

The Official Newsletter of the BSA-22-1 Course

Precourse Issue #3

The Game of Scouting

Baden-Powell once said, "The Scoutmaster teaches boys to play the game by doing so himself." It was this quote that most likely inspired William "Green Bar Bill" Hillcourt to write the section The Game of Scouting in the third edition (1936) of The Boy Scouts of America Handbook for Scoutmasters. Within that section, Hillcourt writes "Here, then, is Scouting in a nutshell: A game for boys under the leadership of boys with the wise guidance and counsel of a grown-up who has still the enthusiasm of youth in him. A purposeful game, but a game just the same, a game that develops character by practice,



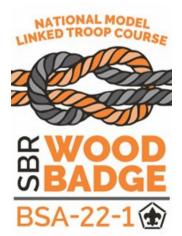
that trains for citizenship—through experience in the out-of-doors." Like Baden-Powell, Hillcourt's vision was that Scouts would be so caught up in the fun of Scouting, they would not realize they were being taught things like citizenship, character, and reverence.

Your Wood Badge experience will take place in a similar fashion. Through a series of presentations, challenges, games, and other fun activities, you will learn about leadership, communication, team development, and conflict resolution. When you arrive at Summit Bechtel Reserve and embark on your Wood Badge experience, approach the course with the same spirit the Scouts in your units have towards "the game of Scouting." Don't be afraid to embrace the enthusiasm of your inner child during the activities. You will have more fun, the lessons will be more understandable, and you will make memories for a lifetime! While it was "Green Bar Bill" who coined the term "Scouting is a game with a purpose," it was Baden-Powell who said "Scouting is not an abstruse or difficult science: rather it is a jolly game if you take it in the right light. At the same time, it is educative, and (like Mercy) it is apt to benefit him that giveth as well as him that receives." In the words of William "Green Bar Bill" Hillcourt, "Your life as a Scout will make you strong and self-reliant. You will learn Scoutcraft skills that will benefit you as you grow. In time, you will develop skills of leadership as well. So pitch in! Swing into action! In your patrol and your troop, you will have some of the best times of your life."

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Friday Evening & Saturday Activities

Don't forget! Anyone who is interested in experiencing the Summit, and doesn't have to jet off the minute the course is over, has the opportunity of doing Summit activities on Saturday, October 29. These are optional and organized by the Summit.

Since the last Precourse Gazette, there has been a change how the

Summit will offer these activities. You can now purchase a **Summit Day Pass**. General Admission is \$15, an Activity Day Pass is \$30, or a Ridge Pass Upgrade is \$50. To see what activities each pass includes, please visit the Summit Day Pass web page <u>here</u>.



In addition, the Summit is also proud to introduce West Virginia's newest haunted attraction. **Nightmare in the Hills** is a haunted trail experience like no other and is sure to be your newest nightmare. This attraction will be available Friday, October 28, from 7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. For more information, or to buy tickets, please visit the website <u>here</u>.

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The Usefulness of the Neckerchief

Did you know the Scout neckerchief can be used as more than just part of your uniform? Here are a few of the many uses:

- As an International Morse signal flag
- In knot-tying practice
- As a substitute for a belt
- As a smoke mask
- As a blindfold for Scout games
- As a dressing for a burned face and neck
- As a sweat band or hair tie
- As a night cap or ear protector
- As a muffler for storm or blizzard
- As a cover for a pail of water
- As a triangular cap bandage
- As a napkin
- As an apron
- As a tablecloth

- As a dust cloth or cover
- As a drifter bag
- To lash poles or staves together
- As a patch for a leaky boat, or canoe, when properly treated
- For making smoke signals
- As a padded glove for the hand, to prevent blisters
- To pad portions of a harness to prevent chafing
- To tie up square packages
- For fastening ends of the blanket roll

"The only things we keep permanently are those we give away." ~ Waite Phillips



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Gray Troop Assistant Scoutmaster of Logistics

Name: Denise Purdie Andrews Hometown: Indianapolis, IN Participant Year: 2003 Critter: Beaver Council: Crossroads of America Council Troop#/Pack #: Troop 171 Girls, Troop 69 Boys Current Scouting Role: Assistant Scoutmaster, Assistant Council Commissioner Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 6

What does Wood Badge and/or Scouting mean to you? Both allow me to be of meaningful service to our future.

