

Charles E. Moore

Charles (Charlie) Moore (1894-1953) lived on an 1100 acre estate on Overlook Road in Los Gatos. Moore was president of three companies: Moore Machinery, Moore Industrial Company and Industrial Assets.

He acquired the 33-year-old Joshua Hendy Iron Works at Sunnyvale in 1940 and transformed it from a 60-employee plant to the largest marine engine firm in the country. During World War II the plant was one of the nation's chief defense production firms. Moore sold the business in 1945 to California Shipbuilding Corporation. Westinghouse Electric Corporation took it over later.

Charles Moore traveled widely as a technical advisor to the federal government on tool machinery. In 1941 he went to Europe for the office of production management to advise tool manufacturing plants in the United Kingdom. Following the war he was an industry consultant in Greece for the State Department. He went to Italy in 1947-49 as a Marshall Plan consultant.

On returning to California, Moore became involved in the Santa Clara County Council, BSA. He was a vice president of the council and chairman of the Boy Scout Memorial Foundation Board.

Moore endeared himself to all future Scouters when, in 1952, he became interested in finding a permanent headquarters building for the Council operations. When a piece of the Kaiser Community Homes surplus property became available, he urged the Foundation to purchase it. Together with the help of Judge William James and others, the Boy Scout Memorial Foundation Board secured the property, eventually adding another piece obtained when State Highway 17 surplus property was for sale.

Moore worked on all aspects of developing the property for the Scout's use. He solicited contributions, monetary and in-kind, and persuaded the business/labor communities to donate building supplies and labor.

Groundbreaking ceremonies at the corner of Park and Newhall Avenues were held June 14, 1953, for the new Scout headquarters.

Moore died suddenly of a heart attack one week later.

When the building was dedicated February 4, 1954 it was called "The Charles E. Moore Memorial Boy Scout Building."