

GILWELL GAZETTE

Wood Badge for the 21st Century

SR-976

John Roberts, Scoutmaster

Volume 976, Issue 3

September 13, 2009

Scoutmaster's Minute

Good Morning,

Did you learn something about team building yesterday that you didn't already know? Has your team actually experienced the stages of team development even if those stages didn't have names at the time?

How important is active listening and communication to team building? The Scouts in your home units are members of your team. So are their parents.

Your District Committee is a team as much your unit committee. What role do you play?

When we meet next, we will be at Camp Durant for our Troop's "monthly outing" and our chance to practice Leave No Trace camping. The highlight will be seeing your exhibits. I look forward to them!

Yours in Scouting,
John Roberts
Scoutmaster



Today's Schedule

7:00 AM	Breakfast & Assessments	Dining Hall
8:00 AM	Gilwell Field Assembly	Gilwell Field
8:30 AM	Interfaith Worship Service	Chapel
9:30 AM	Troop Meeting	Outside
11:00 AM	Leading EDGE/Teaching EDGE	Learning Center
Noon	Lunch	Dining Hall
1:00 PM	Patrol Leaders' Council Meeting	Dining Hall
1:30 PM	Conservation Project Planning	Learning Center
2:20 PM	Patrol Meeting	Patrol Corners
3:00 PM	October Sky	Learning Center
5:00 PM	Closing Gilwell Field Assembly	Gilwell Field

Vision and Wood Badge Tickets

Do you remember Friday's presentation on Values Mission and Vision? You should recall that **values** are core beliefs or desires that motivate our actions and attitudes, taking a variety of forms such as Principles or Standards, Personal Qualities, Character Traits, Codes of Ethics, or Goals. Recall also that **vision** is a picture of future success, while living the values. And lastly, remember **mission** is the steps that lead to the realization of the vision. What does all of this have to do with the Wood Badge ticket? Everything! Your ticket begins with an examination of your **values** in life and by identifying a **vision** of your future success in Scouting and your life surrounding Scouting. The Wood Badge ticket is your **mission** statement or how you plan to see your vision come to life. Step by step. Your ticket should be a challenge to stretch yourself to do new and different tasks to better yourself and the world around you based on your own and Scouting's values.

The leaders who work most effectively, it seems to me, never say "I." And that's not because they have trained themselves not to say "I." They don't think "I." They think "we"; they think "team." They understand their job to be to make the team function. They accept responsibility and don't sidestep it, but "we" gets the credit. This is what creates trust, what enables you to get the task done.

~ Peter Drucker

SCOUTERS ERUPT AT CAMP DURANT

Wood Badgers rock and roll around camp

By Owl B. Seenya, Eye on the Scene

After a day of polite and civilized, though puzzling, behavior (referred to in some circles as “Scout-like” behavior) the lid was literally blown off of this group of too-good-to-be-true citizens, and this action reporter was there.

Local citizens reported the sound of explosions coming from the camp, and seeing projectiles arching through the air in silent flight. Undercover agents report that these devices were fired without the use of standard jet or rocket engines, and without the aid of petroleum based propellants. These Wood Badgers are crafty- using missiles that are friendly to the environment!

After several more hours of clandestine activity, our sources report that the operatives gathered for a form of more cerebral combat, attempting to best one another in a quest for “more”. A strange man inflamed the crowd with shouts of “win all you can in the game of life”. It seemed to be every person for themselves. Curiously, once order was restored, all gathered for food and fellowship.

As all these weary souls (with weary soles) return home today, we still are left with the question posed in Friday’s issue: why do seemingly normal people invest so much time, effort, emotion, and work just to make themselves better leaders? We will continue to investigate the phenomenon that is “Wood Badge” and report the findings in future issues. Stay tuned for more.

The Scout Law Prayer

Dear Lord, Bless all those everywhere who contribute to shape the hearts, minds and bodies of young people. Let us remember what they have taught and apply it daily.

When facing deceit and dishonesty, let us be Trustworthy.

If we see hypocrisy and faithlessness, let us be Loyal.

Where disregard of others and mere materialism prevail, let us be Helpful.

When we find people in despair, let us be Friendly.

In an atmosphere of ill manner, let us be Courteous.

Where some measure manliness in brutality and crudeness, let us be Kind.

Though lawbreaking and rule-scoffing are common, let us be Obedient.

While others grumble and grouch, let us be Cheerful.

In an environment blighted by waste and extravagance, let us be Thrifty.

When confronted with danger and temptation, let us be Brave.

