



## John Edward “Ole Man” Gillespie

### Patch Description

The “100” celebrates the upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America . T32 represents his tenure as Scoutmaster of Troop 32 for 49 years before his untimely death in 1976. “Ole Man Campsite,” built on the grounds of “WR” (Worth Ranch), recognizes an unequalled honor in Longhorn Council history. Mr. Gillespie was a patriotic Scouter as his father was a Texas Ranger and member of the Confederate Texas 6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry during the Civil War. During World War II, he participated in the home defense and Troop 32 collected scrap metal. “Ole Man” (a nickname given him by his Scouts), the “smokey bear hat” and Scout jacket are shown much like they were during weekend campouts.

### BIO

John Edward “Ole Man” Gillespie was Scoutmaster of Troop 32 Longhorn Council for 49 years (1927-1976). He was a participant or visitor to 8 National Scout Jamborees, was a Charter Member of Nishkin Lodge 489, Cubmaster (Pack 32), Exploring Advisor (Outfit 32), Chairman of the Catholic Committee on Scouting, responsible for 95 Eagle Scouts and 71 Ad Altare Dei awardees, Co-Founder and staff member for 1961-1975 Boy Scout Retreat event and helped mold 1,400 Scouts throughout his Scouting career. He was awarded the Silver Beaver Award, Vigil Honor, St George Award and earned the Scouters Key. The most everlasting honor was bestowed on him when “Ole Man Gillespie Campsite” was named for him at Worth Ranch – the only time a campsite was dedicated to a living Scouter in over 75 years of Longhorn Council history.