

The Official Newsletter of the BSA-22-1 Course

Precourse Issue #4

Are You Ready??

Before you arrive:

- Covid Protocols: CAREFULLY READ THE SUMMIT BECHTEL RESERVE PARTICIPANT SCREENING AND COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOUND AT https://www.summitbsa.org/covid19/.
- **Pre-Arrival Covid Test:** In addition to the Summit's Covid requirements, each participant and staff member needs to provide proof (*e.g.*, a photo) of a negative test taken within 24 hours prior to planned arrival at SBR. An antigen (home) test or a PCR test is acceptable. If you have a documented case of Covid in the 90 days prior to arrival at the Summit, and have been cleared to resume activities after recovery, you can bring that in lieu of taking a test.
- **Basic Training:** Complete basic training for your registered position.
- **BSA Medical Form:** Complete and bring your Health and Medical form. You can fill out parts A & B, and have your doctor complete part C. This form can be found here. Part C must have been signed within one year of the course date.
- **Uniform:** Stop by the Scout shop to pick up any needed leadership position patches or other uniform-related clothing. You will be expected have a complete uniform. A Wood Badge neckerchief will be provided.

Don't forget to bring:

 Packing List: Review the Personal Equipment List on the website: http://bsa-22-1.com/participant-resources/

On Monday, October 24:

- Start Time: Plan to be ready to go by 6:30 AM!
- **Uniform:** Wear your full Scout uniform.
- Day Pack: Bring your day pack with everything you need for the day.
- Enthusiasm: Your smile and willingness to learn.



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"Nothing worthwhile was ever accomplished without the will to start, the enthusiasm to continue, and, regardless of temporary obstacles, the persistence to complete."

~ Waite Phillips

Gray Troop Guides



Name: Alanna Mussawwir-Bias Hometown: Philadelphia, PA

Council/District: Longhorn Council, Mustang District

Current Scouting Role: Committee Chair Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 1

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

An opportunity to strength my knowledge and dedication to the Scouts BSA and Venturing BSA programs. It helps me to identify how I can fill in the gaps and help kids reach their leadership potential.

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

A Scouting managerial training with fun built-in from start to finish. The best leadership development resource that can be used forever.

What do you feel is one of the best takeaways from your Wood Badge experience?

Collaboration is key, talk through your vision for your Wood Badge ticket with attendees and the knowledgeable staff. This helped me to visualize the big picture, pare down my scope, and set myself up for a realistic success.

Name: Catherine Hoffman Kaser

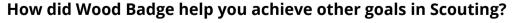
Hometown: Hockessin, DE Participant Year: 2000 Council: Del-Mar-Va Council

Current Scouting Role: Advancement Chair

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 1

Has Wood Badge helped you in your personal life? If so, how?

I recently used my Wood Badge training to talk with my high school senior about how to find his vision as he thinks ahead to the next phase of his life. We employed some of the steps I learned in Wood Badge to do this, which helped him get unstuck as he writes essays for college applications that ask him to articulate his "why."





Attending the National Linked Troop Model Wood Badge allowed me to meet dedicated Scouters from around the world and opened up opportunities I could never have imagined when I registered to attend. Establishing a lasting network of so many women in leadership across the country has helped us all support one another in our roles and achieve our mutual goal of growing and strengthening the entire program for girls—and all youth—in Scouting.



Gray Troop Guides

Name: Rebecca Eisel Participant Year: 2014 Council: Rainbow Council

Current Scouting Role: Committee Chair Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 1

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

Wood Badge is BSA's equivalent to corporate leadership training. Just as members of Scouts BSA learn valuable life lessons while camping, adults taking Wood Badge gain knowledge that transfers to all areas of their lives.

What do you feel is one of the best takeaways from your Wood Badge experience?

The expansion of my Scouting network. The bonds made during Wood Badge, both within the patrols and between all the participants, are invaluable. I got to know Scouters across my Council, who have become great resources for all things Scouting.

What are your goals as a Wood Badge staff member?

As a Troop Guide for the Gray Troop, I want to help the participants go back to their units with a greater confidence in their ability to instill confidence in their own Scouts.



Name: Jennifer Pallas-Rodriguez Hometown: Williamsburg, VA

Participant Year: 2019

Council: Colonial Virginia Council

Current Scouting Role: Committee Member, Merit Badge Counselor

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 1

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

Scouting means family. My dad was a Scout leader and sometimes I was allowed to go on campouts with him. My son started Scouting on my dad's birthday a few years after he passed away. As our whole family moved through Scouting, I realized that some of my best memories with my dad outside of Scouting were often Scout activities and there are a few merit badges I earned as a child I never received.

