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Countdown!

# The Gilwell Gazette

Go Outside and Play!

Day 3.5 March 14—April 8, 2011



## Go Outside and Play

We promised that we'd learn by doing. In B-P's day a Schoolmaster's thoughts turned to lecture and drill. But B-P reminded us in his *Aids to Scoutmastership*, "It is not the curriculum of Scouting that is the most striking feature, but it is the methods." That is, a Scoutmaster's heart turns to the observation that three fourths of Scouting is Outing. B-P made it clear that:

1. The aim of Scouting is quite a simple one.
2. The Scoutmaster gives to the boy the ambition and desire to learn for himself by suggesting to him activities which attract him, and which he pursues till he, by experience, does them aright. (Such activities are suggested in *Scouting for Boys*).
3. The Scoutmaster works through his Patrol Leaders.

My own experience with a daughter in Venturing and as a Girl Scout leader is that the above is also true for girls. Paul Petzolt, the founder of the National Outdoor Leadership School said "The fact is, women often do better than men in the outdoors. ... they're more likely to make decisions based on reality."

When I was growing up it is literally

true that mom would tell us to simply "Go outside and play." And we did. We'd find our own marvelous wonders in our backyards, either among our buddies or ranging on our own. Richard Louv's *Last Child in the Woods* reported that there is a wide and pervasive trend away from this. He argued that sensationalist media coverage and paranoid parents have literally "scared children straight out of the woods and fields," while promoting a litigious culture of fear that favors the illusion of "safe" regimented sports over imaginative play. At the end of the day mom had the wisdom to receive us at home and to listen to our stories. Perhaps mom was my first Scoutmaster. She agreed with B-P that "Scoutmasters deal with the individual rather than the mass."

Along these lines, John Graham's *Outdoor Leadership* is a book that's full of suggested techniques, common sense, and tips for building self-confidence. For instance: "To train people to make good decisions in the outdoors, you've got to take them into the outdoors, into real situations, and let them face challenges by themselves. They learn soon enough that if they make foolish decisions or if they base their decisions on 'hope' or 'faith'

that things will work out—they fail. And if they make their decisions based on reality, they succeed." Here are some quotes from the book regarding your work towards a vision:

Value your heart as much as your head.

Be vulnerable. Being honest and frank about yourself makes you vulnerable. Be honest and frank anyway.

One of the most important issues in life is trust. You don't build trust by hiding your feelings, your thoughts, your hopes, your fears. You build trust by sharing, by being honest and frank.

Create and communicate a vision of success—a clear, concrete picture of the intended results that's shared by the entire team. Each individual should have a clear picture of the power and positive impact of their role.

I'm really looking forward to camping with you guys! B-P said "A week of camp life is worth six months of theoretical teaching."

Al Best, Course Director



## Day 4 Gilwell Gazette

Patrols should submit articles or photos for the Day 4 Gilwell Gazette by e-mail to the Troop Scribe at [pilgrim1410@verizon.net](mailto:pilgrim1410@verizon.net) no later than April 1. *No fooling!*



### Day 3.5 Bears

Bears need Water, Food, and Shelter. Lots of Food. We Ursus arctos horribilis must feed.

We had our first Patrol meeting this past week and we are really excited about the next three-day weekend coming up. We focused together on our menu, supplies, flag, totems, project and having a good time being together. Much consumption of coffee occurred.

We still continue to have a tremendous focus on our own Troops and Packs. Cross-Overs, Pack camping trips and Troop activities make for great stories. Fred Klotz is leading us over this long haul and we couldn't have picked a better bear leader.

We are looking forward to our next meeting to focus on finalizing the flag, totems, menus (gourmet – with our pinky nails out), projects and working on our skit. Great Stuff.



