

# History of Golden Bear Scare

Also known as Haunted House & Haunted Castle

Inspired by Bruce C. Frank, revived by Tony Callander & Pete Walsh

**1977-Mid 1980s** Candy distributed to kids in Haunted House.

**Mid 1990s** – Moves from Reed Road Shelter house to Thompson Park where it changes from the Haunted House to become the Haunted Castle.

**2008** – Due to lack of UACA funding, the Haunted Castle shuts down.

**2013** – The Bear dresses up with his Mask to entertain the brave souls who enter the forest.

1981 - 1989

1990 - 1999

2000 -2009

2010-2019

1977 - 1979

**1977** – UACA opens the Haunted House with help from high school students and art department students. A series of unfortunate Beggars' Night incidents in the early 1970s led in 1977 to the founding of the Civic Association Haunted House program. Planned as an alternative to trick-or-treating, Bruce Frank designed the haunted house for easy erection inside the Reed Road Shelter House, organized a crew of handymen for the construction, secured donations and wholesale prices on Halloween candy, and fully staffed the gruesome spectacular.

**1977-1995** High Schoolers dress as Witches and Goblins to guide kids through Haunted House.

**2012** – Golden Bear Scare opens in Smith Nature Park through efforts from President Tony Callander and Vice President Pete Walsh. Scare Rangers guide kids through forest. The tale is told about Old Man Smith, the caretaker of the land before King and Ben Thompson arrived in Upper Arlington. This land served as a cemetery for one of the first jail houses in Ohio. Kids see Old Man Smith, Mongo, Cemetery and Zombies.