What has Wood Badge taught you about yourself?

I am strong, and I am smart. All the amazing skills I share with my Scouts apply at work. The teams I have created these past two years are amazing. Since I follow the Scout Law at work, when I ask my teams for more at the last minute, they know I respect them and find a way to get it done. We have a more fun than we used to at work just like you all are going to have during this Wood Badge course.

Gray Troop Guides

Name: Angelique Minett Hometown: Morris, IL Participant Year: 2018 Council: Rainbow Council

Current Scouting Role: Troop Committee Chair x2, District

Roundtable Commissioner, National Scouts BSA Program Committee

Roundtable Chair

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 1

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

This course is what you make of it. Go all in. Feel the big feels. Think the big thoughts. Dream the big dreams. Trust. Let it fire you up. And then watch the magic unfold ...



What do you feel is one of the best takeaways from your Wood Badge experience?

I think one of the best takeaways from Wood Badge, as both a participant and as a staffer, has been the friendships I've built. You start as strangers or acquaintances but leave as friends. However, not just any friends! I've built close, personal friendships in every course I've been a part of. There's a certain kind of magic to the program. It brings out the best, and sometimes the worst, in everyone, and we come out on the other side with a new understanding and an appreciation of one another. We part ways with common experiences and goals, and a mutual internal fire to go out and make the world a little better. That's the stuff of deep friendships.



Name: Winnie Lee

Hometown: San Diego, CA

Council: San Diego Imperial Council

Current Scouting Role: Troop Committee; Various District, Council,

and National Committees

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 1

What do you feel is one of the best takeaways from your Wood Badge experience?

Take the time to focus on yourself, even in business, and ask what makes you thrive? What do I need INTERNALLY to take care of myself? What do I need EXTERNALLY to take care of myself? Also, what does your team need? This is a great way to look inward and look around yourself.

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

Wood Badge is a gift to yourself to deeply enjoy Scouting, experience the origins of Baden-Powell's hope, to really understand the why in the Scouting movement.

Orange Troop Guides



Name: Bob Scott

Hometown: Colleyville, TX **Participant Year:** 2011 **Council:** Longhorn Council

Current Scouting Role: Vice Chair, Program Planning & Logistics,

2023 National Scout Jamboree

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 1

What do you feel is one of the best takeaways from your Wood Badge experience?

Understanding the importance of good communication and situational leadership (EDGE) in building team alignment and accountability.

What has Wood Badge taught you about yourself?

Trust my leadership instincts but don't assume everyone sees the world through my eyes.

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

Leadership is a service to others, an honor and an important responsibility. And one must be prepared to take that role as seriously as it is important.

Name: Scott Beckett

Hometown: Charlotte, SC **Participant Year:** 2018

Council: Northern Star Council

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 1

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

This was best captured by George Bernard Shaw:

"This is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one; the being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy. I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community, and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the



harder I work the more I live. I rejoice in life for its own sake. Life is no "brief candle" for me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for the moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations."

Orange Troop Guides

Name: Josh Kirby

Hometown: State College, PA **Participant Year:** 2004

Council: Juniata Valley Council

Current Scouting Role: Tiger Den Leader **Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 1

What do you feel is one of the best takeaways from your Wood Badge experience?

My patrol made a set of clear transparencies as patch placement guides to help new Scouts/families be less overwhelmed by our uniform design and patch standards. We all learned just how difficult we can make Scouting feel for others. Our transparencies needed to be customized for different shirt sizes and different sexes. Why do we punish ourselves with such complication? This exercise always stuck



with me because it helped me see all that would never make sense to a new volunteer/family in Scouting.

Has Wood Badge helped you in your personal life? If so, how?

I have grown with and known Scouting my entire life. Wood Badge helped me relate better with the new volunteers who look at our organization and its volunteers as if we are all munchkins from a far-away planet.



Name: John Vajanyi

Hometown: Malabar, FL

Participant Year: 1995/1998/2009/2020

Council: Central Florida Council

Current Scouting Role: Scoutmaster and Camping Chair

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 1

What do you feel is one of the best takeaways from your Wood Badge experience?

Energy, sense of purpose, and enthusiasm—which I like to refer to as "Scout Spirit"—is supercharged and the youth we serve are the benefactors. The Wood Badge experience also requires looking inside yourself and how to deal with others in a positive way. The individuals that it brings you in contact with is a source of tremendous personal growth and is a relationship builder.

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

Wood Badge and Scouting for me creates compelling events to grow our talents and resources that we did not know we had in us. This growth prepares us to better serve our Scouting youth and those that we encounter. I believe that you can get everything you want if you help enough others get what they want. Scouting when properly applied works everywhere and with everyone that does their best to follow the Scout Oath and Law.