How would you describe Wood Badge to someone who has never been?

The best opportunity to learn about AND PRACTICE leadership development skills for both Scouting and life. Also, a great time to network with other Scouters!

What advice would you like to impart to the new participants?

Don't let perfect be the enemy of good! You will hopefully write many tickets in your life and no one can predict the future.

Orange Troop Assistant Scoutmaster of Logistics

Name: Bill Steigerwald Hometown: Simpsonville, SC Participant Year: 2014 Critter: Eagle Council: Blue Ridge Council Troop#/Pack#: Troop 420 Boys/Pack 420 Current Scouting Role: Scoutmaster Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 5

Has Wood Badge helped you in your personal life? If so, how? Wood Badge has improved my management style as it relates to our office staff. I also feel confident in saying that Wood Badge has improved

my bedside manner. I do a better job of managing conflict and being an active and empathetic listener.

What does Wood Badge and/or Scouting mean to you?

Like so many other adults in the program, my scouting journey began when my oldest child came home with a cub scout flier. We left that first meeting as Den Leaders. Scouting has forever changed our family by unifying us towards a common goal by way of the Oath and Law. Scouting has helped our family grow stronger and more committed to each other. Wood Badge has helped to renew my focus on scouting by setting new goals on a continual basis; it "recommits" ourselves to the scouting movement as we seek to serve the youth in their own development and growth.





Gray Troop Assistant Scoutmaster of Program

Name: Julie Bucciarelli Hometown: Bartlett, IL Participant Year: 2015 Critter: Owl Council: Three Fires Council Troop#/Pack#: #2119 Current Scouting Roles: Scoutmaster, Associate Crew Advisor, Assistant Scoutmaster, District VP of Marketing, TFC Steering Committee Big Timber Pumpkin Fest, Merit Badge Counselor

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 4 Council Courses and 2 National Staff Courses

What does Wood Badge and/or Scouting mean to you?

Scouting gives us an opportunity to help shape our youth leaders. The countless smiles of youth with their confidence to take on the world motivates me to continue to spend time cultivating them through our movement toward their next adventure or milestone.

What advice would you like to impart to the new participants?

Have fun! Enjoy the experience.

Orange Troop Assistant Scoutmaster of Program

Name: Salvatore (Sal) P. Ciampo
Hometown: Bethpage, NY
Participant Year: 2006
Critter: Bear
Council: Theodore Roosevelt Council
Troop#/Pack#: Troop 261
Current Scouting Role: NST 10 Commissioner Elect, NST 10 Commodore & National Outdoor Program and Properties, Chair Properties Strategic Analysis
Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 2
What does Wood Badge and/or Scouting mean to you?

I cannot imagine a world without Scouting. It has meant so much to me in my life. It allowed me to be closer to my son and daughter. Scouting thrives when it has great program leadership and Wood Badge is exactly the training that will make that happen.

What advice would you like to impart to the new participants?

I would like participants to enjoy the course and that means don't stress. It is sometimes easy to get overwhelmed but don't. If you feel this way, seek out one of the staff and I am sure they can help you restore equilibrium. It is Scouting so it should be fun! Remember, breathe in through the nose and out through the mouth.





Gray Troop Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop Guides

Name: Kristina H Hanna (Kris) Hometown: Hopkinton, MA Participant Year: 2018 Critter: Owl Council: Mayflower Council Troop#/Pack #: Troop 4 Boys Current Scouting Role: Advancement Chair and District Training Chair Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 2

What has Wood Badge taught you about yourself?

Wood badge has taught me that you need to be in touch with one's self before you can be a great leader. Learning to really listen and

understand the other person and being able to meet them where they are, not where I think they should be.

What is your goal as a Wood Badge Staff member this year?

