

WOOD BADGE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

THE GILWELL GAZETTE

SR917 Day 5

HEART OF VIRGINIA COUNCIL, BSA
WOOD BADGE SR917

October 19, 2008

THE ALL IMPORTANT SCHEDULE

- 7:00 AM Breakfast and Patrol Self-Assessment
8:00 AM Gilwell Field Assembly
8:30 AM Inter-Faith Worship Service (Troop Activity)
9:15 AM Patrol Project Set-up and Presentations
9:30 AM Round One of Patrol Presentations
10:45 AM **Break**
11:00 AM Conservation Project (Troop Activity)
12:30 PM **Lunch** (in the Field)
Patrol Leaders Council meeting & working lunch
1:30 PM Coaching and Mentoring
2:30 PM Assessments
3:00 PM **Break**
3:15 PM Round Two of Patrol Presentations
4:30 PM Ticket Review and Collection
6:00 PM **Patrol Dinner**
7:30 PM Patrol Meeting
8:00 PM Patrol Campfires and Cracker Barrel
9:00 PM Rededication Ceremony

Your Wood Badge Neckerchief, Woggle, and Beads.

The resources and guides leave some questions about the wearing of the Wood Badge beads, neckerchief, and woggle. They are mentioned in "The Story of Wood Badge," "Gilwell," and the "Duty Patrol Symbols," but is unclear as to their exact wearing. To give general guidance, the following has been widely accepted practice for wearing the Wood Badge items.

- The "Wood Badge" is the beads. They may be worn anytime with the official BSA field uniform, with or without the neckerchief and woggle. The beads may be worn with the official BSA activity uniform (polo shirt) but never with a T-shirt. They may not be worn with the dress blazer uniform or civilian clothes.
- The Wood Badge neckerchief and woggle may be worn with any BSA field uniform. The woggle and neckerchief must always be worn together, and the beads must also be worn. It is optional if the bead thong is twisted over the tails of the neckerchief. No knot is tied in the tail of the neckerchief, it is itself a symbol of service.



ATTENTION ALL WOOD BADGERS

An offering will be taken at the religious services today, for the benefit of the World Friendship Fund. Your generous contribution is greatly appreciated.



PROGRAM PATROL: Eagle
SERVICE PATROL: Antelope

For local weather report, check the Doppler Weather Rock

EAGLE

The Talon-ted Eagle Patrol flew in to participate in the final four days of Wood Badge SR-917. They were pleased with the cooperation they exhibited during the last four weeks. Everyone pulled a fair share of to come up with the flag, a menu, totems, a project and a song.

This morning, Bob Hundley took over as Patrol Leader relieving Wray Palmore, who did yeoman duty over the four-week break. Bob grew up in Hanover County. He was a scout in Troop 544 sponsored by Shady Grove United Methodist and achieved the rank of Eagle scout and was initiated into the Order of the Arrow. Bob graduated from Va. Tech. He was in the Corps of Cadets while their and the Regimental Band, a.k.a., the Highty-Tighties. Bob then served five years in the Army, three of them in Germany. He returned Virginia in 1990, and began working for a civil engineering consultant, Resource International, Ltd. He is married and has three children - two daughters and a son, who joined Troop 505 last March. Bob is the Assistant Scoutmaster for that Troop. Bob hopes that the Wood Badge Course will help him be a more organized and effective leader and help him develop better youth leaders. The Eagles, who noticed this beautiful weather as they flew in, had a fun day at SR-917, in spite of their less than stellar performance at the problem solving activities. The problem is we are too cerebral. Right now, the Scribe needs to change into his Field Uniform and help cook dinner. Thanks to all of the Staff.



BUFFALO

What a great day! From our arrival at zero dark thirty this morning, setting up a leave no trace camp site, unveiling our patrol flag at Gilwell Field, learning about problem solving and conflict resolution, then some fun patrol activities, and ending the day with an outstanding troop campfire the day went by in a flash (sort of... Then ticket work, Gazette, talking at the patrol campfire).

Our Patrol Leader for tomorrow is CP Norris. He is married (20 years), has four kids, three girls and a son who is a First Class scout. We still don't know what CP stands for, but he has shown himself to be a loyal friend and is dedicated to helping his patrol mates.

The Buffaloes continue to bond. We are not always sure what "stage" we are in, but we sure are having a good time getting there!