### Antelopes: Waiting for the Storm

It has been said that the Wood Badge course would be two three-day weekends, with Patrols meeting at least twice during the interim. For the Antelope Patrol, the course began at 7:30 am, March 11th, and is still going strong! The in-boxes of our computers are busting at the seams, full of information about our project, camping supplies, menu planning, our flag and totem, skits, cheers, yells, and many, many words of persuasion from our Troop Guide about completing our Tickets. (Note to Biscuit- "Yes! We are working hard on them!!!") Spending three full days together brought us close, and now working away from the camp environment has somehow brought us closer in our focus.

A big part of Scouting is Outing, so having our first Patrol meeting outdoors was a wonderful choice. We met up at David Drago's Troop location, just 4 days after camp, at their local Legion Post under an outdoor shelter on a perfect afternoon. Our second meet-up was a little chillier, forcing us indoors, but the Antelope herd can make do in any environment! Our main focus was and is our Patrol project, as we hope to make it entertaining for the entire camp. The games during our Wood Badge weekend were the definitely the highlight, and the Antelopes wish to keep the competitive spirit alive. Our focus is Scout patches, and everyone should leave camp armed with the knowledge to say to the guy next to you in line at the next Regional event, "Might want to check that patch placement, friend." Yes, you, too, can be "that guy" from now on! Be ready for a patch game next weekend, competing against your fellow patrols for big points and bragging rights. Win all you can!!! We also planning our flag, finishing up our totems, finalizing our skit, getting our grocery list squared away, figuring out who is bringing what, and making accommodations for our diverse group, containing a vegetarian (which makes meal planning very interesting) and a downed-but-not-out Antelope with a wounded leg and hoof. With every step of our way, the Antelope herd has acted in concert with one another, delegating tasks evenly and having even distribution of all the work. It seems our group went straight from forming, directly to norming, and is strong performing every step of the way. But, we are prepared that a storm could occur at any given moment, and that awareness has helped keep it abated. The cycle is going smoothly as of the time of this writing- let us see what a monkey wrench in the works will bring out in the Antelopes! Fight or flight? The Antelope always chooses flight—and soars to live to see the next day

### Ticket Key Concepts

1. Your ticket will include five significant goals.
2. The goals will be written in support of your current Scouting responsibilities and should be designed to provide maximum positive impact for youth membership.
3. At least one of the five goals will incorporate some aspect of diversity.
4. If you wish, one goal of the five goals may involve developing and applying a self-assessment tool to measure your progress and effectiveness in relation to the other goals on your ticket.
5. The goals written should follow the SMART principles.
6. For each goal, you will indicate: who, what, where, when, how measured, why, and how verified.
7. Your Troop Guide will help you to prepare your ticket and will approve it when it is completed.
8. You will have a ticket counselor assigned to you.
9. The five goals of the ticket must be completed within 18 months.

When you and your counselor have agreed that you have fulfilled all the items on your ticket, you will receive your Wood Badge certificate, beads, neckerchief, and woggle.





## The Mighty ~~Bobcats~~ Bobwhites

Has it really been almost two weeks since our weekend together? Man how time flies – just like the Bobwhites!

Since coming home, after getting caught up on the work we left on our desks that Thursday afternoon, we all have been busy working on our assignments. We met up last Sunday to catch up and make decisions.

Keith, our Buff Bobwhite, has gone way over and beyond with some wonderful ideas on our Patrol Flag. We made some final decisions on our flag and wow, just wait until you see it. We know you will all be mighty impressed!

Tom, our Carpenter Bobwhite, came with some examples for us on our Patrol Totem. He too had some terrific ideas of which we mulled over and made choices on. We are very excited and can't wait until we have the finished product. Man these guys are talented!

Bob, our Graphics Artist Bobwhite, has been very helpful with graphic ideas for our flag and totem. Bob also worked very hard on setting us up an email group so that we can easily communicate while apart. After all we are small birds and it takes a lot to fly all over town.

Bill B., our Praying Bobwhite, has been and continues to work on our upcoming Chaplin needs for our next weekend together. Of course, we all help Keith, Tom & Bob make decisions on our graphics, totem, flag and Patrol project.