My goal is to make myself uncomfortable, because that means I'm pushing myself towards personal growth. My Troop guide, mentor, and friend taught me to harness that feeling and to make the uncomfortable comfortable. To use my passion for scouting to inspire others to help our youth become the leaders of the future. So, if I can give back half of what my mentor gave to me, I've done my job.

Orange Troop Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop Guides



Name: Marty Broderick Hometown: Bartlett, IL Participant Year: 2015 Critter: Bobwhite Council: Three Fires Council Troop#/Pack#: Crew 127 Current Scouting Role: Crew Advisor and Council National Jamboree Chair Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 3 How would you describe Wood Badge to someone who has never

How would you describe Wood Badge to someone who has never been?

Wood Badge is a world-class training course. Not only will it touch on the patrol method, but it will also go through many leadership principles that you can apply in scouting and in everyday life.

What does Wood Badge and/or Scouting mean to you?

I had the pleasure of being a Scout as a youth. The program had a huge impact on my life. I can say that not only did I make lifelong friends, but it also made me a better son to my parents and a better citizen for my community. Last but not least, it made me a better leader which impacts me to this day in both Scouting and my career.



Personal Equipment List

- Official BSA Field Uniform *
- Official BSA Activity Uniform **
- Clothing for Indoor & Outdoor
 Cool Weather Jacket
- Shoes, for indoor use
- Scout Cap, if desired
- Underwear
- Sleeping Clothes
- Personal Items
 - Toiletries
 - Toothbrush/ Toothpaste
 - Soap
 - Shampoo
 - Deodorant
 - Comb/Hairbrush
 - Lip Balm
 - Handkerchief or Bandana
 - Sunscreen
 - Medications, including nonprescription
 - Face mask

BACKPACK/DAY PACK:

Your pack should contain the following:

- Medication in Labeled Containers
- Pens, Pencils, Notebook/Notepad
- Water Bottle/Hot Cup
- Pocket Knife/Tool
- Cell Phone & Charger
- Laptop/Tablet & Charging cables
- Handbook for your Scouting program
- Flashlight/Head Lamp (With Spare Batteries)

PROVIDED ON COURSE:

One of each of the following:

- Beanie Hat
- Course T-Shirt
- Water Bottle (Nalgene)
- Course Patch

OPTIONAL:

- Ear Plugs
- Sunglasses
- Camera
- Spending Money
- Watch
- Indoor Slippers
- Religious Books
- Scout Books—Camp Songs, Skits, etc.
- Alarm Clock
- Seat Cushion (we will be sitting on hard chairs)



*A complete field uniform consists of: BSA shorts, BSA long pants, or BSA skirt; BSA belt; BSA socks; BSA shirt with appropriate insignia for your position. An official Wood Badge neckerchief and slide will be provided to you as part of course.

******A complete activity uniform consists of: BSA shorts, BSA long pants, or BSA skirt; BSA belt; BSA socks; a tshirt (preferably the course t-shirt, but any BSA Pack or Troop t-shirt is acceptable. You will be provided with one course t-shirt when you arrive at Wood Badge).

The BSA-22-1 Store is Open through September 25!

If you haven't already ordered, or would like to order some more Wood Badge swag, please visit **BSA-22-1 Wood Badge Store**.

Important Note: If you haven't told Dave your shirt size yet, or if your size has changed, send him an email at **redoakdave@sbcglobal.net**.

Leave No Trace: Why Is This Program Important?

Instilling values in young people and preparing them to make moral and ethical choices throughout their lifetime is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America. Leave No Trace helps reinforce that mission and reminds us to respect the rights of other users of the outdoors as well as future generations. Appreciation for our natural environment, and a knowledge of the interrelationships of nature, helps bolster our respect and reverence toward the environment and nature.



Leave No Trace is an awareness and an attitude, rather than a set of rules. It applies in your backyard or local park as much as in the backcountry. We should all practice Leave No Trace in our thinking and actions–wherever we go.

