



# GILWELL GAZETTE

## Thank You From The Staff



### Why Wood Badge?

When Lord Baden-Powell first created a camp for scouts he combined two important ideas, Wood and Badge. Wood Badge is Learning / Doing.

Wood is the learning from and listening to nature. The cooling breezes, the gurgling streams, the rustle of the grass and the waving branches of the cotton wood trees, the morning song of birds and chirping call of insects in Bacon Park have all enriched our lives. This week we have trained ourselves to listen to and watch for their subtle and profound messages.

Badge is the doing. This week has been filled with doing. We have learned the skills of scouting as we have practiced them. Today we finish the camping part of Wood Badge, but that is only half of this course. Each of us, as we have been singing all week long, must now

“work our ticket if we can.” In scouting, when a boy has completed all the requirements necessary, he receives a badge. It is not a passive experience but an active one. The great ideals of scouting that we have pledged ourselves to; The Oath, Law, Motto, Slogan, and the Outdoor Code have become a part of us. They will continue to guide us in doing our duty to God and our country. Let us be happy in doing and reach out to everyone we meet.

Thank you again for all of your hard work, for being a part of Wood Badge and for making W7-591-5-09 a life changing experience. Thank you for sharing your thoughts and feelings through out the course and in the Gilwell Gazette. We look forward to seeing each of you again and meeting with you once more on Gilwell Field.

The Staff  
W7-591-5-09

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## Patrol News

### What is Wood Badge?

When asked by someone, "What is Wood Badge?" It would be hard to describe what it means to you as a participant. Many have said, "Advanced Scout Leader Training" to answer that question. The following description will not tell about the spirit of wood badge but it might be helpful in describing it to someone else who has not yet attended.

Wood badge is a six day course taught by seasoned scouters, who are the "staff," teaching anywhere from 30 to 48 participants. The participants are assigned to one of eight patrols. Patrol names are always the same. At the end of the training and for the rest of their life the participant will be either a Beaver, Bobwhite, Eagle, Owl, Fox, Bear, Buffalo, or an Antelope. Each patrol consists of six participants.

The materials from which Wood Badge is taught consists of a copyrighted syllabus called "Wood Badge For The 21st Century Staff Guide" which is 353 type written pages with an additional 70 page appendix. It is governed by "Wood Badge For The 21st Century Administrative Guide" which is 40 pages, with two appendix of 39 pages and 15 pages respectively. All together that is a book about 2 inches. Enough material spend considerably to cover a college course. Each staff member spends many hours in preparation.

The course focuses on five areas, which are: Bringing the Vision to Life, Leading to Make a Difference, Models for Success, Tools of the Trade, and Living the Values. It consists of seven "Gilwell Field" Assemblies, three Troop Meetings, five Patrol Meetings, where eleven Troop Presentations, three Patrol Presentations (teaching experiences), eleven games and activities, three campfire programs, two interfaith worship services, one conservation project, an overnight outdoor leave no trace camping experience, and twenty two eating experiences, are mixed among the fun.

Who are potential participants?

There are about 20 people in each ward who could attend Wood Badge including the: CubMaster, Wolf Den Leader, Assistant Wolf Den Leader, Bear Den Leader, Assistant Bear Den Leader, Webelos Leader, Assistant Webelos Leader, Cub Committee Chairman, Cub Committee Members, Assistant Scoutmasters for New Scouts (11year olds), Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, Scout Committee Chairman, Scout Committee Members, Varsity Coach, Assistant Varsity Coach, Varsity Committee Chairman, Varsity Committee Members, Venturer Advisor, Assistant Venturer Advisor, Venturer Committee Chairman, Venturer Committee Members, Institutional Head (Bishop), Chartered Organization Representative (Bishopric Member), Merit Badge Counselors, District Commissioner (Stake Presidency Member).

Mark Dennis



### **Beaver Patrol**

We had a great time doing the flag ceremony today and loved presenting the colors of our country. We are grateful for our freedom and for the beautiful location we have to see our country's flag displayed.

The conservation project was fun and it was good to get out and use our "very large" beaver muscles! What a great place to hold Wood Badge.

Thanks to everyone for your great project presentations. Every one was top notch and it is a pleasure to learn and associate with such a great and talented group of people. We are learning so much from each of you and from the Wood Badge staff.

### **Bobwhite Patrol**

Bobwhite Business:

This week has flown (or in our case—scampered) by! We'd like to thank our troop guide Brian, the quartermasters, and the rest of the staff for an egg-cellent week. The skills taught in the presentations will definitely help us to egg-cel in our roles with scouts, youth, and with our families. We're excited and perhaps a bit nervous in returning to normalcy. We hope that we can be eggs-tra determined in helping those who work alongside us in scouting and youth to catch the vision of the potential benefits from a strong, vision-inspired, boy-led scouting program. We feel that we've learned the EDGE and that we'll be able to start, stop, and continue to progress as leaders. We know that we'll leave Wood Badge as better people than when we entered. For one, we entered as turkeys and are leaving as Bobwhites!