Bill H., our Leading Bobwhite, has done a terrific job as our Patrol Leader during this break between Wood Badge weekends. And most importantly continues to keep the rest of us Bobwhites on track with our assigned duties and informed of any changes that have been passed onto him.

Staci, our Photographer Bobwhite, also known as the Patrol Scribe, has shared all the photos she took at our first weekend and looks forward to getting even more shots our second weekend. Along with attempts to be witty in the Gazelle Gazette Patrol updates.

Of course, we can not forget our Patrol Guide Bobwhite, Carl! He has been great by keeping us informed of updates/changes, etc from our SPL & ASPL. We have also been keeping him busy helping us shape our Wood Badge Tickets along with answering some important questions along the way. Carl has helped us Bobwhites by serving as our compass along this Wood Badge journey.

We plan to continue to talk and meet, as we have much to do regarding our Patrol project and meal planning. . . we don't think the Staff who will be sharing meals with us would appreciate just worms for dinner, do you? Despite wishing we had a little more time to work, we are anxious to return to Gillwell and see what all our other Patrol Critters have been up to these few weeks apart. See you all soon!

## 7 PRINCIPLES OF LEAVE NO TRACE

- Plan Ahead and Prepare
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
- Dispose of Waste Properly
- Leave What You Find
- Minimize Campfire Impacts
- Respect Wildlife
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors

*(There will be a test!)*

## Projects, Totems and Flags, Oh My!

All patrol reports indicate a great deal of teamwork and progress toward completing the various tasks that were assigned during the interim between the two course weekends. If you had known ahead of time how much work would be required, would you still have signed up for Wood Badge? Would you believe that when you depart on Day 6, you will not be willing to trade this experience, and all the work involved, for anything? The entire process of being placed in a patrol with total strangers, and by the end of Day 6, having a life-long bond with your patrol-mates is difficult to describe to the uninitiated. Projects, totems, flags, skits, and menus are merely the vehicles that transport us to new levels of friendship and camaraderie. Not to mention all those handy new leadership skills!

## Looking forward to the (not boring) Patrol Campfire on Day 4 !!





## Eagle Patrol Interim Report

The Eagle Patrol is hard at work and having fun during the short interval before our return to Gilwell Park. The Screaming Eagles met on the evening of March 20, and they have created a totem patch, acquired materials for their patrol flag, planned skits and cheers, and begun putting together menus for the outdoor weekend. Each member of the patrol is also working on their ticket items. Additional meetings are scheduled for each of these areas before the second weekend commences on April 9.

Screaming Eagles, Loud and Proud....Look Out Below!

**Reminder:** The platform tents (walls and floors) are set up and will be available for patrol use. You are welcome to bring your own tent if you prefer, but it is not necessary.



## Buffalo Chips Fly

The Buffalo Patrol is still tingling from Day 3's scintillating and spectacular launch! However, we do realize that we are only as good as our next project. Currently, each member of our herd is hard at work putting our tickets together. We are looking forward to the "Tween Time" to work on our Patrol Project. We feel it will be an extremely useful tool for Scouting. It was been a GREAT week-end (was it only a week-end?). We look forward to seeing everyone when we reconvene in April. Until then..."Give me a home where the Buffalo roam, and the skies are not cloudy all day."

## A Wood Badge Ticket Is:

A Commitment.

A vision of personal improvement.

A vision of how the Scouter will lead.

A series of goals.

**S**pecific

**M**easurable

**A**ttainable

**R**elevant

**T**ime-based

Your Ticket should be Guided by:

Your Personal Values.

Your Personal Vision.

Your Personal Mission.

## Message from your SPL

I've received some questions about the use of the Scout sign and so I went back to my Scout Handbook. Indeed the most recent edition says "When a Scout or Scouter raises the Scout sign, all Scouts should make the sign, too, and come to silent attention." The earliest editions of the Handbook had illustrations of silent hand signals and one of these was for "attention"--the Scout sign with the right arm completely raised. Notice this is a *silent* signal and should not be accompanied by a "ssshhh!" or a battle cry of "Sign's Up!" The intention is to quickly get the group's attention, then the leader can give the required information and let everyone return to what they were involved with. And it works all size groups, from a patrol to the National Jamboree Arena Show—where all it takes to silence a crowd of 100,000 is to hold up the Scout sign.