Yours in Scouting, Moooooo

AMAZING ANTELOPES

Bio: David Elliott has just completed his first year as an Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 555 in Mechanicsville, VA. While he only completed one year of cub scouts as a youth, his two sons, Bryan – age 14, Life Scout, and Rhett – age 10, Webelos II scout, have opened up the door for resuming his experience in the scouting program.

Professionally, David has worked in Human Resources for over 22 years. He started this career with UPS in New York City, but came to his senses after a few years and moved south to Virginia. The Antelopes report a fruitful and productive "semester break." *Creativity above and beyond the call of duty* was demonstrated by Julian "Jeff" Bailey with the development of individual patrol member totems, a patrol table totem, and the patrol flag.

The entire Antelope patrol is back at Gilwell and ready to complete an outstanding second session. They look forward to sharing a great presentation on a patrol project that is designed to help enrich and strengthen families, and to encourage family involvement in scouting.



BEAVER

The Beavers are happy to be back at Gilwell. Since leaving last month, we have been (as any good beaver should be), very busy. We have been working on tickets, totems, flags, adornments, and all of the other wonderful things that Wood Badgers do during the gap between days three and four, but I digress. Today has been a great day for beavers everywhere, including here at Gilwell. The weather was very agreeable to heavily insulated wood eating rodents – cool and damp. The program suited us as well. We really enjoyed our time fellowshiping over meals and during the team building/problem solving games. Our fearless patrol leader and Cub leader, Darrell Wells has worked us like beavers to see that we had a well organized camp site complete with five star dining and lodging requirements. This is a must for us finicky beavers. Being a diverse group, we thoroughly enjoyed the many international and lively songs and skits at the camp fire. John's closing remarks have inspired us to strive to live out our lives to the benefit of those around us, including our scouts. Good Night and out.

BOBWHITE

Jim McCoig became chief bird of the Bobwhite Flock on Day Four. When he is not scratching about with his other birds of a feather at Gilwell, he may be found advising Venture Crew 736. Jim is a true outdoorsman and enjoys outdoor cooking, camping, yard work and taking care of the family cars. Jim may be found pecking around Capital One when he isn't scouting. He works as an IT manager. One thing you must know about Jim, he and his wife are proud alumni of University of Tennessee and are dedicated fans of the Volunteers. By the way, Jim met his wife at a disco....just imagine Jim as our disco duck!



The covey of Bobwhites found a new nest on Day Four. The Bobwhites entertained SPL Chuck Smith, Scribe Chris Vernon and Troop Guide Joe Oleksa for lunch. After fun and games with a few lessons thrown in for good measure the Bobwhites welcomed fellow Bobwhites, Tom, Al, and Michael for supper and bird racing. Our overly friendly skunk made himself at home with our gear before we headed over to host the evening campfire.

Matt Rigsby served as Day Five Patrol Leader. Try as he might, we could not be persuaded to change the patrol name to the Sea Gulls or the Penguins. You see, Matt is very at home at sea, having served in the US Coast Guard for 6 years and was in Deep Freeze (Antarctica) in 1989.

Matt is husband to his lovely wife Angie and father to Webelos I, Tyler. The family can be found camping around in their 1961 Airstream RV when he is not working as a mechanical contractor in his own business, 360 Mechanical Services. Matt serves as a Cub Master to Pack 544 at Shady Grove UMC, and he is on the Battlefield District Committee and is a shooting sports instructor. (OK, you can holler, "Pull" now!)

OWL PATROL - Whooooo's your scribe?

Thanks to the Bobwhite Program Patrol
for the Great Campfire!

FOX

The foxes are back, bright eyed and bushy tailed. The foxes enjoyed our journey back camp so much that we found ourselves bringing up the rear as we strode into Gilwell field. Nonetheless, we are back bright-eyed and bushy tailed! Being the foxy guys we are, we were thrilled to have a new fox, Ms. Julia Conners, our youth Venture leader, grace our ranks and take us through most of the day. It became readily apparent, during the singing of the National Anthem, that she was no ordinary fox amongst us. She REALLY can sing! We want to thank the Owls for helping us cheer our way back to Gilwell. All of the flags were a great sight to see. The Gilwell square is an amazingly dynamic formation. For our mid-day meal, we were joined by Carol Pilgrim, Julia Conners, Michael Lynch, and Chip Hendricks. We dined on delicious steak quesadillas seasoned with just the right amount of habanera peppers.

