousands" during its first two weeks and raking in a profit of \$40 per day (the pool was available to children free of charge 3 days each week). Filling the pool required 600,000 gallons of water.

KGFF will Join State and Mutual

Network – *March 28, 1937.* Local radio station welcomed to national hook-up.

Harmony Club Meeting – *April 1937.* The Ingram Cabin at Shawnee Lake was the site of the Harmony Club closing meeting. "The evening was passed informally with games, the moon-lit lake, and attractive surroundings lending special pleasure to the occasion".



Nehi Bottling Works Opened

- July 25, 1937. A sizeable new business, the Nehi Bottling Works at 832 N. Kickapoo, opened for trade in Shawnee and the entire tri-county area last week by C.E. Scott, well-known resident.

President to Make Short Talk in Shawnee

- July 9, 1938. A reception rivaling any he has encountered will greet President Franklin Roosevelt when his special train arrives at the Rock Island passenger station on S. Union Street at 3:40 pm today.

Eighth Annual Little Olympics - April 26, 1940.

Nearly 300 Shawnee grade school athletes will put on their best running shoes today and go out to Athletic Stadium where they'll participate in the 8th annual Little Olympics sponsored by the local Kiwanis Club.

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From the Archives

(Reprinted from 1980 issues of a former newsletter, "The Shawnee Lake Reporter" – published by M.W. Brooks)

Fact or Folklore?

April 1980 – The storm hit Lake Shawnee the evening of June 6, 1973 and by 9:00 the next morning, over 10 inches of rain had fallen at the lake. Dozens of boats that had been tied up at the low water pier simply disappeared – nearly all docks were under water. Water poured over the spillway for the first time in anyone's memory and the lakes were full. One rain storm followed another and by week end, 22 inches of rain had fallen. Some boats were never found. One cabin owner lost a 150-foot boat dock that to this day hasn't been located.

April 1980 – Several years ago on a bright moonlit night, a small aircraft developed engine problems over the lake and tried to land on a beach on the east side. Apparently the plane over-shot the beach and landed a short way out in the water. The pilot and his passengers were uninjured but while wading ashore, the pilot became entangled in a trot line and drowned.

May 1980 – Who got the diamond -- another unanswered question of Lake Shawnee. It seems one night 25 years or so ago at a cabin on the east side of the lake near the park, a big poker game was underway. One of the gamblers was famous for a large diamond ring he always wore. Somehow, the cabin caught fire and the gambler didn't make it out. When the police located his body in the burned out cabin, the large diamond ring was missing – for years after that, picnickers from Shawnee spent many a Sunday combing through the burn-out, but the ring was never found.

June 1980 – Many thought there would never be a Lake Shawnee in the beginning. Old timers scoffed and said they told people so, some even believed the Indians had placed a curse or spell on the lake site, as it was once their favorite hunting grounds. All this occurred after the lake was completed around 1935. Seems the month work crews left, the dirt clouds boiled in from the west with the beginning of the dust bowl and drought of 1936-1937. Hardly a cup full of drinking water had reached Shawnee nearly 3 years after the project was completed. People would drive over the narrow dirty dusty roads to see a "100-acre frog pond". Some residences suggested rain makers be brought in and cries went up from many Shawnee citizens to give the lake up and drill more water wells in town. Finally, after nearly 3 years it rained. Even today when the lake gets low during a dry season, some of the old settlers say late at night you can hear the chant of the long ago Indian hunters who had originally settled at Lake Shawnee ... and then it rains.

July 1980 – No one noticed the light-colored Ford that turned onto Jackson Neck Road on Lake Shawnee that rainy, misty afternoon in early fall several years ago. But what happened that evening has never been satisfactorily explained, and perhaps never will.

When discovered by fishermen, the occupant of the car was dead, the windows were up, and the doors were locked. As authorities were summoned and the investigation began, a strange set of circumstances emerged. It appeared the man had taken his own life by drinking a fly spray concentrate called Ortho 500 (one ounce of concentrate to 500 gallons of water). Death would have been instantaneous according to medical opinion. However, the partly filled bottle of concentrate was discovered outside the car -- with windows raised and doors locked. To this day, no logical explanation has been offered as to how this bottle got outside the vehicle.

September 1982 – In late spring of 1977 on a Wednesday night, a 26-year-old woman was driving with her baby on Lake Shawnee's south side when she became lost. Turning off the road onto a one-lane trail, she stopped. In attempting to turn around she lost control of her car and it rolled down an embankment into a ravine, turning over on its side. The woman and her baby were pinned under the steering wheel. Trying hard, she could not push the door open on the car. The horn and lights would not work.

Thursday morning came and still no help arrived. She yelled until she was hoarse and grew concerned for the baby because she had little or no food.

The day was now Friday and as day turned to night she grew weak with no water or food. She was awakened from an uneasy sleep when a coyote howled near the car. She was helpless, trapped and confronted with the fact that she and her baby possibly would not survive.

Saturday morning, Ranger Glen Collins was patrolling the south side of the lake in his boat. The sunlight caught the windshield of the overturned car wedged deep in a ravine just a hundred feet from the shore. From the top of the vehicle, he had to reach down to pull the baby and mother through the door. Both were alive and an anxious husband was called to pick her and the baby up at the Ranger Headquarters.