As we see filth and pollution everywhere, let us be Clean.

While witnessing impiety, let us remember to be Reverent.

In short, in a world that has for generation after generation lamented the lack of good examples, let us, as Scouts, stand out, grow up, and be real adults.

Amen.



The Origin of the Ax and Log

The Axe and Log symbol originated when Francis Gidney, the first Camp Chief of Gilwell wanted a special “logo” to denote Gilwell Park as opposed to Scout Headquarters. Gilwell Park has always been the property of Scout Headquarters. Gidney wanted to be sure that, although the Park was a part of Headquarters, it was quite different and much more associated with the outdoors and woodcraft side of Scouting rather than the “business” side. He, therefore adopted the symbol for use on all leader training publications and letterheads.

Gidney’s Leader courses always featured a great deal of practical activity and axes were as prominent as “billy cans.” Great emphasis was placed on safety with tools and axes were always expected to be “masked” by burying the blade in a log of wood. Hence there were examples of axes properly masked all over the Training Camp and they clearly struck Gidney as an ideal symbol to denote all that the training courses stood for!



90 Years of Wood Badge

The Origin of the Woggle

In the early days of the Scout Movement in Great Britain, the Scout scarf used to be tied loose knot at the neck and naturally became very creased. However it was known the Americans were experimenting by using a ring made from bone, rope or wood to keep their scarves together. Bill Shankley, aged 18 and one of two permanent camp site employees at Gilwell Park, had the job of running the workshop and coming up with ideas for camping equipment. He found out about the American rings and decided to try and go one better. After various attempts with different materials he finally made a Turks Head knot - adopted in the days of sailing ships when seamen developed decorative forms of rope work as a hobby - made from thin sewing machine leather belting. He submitted this to the Camp Chief and, no doubt, the Chief Scout, for approval and had it accepted.

The American rings were called 'Boon Doggles', most probably because they were made of bone, and the name was a skit on 'dog bones'. To rhyme with 'Boon Doggle', Shankley called his creation a 'Woggle'. An article in The Scout on 9th June 1923 by 'Gilcraft', called 'Wear a scarf woggle' made reference to the idea of having become very popular among Scouts who had been quick to imitate the fashion set by the 1st Gilwell Park Scout Troop (i.e.: Wood Badge holders).

From: **The Origins of the Woggle**

Item Code FS145003 Aug/03

The Scout Information Centre, Gilwell Park Chingford London E4 7QW



Your Daily Devotional

The Hippy

His name was Bill. He was in his early twenties and had wild hair, and he wore a T-shirt with holes in it, blue jeans, and no shoes. This was literally his wardrobe for his entire four years of college. He was a brilliant student, but kind of esoteric. A very, very bright young man. He became a Christian while attending college.

Across the street from the campus was a church with a very well-dressed, very conservative congregation. They wanted to develop a ministry to the students but were not sure how to go about it.

One Sunday, Bill decided to go there. He walked in with no shoes, jeans, his T-shirt, and wild hair. The service had already started and Bill started down the aisle looking for a seat. The church was completely packed and he couldn't find a seat. By then, people were really looking a bit uncomfortable, but no one said anything. Bill got closer and closer to the pulpit, and when he realized there were no seats, he just squatted down right on the carpet. By then the people were really uptight, and the tension in the air was thick.

About that time, the minister realized that from way at the back of the church, a deacon was slowly making his way toward Bill. Now the deacon was in his eighties and he had silver-gray hair, and a three-piece suit. A Godly man, very elegant, very dignified, very courtly. He walked with a cane. As he started walking toward this boy, everyone was saying to themselves that you can't blame him for what he was going to do. How could you expect a man of his age and of his background to understand some college kid sitting on the floor in church?

It took a long time for the man to reach the boy. The church was utterly silent except for the clicking of the man's cane. All eyes were focused on him. You couldn't even hear anyone breathing. The minister couldn't even preach the sermon until the deacon did what he had to do. And now they saw this elderly man drop his cane on the floor. With great difficulty, the old man lowered himself and sat down next to Bill and worshipped with him so Bill wouldn't be alone.

Everyone was choked up with emotion.