In the afternoon we found ourselves challenged in the patrol games. We stormed, formed, stormed, normed, and finally performed. The games were a lot of fun and we learned more about ourselves. At the end of the games we said good-bye to our foxy youth leader. We sent her away with a foxy tail and travel mug to remind of the great times we shared together. At supper, we were joined by John McCulla, Pat Meadows (our Troop Guide), and Lee Adcock. We checked our dinner reservations list and were glad to find them listed. They enjoyed a delectable mixed grill of lobster tail, shrimp, scallops, sautéed vegetables, and salad.

To top off the day, we danced by the fire in our Ya Pu Cha skit. The campfire was a wonderful way to end the day. All of the patrols and the staff were fantastic in their creativity and fun.

Our patrol leader for Day 4 was none other than our superb chef, Jerry Coiley. He is the newly appointed Scoutmaster for troop 897 out of Mt. Pisgah United Methodist Church in Midlothian, VA. He has a 12 year old son who is a 1st Class Scout. His wife, of 20, years is Marian. He also has two daughters. Megan, the oldest, is in her first year at college and studies piano and wants to be a music teacher. Erin, the younger, is 15 and a sophomore at Monacan HS. She loves playing volleyball and soccer and sometimes even enjoys school. Jerry came to scouting late, joining as a High Adventure Explorer scout in college. His wife and daughter's aren't sure who loves scouting more - Jerry or Peter. It might be a tossup.

When not running around in the woods, Jerry is the manager at Red Lobster in Colonial Heights. He takes great pride and joy in being able to make people happy everyday by letting them relax, kick back, and reconnect with friends and family while he and his staff sees to their needs. We love Jerry, he feeds us well!



BACKWOODS BEARS

The Backwoods Bears arrived at Gilwell before dawn for the second weekend of Wood Badge SR 917. Showing the cooperative spirit of a well performing patrol we quickly loaded our patrol gear into our transport vehicle for the trip to our campsite. We quickly hiked up to the model campsite for the Leave-No-Trace demonstration. After completing these demonstrations we hike to our campsite following and removing the blue marking tape. Working together as the smooth well oiled Scouting machine we are, the camp was set up and everyone headed to Gilwell Field for the opening of the weekend. The Bears ended the day with an exciting skit at the Troop Campfire. The patrol showed how to work with all the other patrols by getting all the critters involved in the skit. The Bears were even able to get the Scoutmaster running in circles. The Bios for today are Ernie Smith and Carl Whitaker. Ernie Smith who was our Patrol Leader on

Saturday lives in Mechanicsville, Va. Ernie is an ASM and Medical Officer for Troop 505. When Ernie is not Scouting he spends his time between work as a Paramedic Captain with the Chesterfield Fire Department and the other activities including fishing and waterskiing. Ernie and his wife Margie have two sons, Alex, 17 and Austin 15. Both are Life Scouts and are completing their paper work for Eagle. Carl Whitaker who will be our Patrol Leader on Monday lives in Beaverdam, Va. Carl is a brand new Unit Commissioner in the Cardinal District. Before taking on this new task, Carl was an ASM for Troop 700 in Ashland. Carl spends his working life at the North Anna Power plant where he is a Senior Design Engineer. When not Scouting or working Carl likes to spend his time Scuba Diving, he has been a certified Scuba Instructor since 1980. Carl and his wife Barbara have two sons, CJ, 17 and Tom 12. CJ was never interested in Scouting and Tom is a new Life Scout.

YOU MIGHT BE A WOOD BADGER....

Take-off from Jeff Foxworthy's "You might be a Redneck":

If you've ever received a speeding ticket because you were running late and you were afraid you might miss THE SONG ...

You Might Be A Wood Badger!

If your yard has grass 10 inches high but Gilwell Field looks great ...

You Might Be A Wood Badger!

If the fountain at your wedding had bug juice ...

You Might Be A Wood Badger!

If your clothes are all in zip-lock bags...

You Might Be A Wood Badger!

If your favorite cologne is Deep Woods Off...

You Might Be A Wood Badger!

If you have 2 lawn mowers that don't work and a broken storm door, but a perfectly good Table Totem ...

You Might Be A Wood Badger!