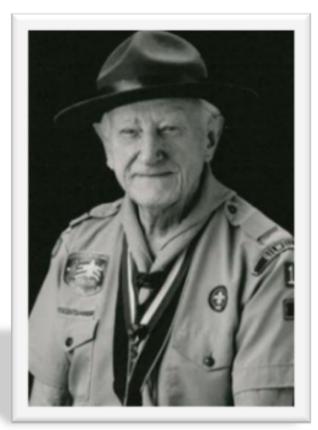
We learn Leave No Trace by sharing the principles and then discovering how they can be applied. The Seven Principles of Leave No Trace provide an easily understood framework of minimum impact practices for anyone visiting the outdoors. Although Leave No Trace has its roots in backcountry settings, the principles have been adapted so that they can be applied anywhere.

The Seven Principles of Leave No Trace are as follows:

- 1. **Plan ahead and prepare.** Proper planning and preparation increases safety, reduces the impact of your visit on the environment, and helps make your outdoor experience more enjoyable.
- 2. **Travel and camp on durable surfaces.** Natural environments are easily damaged by foot traffic. Use existing trails or travel on durable surfaces such as rock, gravel, sand, compacted soil, dry grasses, or snow. Large groups should spread out to avoid creating new trails. Keep campsites small.
- 3. **Dispose of waste properly (pack it in, pack it out).** Any material people leave behind pollutes the environment and might create a health hazard for wildlife or other visitors. Pack out any trash and leftover food. Dispose of human waste by digging catholes 6 to 8 inches deep and 200 feet away from water, trails, and campsites.
- 4. Leave what you find. Observe the interesting things you find, but do not disturb them. Use established campsites and do not alter them in any way. Restore campsites to pristine condition before you leave.
- 5. **Minimize campfire impacts.** Use a lightweight stove when cooking in the backcountry. If you need to build a fire, keep it small and use only dead or downed wood. Never cut down limbs or trees for firewood.
- 6. **Respect wildlife.** Stay far enough away from animals that your presence does not disturb their natural activity. Store food, food scraps, and trash securely to prevent animals from eating food that is not part of their natural diet. Never feed wild animals.
- 7. **Be considerate of other visitors.** Let everyone enjoy nature. Travel and camp quietly and away from other people. Blend in by wearing subdued colors. Leave pets and portable audio devices at home.

Who Was "Green Bar Bill?"

William Hillcourt, known as "Green Bar Bill", was an influential leader in the Boy Scouts of America organization from 1927 to 1992. Hillcourt was a prolific writer and teacher in the areas of woodcraft, troop and patrol structure, and training; his written works include the BSA's official Boy Scout Handbook, Boy Scout Fieldbook, Patrol Leaders Handbook, Scoutmaster's Handbook, and numerous magazine articles in Boys' Life. Topics included monthly sections on Scoutcraft, outdoor Scouting skills, and included his signature superimposed over the two green bars that are the emblem of the patrol leader. This led to his moniker "Green Bar Bill" and its adoption as the logo of his regular Boys' Life column. Green Bar Bill became involved in Wood Badge in 1936 when John Skinner Wilson, Camp Chief of Gilwell, came to introduce Wood Badge to the United States. He was a member of the Burham Patrol during that course and became Senior Patrol Leader four days later for the second course. Green Bar Bill earned his Wood Badge Beads in 1939. After World War II, Wood Badge was reawakened to become a permanent part of training in American Scouting. Early in 1948, Bill Hillcourt was one of four





people appointed by the new Scout Executive to get Wood Badge underway as a national training standard, adapted to the BSA program. These four National Professional Staffers decided that two BSA Wood Badge courses would be held in 1948. The first at Schiff Scout Reservation, and the second at Philmont Scout Ranch. Green Bar Bill was the Scoutmaster at both of these courses. He died at the age of 92 on November 9, 1992; but Green Bar Bill's legacy in Scouting and his influence continue to live on in the programs and trainings that we still use today.

"...the real way to get happiness is by giving out happiness to other people. Try and leave this world a little better than you found it and when your turn comes to die, you can die happy in feeling that at any rate you have not wasted your time but have done your best."

~ Robert Baden-Powell



Please click the icons below for more information!

