

Woodmen of The World Organization

Jan 2018

By Kathryn Dodd

For 2018 I will explore the clubs and organizations that have been active in the Krum community and in the Krum schools throughout Krum's history. First I will provide a little history about this organization and then some newspaper articles about the Krum organization I will start with the Woodmen of the World which is one of the older organization in Krum founded around 1898. By Kathryn Dodd

The Woodmen of the World organization was founded in 1890 in Omaha, Nebraska, by Joseph Cullen Root. Root founded Modern Woodmen of America (MWA) in Lyons, Iowa, in 1883, after hearing a sermon about "pioneer woodsmen clearing away the forest to provide for their families." Taking his own surname to heart, he wanted to start a society that "would clear away problems of financial security for its members. After internal dissension within the MWA, Root was ejected from the organization that he had founded. When moving to Omaha, Root decided to start again with a new group he called the Modern Woodmen of the World. He soon dropped the "Modern," and the organization became "Woodmen of the World. An enduring physical legacy of the organization is distinctive headstones in the shape of a tree stump. This was an early benefit of Woodmen of the World membership, and they are found in cemeteries nationwide. This program was abandoned in the late 1920s as it was too costly. Historically, the top of the organizational structure of Woodmen Life was the "Sovereign Camp," which met quadrennially. When the Sovereign Camp was not in session the organizations was run by a board of directors. States were called either "Jurisdictions" or "Head Camps." Local groups were called either "Camps," "Courts" or "Groves". There were 4,000 locals in 1979.

W.O.W. Picnic

**Dallas Morning News
September 5, 1899**

Denton, Tex., Sept 4- The Woodmen of the World picnic at Krum Saturday was a very pleasant affair and the attendance also was good. Lunch was served on the grounds and there was more than enough for the 300 or 400 persons present. Hon R. Lee Ragsdale was to have spoken, but was unable to come and there were several impromptu speakers, among them Sovereign Hines of Fort Worth. A baseball game between two picked teams was played in the afternoon.

Modern Woodmen

**Dallas Morning News
November 23, 1906**

Special To The News

Krum, Tex., Nov 22- The Krum Camp, Modern Woodmen of America, No. 12386, which was recently organized here, elected the following officers for the ensuing year: John Minnerly, consul; J.B. Benton, adviser; Dr. E.D. Hayes, banker; J.E. Pagett, clerk; Dr. E.S. Hayes, physician; John Miller Jr., escort; John Chandler, watchman.

W.O.W. Unveiling Services Sunday

Record and Chronicle

Sept 18, 1909

Krum and Denton Camps Will Take Part Tomorrow

Monuments of Six Deceased Sovereign Will Be Unveiled-Memorial Address At Cemetery

The Krum and Denton camps Woodmen of the World will hold special services tomorrow afternoon for the unveiling of monuments to the following deceased sovereigns- Rev McClurken and Dr. Hayes of Krum; Sovereigns Farris, Gantl, Baker and Keyte of the Denton camp....

All members of the two camps are requested to be present at the Denton hall at 2:30 o'clock at which time ritualistic ceremonies will be carried out. Promptly at 3 o'clock the two camps will leave the lodge rooms for the I.O.O.F. cemetery where the monuments will be unveiled and the principal portion of the exercises carried out. The Denton Concert band will head the line of march, followed by the Woodmen in the following formation: Krum degree team, Denton degree team, members of the Krum and Denton camps.

At the cemetery the ritualistic unveiling services will be observed after which the memorial address will be delivered by Thos G. Millken. Following these services the members of the order will march back to the lodge rooms where the services will be completed.

Krum Woodmen to Attend Denton Lodge Meeting Tonight Denton Record Chronicle

April 25, 1916

Six automobile loads of Woodmen of the World from the Krum lodge are expected to visit the Denton lodge at its regular meeting tonight. After the lodge work has closed, work in the "Yellow Dog" organization is expected to be demonstrated for the Krum visitors. A "Yellow Dog" organization has recently been formed at Krum, and three candidates will be brought here for initiation by the Denton order.

The campaign to secure 200 new members for the Denton camp within forty-five days is proceeding with good results, W.A. Mathews said Monday and hopes were held for the record set to be realized. The campaign closes June 1.

Denton Record Chronicle

June 13, 1949

Spring Hill

Johnny Royce Williams, Billy and Charles Sparkman, Joe Kirby and Donald Wilson were in Krum Monday night to attend a "Log Rolling," given by the Woodmen of the World.

Woodmen Name Officers at Krum

Denton Record Chronicle

January 14, 1951

Krum, Jan 13- Officers for 1951 were named at a meeting of the Krum Woodmen of the World held Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the C.R. Fowler Building.

V.E. Gibbons was elected past consul commander. Others named were C.R. Fowler, financial secretary; Gus Egan, consul commander ; J.G. Bilyeau, advisor lieutenant; W.W. McClister, banker; Loren Parks, escort; Major McBee, sentry; and three auditors, Tom Lindley, F.W. Fowler , and M.H. Hare.

The Krum WOW Camp will be hosts to the Denton County Log 7:30 p.m. in the Krum school gymnasium. Over 500 invitations have been mailed to over WOW camps.