No interim report from Beavers, Foxes, and Owls yet.



## Conservation Project Attire

Contrary to Ranger Tim's tirade regarding Wood Badge uniform changes, the staff had already determined that on Day 5 we will report to Gilwell Field in our Activity Shirt over top our 'grungies'. Grungies are work clothes, such as jeans and a shirt that can get dirty (NOT your scout uniform). Be sure to pack accordingly for weekend two.

## The following is a list of suggested gear for the patrol for camping trips:

Cookware (as needed for menu)  
Coffee Pot  
Cooking utensils (as needed for menu)  
Can Opener  
Measuring Cup/Spoons  
Cooler  
Water Cooler  
Water jugs/ containers  
Stove and fuel (Follow BSA policies)  
Dutch Oven (if needed)  
Tarp(s)  
Rope and Twine  
Axe, saw, and safety equipment  
Lantern(s)  
Shovel & Rake  
Trash bags  
Paper towels & napkins  
Aluminum foil  
Plates and utensils for patrol/guests  
Dishwashing soap, pads, & bleach  
Matches or lighter  
Hand soap or sanitizer  
Fire buckets

## The following is a list of personal gear that should be packed by scouts for camping trips:

Back pack with waist belt fitted to your back  
Sleeping bag  
Sleeping pad / air mattress  
Tent and ground cloth  
Camp Chair  
Matches/lighter/fire starter  
Compass  
Notebook  
Personal First Aide Kit  
Jacket suitable for expected weather  
Warm dry socks (wool and cotton)  
Raincoat or poncho  
Wash cloth/towel/small bar soap/zip-lock bag  
Toothpaste and brush  
Toiletries & Medications  
Small mirror / comb  
Pocket knife  
Canteen or water bottle (one or more)  
Flashlight with extra batteries & extra bulb  
Lip balm  
Large plastic bag  
Mess kit with utensils  
Sunglasses  
Day-pack

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## Wood Badge Cooking Guidelines

1. The patrol may spend only the monetary allotment set at the PLC.
2. The retail value of donated food counts towards your allotment.
3. You must make a full accounting to the SPL at the Day 4 PLC. Accounting to include original store receipts and written explanation of expenditures or gifts.
4. Your patrol will have up to 4 guests at every meal. Guests will likely bring their own cup.
5. Each meal will be eaten as a patrol. Food will be served when all guests and patrol members are present. The meals will be eaten with everyone sitting together at a table and be served family style or buffet style.
6. The meals will be nutritionally well-balanced.
7. Grace will be said at every meal.
8. The cooking area will be clean and sanitary in appearance.
9. The portions will be reasonable. Did everyone have enough to eat?
10. The meal will be evaluated based on the following:
  - a. Served on time
  - b. Appropriateness for youth to prepare during a Scout outing
  - c. Taste and appearance
  - d. Nutritional balance
  - e. Creativity and fun
11. Food will be stored in your campsite. Ice will be provided at your request.
12. Since all patrol members must attend all presentations, the patrol must make appropriate plans for preparation and clean up. The meals you will be cooking in your campsite include:  
Day Four: Lunch (4-5 guests); Dinner (3-4 guests); Cracker Barrel (no guests)  
Day Five Breakfast (3-4 guests); Dinner (no guests); Cracker Barrel (no guests)  
Day Six Breakfast (no guests)

**Staff will provide Lunch on Days Five and Six**



BEAVER PATROL



BOBWHITE PATROL



EAGLE PATROL



FOX PATROL



OWL PATROL



BEAR PATROL



BUFFALO PATROL



ANTELOPE PATROL

A Fine Gilwell Group!