As Bobwhites, we feel that we've made a common bond between us. Each member of our patrol has played an egg-ceptional role in our Wood Badge experience. We wish each other the best, and we look forward to being there when our fellow Bobwhites receive their beads. Bobwhites—we can do magic, believe it or not! Bibbidi bobwhitee boo!

Bob-bye to you all! Be egg-cellent, egg-ceptional leaders!

### **Eagle Patrol**

We are coming to the end of the week and what a week it has been. The Eagles have learned a lot about each other and about working as a team to accomplish a variety of tasks. I think the most important lesson we have learned is that even with a variety of personalities, when it comes to getting things done we can put all irrelevant differences aside and work solely on the task. I think this lesson will stay with us for a long time and help us in all aspects of scouting and life.

We will never forget the experience we have had here together. We will always remember it as the start of a new scouting life as we utilize the new information we have received.

### **Fox Patrol**

This week has touched the lives of many in one way or another. Whether it was to strengthen testimonies, coming to an understanding of how the scouting program really functions, or the privilege of being with good people; how can we feel anything other than being truly blessed for being here. We have taken

time from our families and our work, yet we are OK because anything we may have missed out on, the Lord will make up the difference. This kind of talk may seem kind of weird coming from those that are so SLY, and just because we appear to be a little soft doesn't mean you'll get out of seeing us in our swim wear. Our suits are a little old, and we're a little rounder, so we should fill out our suits NICELY. Don't worry about taking a picture, we're sure you have already created a mental picture that will be ever lasting.

### **Owl Patrol**

The View From the Top-OWLS (Observant, Wise, Leaders)

As Friday has progressed, the reality of going home has been heavy on our minds. We view it with both anticipation and hesitation. To take our minds off the coming end, we spend a lot of time using Owl Wisdom to philosophize on such thought provoking subjects as:

- Why is it called a "Boxing Ring", when it is square
- How can you go back and forth, don't you have to go forth before you can come back?
- Could Mary Poppins really be Harry Potter's grandmother?
- Finally, how is it that if you wind up a watch, you start it?

If I wind up the article, I finish it.

### **Bear Patrol**

The Bear Patrol has had an awesome week. We have grown a lot and have made lasting friendships. Many of us in the Bear Patrol hoped to have an awesome experience here at Wood Badge. We wanted to have the full experience and prayers were offered to that end. Our Father in heaven has heard and answered our prayers. He has given us experiences this week—some of them were very painful ones—that have tempered and strengthened each one of us. Each one of us hopes to return home and strengthen and improve our youth programs, to build young men and give them experiences that they will remember. As a patrol, the Bears would like to thank the Wood Badge staff, especially Nicole Lemon, and each attendee for sharing their knowledge and experience. This week has been incredible. If you follow these principles your wildest dreams will come true.

### **Buffalo Patrol**

This is the last Buffalo contribution to the Gazette. Much has happened since we arrived on Monday morning.

We arrived, each individually, each bringing with us our own agendas, biases and beliefs. We suspected that we would be required to work together but we also recognized that being adults we would be able to continue our insular natures and work within our own domains.

By the end of Monday we had graduated from Cubs and began to recognize other individuals as part of our herd for we had become buffalos. We began to recognize the beginnings of bonding taking place.

By the end of Tuesday, we were definitely taking shape as a herd with a more singular purpose. Our multiple natures were beginning to morph into a greater concern for each other, a need to see that the other achieved and progressed.

Wednesday brought with us a final recognition that we had arrived as a patrol, a group with an identity. The identity of Buffalo was gaining meaning and we began to feel an affection and pride in what we were learning, in what we were becoming as a group and in the fact that we were beginning to share a mutual destiny.

Thursday, we had truly arrived. Individuals, although present, had disappeared in the identity of the group. We had synergistically increased in our abilities, our knowledge, our capacities and our commitments. The song, back to Gilwell, began to break forth as we moved from activity to activity. The song had taken on meaning, had taken on a life of its own. It was, in fact, part of our identity, who we were becoming.

Friday, the truth began to close in on us that our Wood Badge experience was coming to an end. The day that many of us had looked forward to and which we felt would not come soon enough began to loom all too suddenly and we found ourselves with mixed emotions; sort of like watching your mother-in-law drive over the cliff in your brand new Cadillac! All too soon, the camaraderie, the team feeling, the group would separate, each to return to our own domain to carry forward the training, the understanding, the spirit of Wood Badge.

To all our fellow Wood Badgers we wish you good Wood Badging (if there is such a word). We pledge to you our cooperation and our support. Our cheer on Friday was, "Where you find buffalo chips, the Buffalo will be there!" We meant that to have a double meaning. Please know that you may call on any one of the Buffalos should you wish to talk about anything. We stand ready to assist you with our ideas, our support and our Spirit for we know that we will be able to do the same towards you.

Good luck in your tickets and your legacy.

### Antelope Patrol

We have had two great days. We moved to a new site. That was fun. This has been a great experience. I want to thank my patrol for all the help they gave me yesterday. All the projects were GREAT! We got the point! Everyone, good luck on your tickets! Have Fun With Your Boys!

