

## CAMP TOMAHAWK'S LEGEND OF CRAZY CHARLIE

The legend states that Charlie was a cook for a camp of 266 lumberjacks when Tomahawk Reservation was being logged off. The lumberjacks always complained to him about the poor food. Whenever Charlie cooked a bad meal, the lumberjacks teased poor Charlie by rocking his cabin and telling him, "One of these nights the devil will get you." After a very bad meal of beans and rabbit stew, the lumberjacks decided to scare Charlie crazy so he would leave and they could get a new cook. The lumberjacks, dressed in their red flannel long-johns and carrying torches, headed toward Charlie's cabin hooting like owls. They were hoping Charlie would think the devil himself had come and was going to chase him away. That way they could be rid of him forever.

Charlie awoke when he heard the noises and became enraged when he saw the lighted torches. He grabbed his cast iron frying pan and exploded out of his cabin. When outside, he started swinging the pan violently and hit one of the lumberjacks on the head, which killed him instantly.

Charlie ran and locked himself into his cabin. The lumberjacks gathered and tipped the cabin over killing Charlie. Charlie's body was buried next to the cabin remains. His ghost still haunts and torments Camp Tomahawk and those who visit his cabin in the woods. Strange things happen at Charlie's cabin after dark so be on guard. Beware if you go to Charlie's cabin with a lot of lights. They anger his ghost and he will put his curse upon you. He has been known to spoil campers' food.

Charlie's cabin is located on the old logging road between the old dump and the trail to Wilderness Camp. The only safe way to avoid the curse is to pick up Charlie's cracked frying pan from the Sioux Camp Trading Post and carry it with you on the night hike to Charlie's cabin. All flashlights are forbidden. Hikers should carry only dim candle or kerosene lanterns when entering the trail off of the camp road by the old dump. A magic hiking staff is hidden in a pine tree on the left side of the trail. The leader must carry this staff as he leads the hike. The remains of Charlie's cabin are on the right side of the trail, surrounded by trees with strange red eyes. Those hikers going to Charlie's must treat the cabin area and Charlie's grave with respect. The hiking staff must be returned to the same tree and the frying pan to the Sioux Trading Post. Those who do not adhere to the rules, are guaranteed to have the curse brought upon them. Their food will spoil and they will have a bad camping experience. Those who honor Charlie and pass the legend on will enjoy many years of scouting at Camp Tomahawk. A "Crazy Charlie" patch can be obtained by their leader for those participating on the hike from the Sioux Camp Trading Post.