Wood Badge Critter Facts

Beaver

- semi-aquatic rodent, average 35 lb.
- broad, flat tail about 10 in. long
- lives in a lodge made of sticks and grass
- noted for building dams, canals
- eats woody and aquatic plants

Bobwhite

- field and woodland bird, weigh 7 oz.
- has distinctive bob-bob-white call
- nests on the ground under brush
- social birds living in coveys of 10-30
- eats weed seeds, insects, grains

Eagle

- diurnal (active during day) bird of prey
- can have wingspan of 7 feet
- nests on rocky ledges or in large trees
- noted for superb aerial skills
- eats mammals, such as mice up to deer

Fox

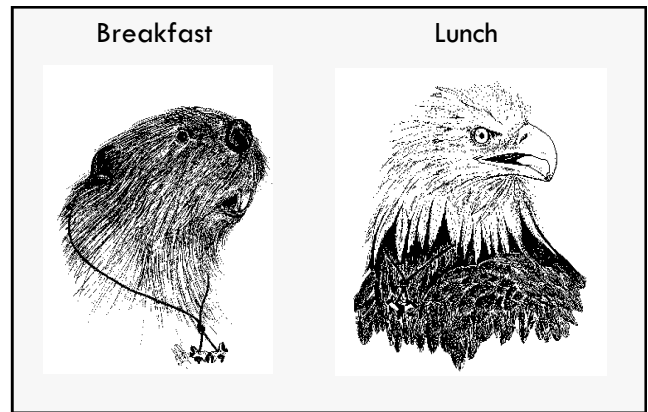
- smallest member of the dog family
- thick fur and long bushy tails
- live in dens, which are holes in the ground
- swift runners, can reach speeds of 30mph
- eats mice, rabbits, bird's eggs, fruit

Owl

- nocturnal (active at night) bird of prey
- have large eyes, directed forward
- nest in holes, trees, holes in ground
- can turn heads 270 degrees to see
- eats rabbits, mice, snakes, fish

Bear

- large mammal, weighing from 100-1800 lb.
- long, shaggy fur; non-retractable claws
- live in forests, are secretive and shy
- hibernate (sleep) all winter
- black bears eat grass, berries, walnuts, acorns



Buffalo

- largest land mammal in North America
- characterized by hump over front shoulders
- live in plains and grassland areas in the open
- move in groups called herds, can weigh 2000 lb.
- eat only grass, feeding five times a day

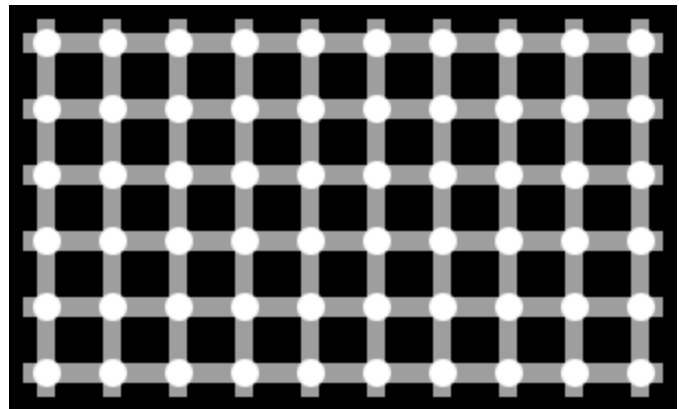
Antelope

- hollow-horned mammal, in cow/sheep family
- have pointed horns which they keep for life
- live in open areas because they can move fast
- can run 80mph, leap 10 feet high
- eat grasses, leaves, flowers, fruit

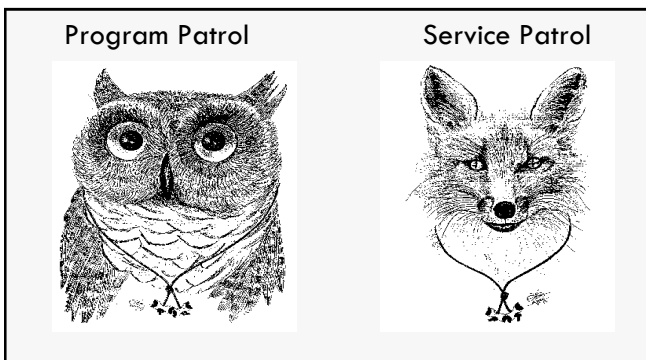
Lord Baden-Powell had very specific reasons for choosing the critters we use today to name our Wood Badge patrols. See if you can tell which characteristics he found so endearing about "your critter".

What do you See?

How many black circles do you see?



Sometimes things aren't as they seem? How might this apply to our role as leaders? What skills are we learning to help us become better leaders?



Beware of the Danger Zone!

We've had a great three days. Over the next few weeks Scouts will be working on writing their tickets and meeting with their patrols to complete their projects. On the drive home this evening, you will be entering THE DANGER ZONE! Stay alert! Be careful on your drive as the last few days have been very intense and fatiguing.