



# **THE GILWELL GAZETTE**

*The Official Newsletter for the Wood Badge Course*

*Recruiting Edition*

## **What is Wood Badge?**

Wood Badge is the premier adult leadership development course offered by the BSA. The ultimate purpose of Wood Badge is to help adult leaders deliver the highest quality Scouting program to young people in order to help them achieve their fullest potential.

## **Who May Attend?**

Wood Badge is open to all registered volunteers and professionals in Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA and Venturing. This includes unit or district leaders, committee members and merit badge counselors. You need to be trained in your primary registered position before the first weekend starts.

## **What Will I Learn?**

Wood Badge focuses not on Scouting skills, but on leadership skills, taught in Scouting settings, that are transferable to every aspect of your life. Some of the topics covered include; how to manage diverse talent, improving listening skills, developing individuals and teams, managing conversations and becoming an effective coach and mentor. You will also learn the patrol method and project management. These skills will help you become a more effective leader which will not only benefit you, but also the Scouts in your home units.

Wood Badge, like all of Scouting is experiential learning. You will be learning by doing, trying and exploring. An essential requirement of every Wood Badge course is for you to have fun!

*Back to Gilwell...*

*Baden Powell of Gilwell*





# PICTURES FROM YEARS PAST





# **WHAT ARE THE “VISION AND GOALS”?**

## **AND WHY DO THEY MATTER?**

The vision and goals are your ideas. Just ask yourself, how would I improve my Scouting unit? That answer would be your vision of that future success. Then formulate goals and a plan on “how” you would like to accomplish that vision. These goals will allow you to use your new leadership skills and competencies in ways that strengthen Scouting in your home units, districts, and councils.

The primary purpose of the Wood Badge experience is to provide leadership for Scouting and leadership for America. Your ticket is a commitment to yourself to complete a set of goals that will significantly strengthen the BSA program.

Some examples of goals include...

- Coordinate at least one Pack fundraiser for the year.
- Promote the Den Chief program in our Troop and with the Cub Pack.
- Plan a summer activity program for the Pack and encourage Cubs to earn the Summertime Activity Award.
- Design and conduct adult training on troop roles and each role's duties and responsibilities.
- Plan to improve communication to leaders and families by providing a monthly newsletter of events and activities.
- Develop a functional achievement tracking system for the den to communicate to Scouts and parents their advancement status.
- Enhance adult leadership skills by training Troop Committee members on conducting effective Boards of Review for advancing Scouts.
- Work with the Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leaders Council to plan and execute a Scout BSA Annual Calendar.





# **OK, I'M CONVINCED!**

## **WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?**

- Wood Badge will be held at Heritage Reservation | 300 Heritage Road, Farmington, PA 15437.
- The course is divided between two weekends, generally in the fall. Check the Laurel Highlands Council website for this year's dates and to enroll: <https://lhscouting.org/resources/training/>
- The first weekend is three full days: Friday at 7:30am to Sunday at 6pm.
- The second weekend is two days: Saturday at 7:30am to Sunday at 5pm.
- The fee covers all camping, food, and materials for all 5 days.
- Contact the Course Director if financial aid is needed.
- Enrollment is limited to 48 participants so sign up now to reserve your spot!



### **What People are Saying:**

- “Until this weekend, I didn't know where I was going after my son crosses over. I was feeling lost both personally and professionally. This course gave me clarity and direction as to which way I wanted to go. Thank you for such a wonderful course. I plan on using this for the rest of my life.”
- “Wood Badge gave me the tools, not only to help me succeed in Scouting, but to help me succeed professionally.”
- “I feel so much better about helping my Pack now. I know what areas need attention and how we can go about fixing things.”
- “I am so glad that I took this course. I didn't realize I was going to learn things that would even help me at work.”
- “THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU to everyone who made this experience possible. I feel truly blessed to have gone through this transformation and to be a part of the Wood Badge alumni.”
- “This training isn't about going home with tools to be the best leader and trick people into listening and following you. Wood Badge is about creating a legacy to develop others as leaders; to allow the next generation to step up and stand on your shoulders.”