Orange Troop Guides

Name: Jack O'Toole

Hometown: Cape Elizabeth, ME

Participant Year: 2010 Council: Pine Tree Council

Current Scouting Role: Council President **Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 2

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

To me Wood Badge is a perfect example of how Scouting is supposed to work. Wood Badge, like all good Scouting events, is a fun activity that results in personal growth. It allows participants to operate from a Scout's perspective and learn and grow.

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

My goal is to help participants have a positive experience that will both grow their leadership skills and increase their excitement about Scouting.

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

Go all in. I would encourage them to fully participate. The more that you put into Wood Badge the more you get out. You should use this as an immersive experience.



Name: Tommy Lee Hayes-Brown

Hometown: Charlotte, NC **Participant Year:** 2014

Council: Mecklenburg County Council

Current Scouting Role: Council Executive Board

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 3

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

There's not enough time to tell you what Scouting means to me. The 12 years I've spent in Scouting have been some of the best in my life. I feel, in a lot of ways, I grew up Scouting alongside my four sons, all are Eagle Scouts, as I had never camped a day in my life prior to joining Scouts. Wood Badge, in particular, honed my Scouting skills and cemented me firmly in the foundation of Scouting. My youngest son's Eagle Court of Honor in May was probably one of the best days of my life. Including my youngest son, six of my nine Tiger Cubs became Eagle Scouts. It is a little bittersweet as my Tiger Cubs are now all off to

college, but knowing I had a hand in making sure my Tigers became men of honor, purpose, and just plain good people puts an everlasting smile on my face.

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

My primary goal on staff is to make this Wood Badge journey as smooth, educational, and inspirational and of course, FUN as possible for all the participants! I also have my own agenda and that is to connect in a meaningful way with as many people as possible. That's the goal in almost everything I do.







Name: Christy Freriks

Hometown: Bothell, Washington

Participant Year: 2018

Council: Chief Seattle Council

Current Scouting Role: Assistant Scoutmaster

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 2

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

Being involved in Scouting means that I get a chance to connect with youth as they learn about life skills, citizenship, service, leadership, and community building. Watching them learn and grow and know that they will carry these skills into building their futures is an amazing experience.

What do you feel is one of the best takeaways from your Wood Badge experience?

Train them, trust them, let them lead. Not only is this something that I constantly remind myself when working with Scouts, but it is my #1 rule of parenting.

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

Don't overthink it. It's easy to get wrapped around the minutia and then miss both the big and little moments that make the full Wood Badge experience. Other than that, don't forget to drink water and sleep when you can!

Name: Amanda Huff Participant Year: 2014 Council: Yucca Council,

Current Scouting Role: Council Training Chair, Assistant Scoutmaster

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 4

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

To me, Wood Badge and Scouting means opportunity. Opportunity to learn. Opportunity to grow. Opportunity to connect with others that share your values. And an opportunity to be empowered to be a great leader and human being.

What has Wood Badge taught you about yourself?

Wood Badge has taught me that I am a leader, and capable of being a great leader.

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

Wood Badge really is personal development. Even if you are already a great leader, you should attend Wood Badge to share your knowledge, and show that great leaders are always willing to learn more. No matter what you think you know, or what level of leader you think you are, there is always room for growth.





Orange Troop Scribes

Name: Stephen Deatherage Hometown: Portland, Oregon Participant Year: 2020 (BSA-20-1) Council: Cascade Pacific Council

Current Scouting Role: Vigil Adviser/Wauna La-Mon'tay Lodge; Council Risk Management Committee/Cascade Pacific Council; various advisory

roles with Kaleen Deatherage 😂

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 1

What has Wood Badge taught you about yourself?

Not to have preconceived ideas about how an experience will be (good or bad).

What does Wood Badge mean to you?

Wood Badge is one of many experiences I've had over the past 10

years that illustrate how hard the organization works to develop adult leaders who can help prepare young people to do their best. It was time well spent!

What do you feel is one of the best takeaways from your Wood Badge experience?

BSA has many people of character who are willing to give their time and money to prepare others to deliver the best youth-serving program in the world. I was impressed by the dedication and care that was shown by the BSA-20-1 staff and participants.

Name: Dave Beachem

Hometown: West Jordan, UT **Participant Year:** 2020

Council: Crossroads of the West Council

Current Scouting Role: Committee Chair; Assistant Scoutmaster

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 1

Has Wood Badge helped you in your personal life? If so, how?

I took full advantage of many of the lessons that were taught and used two or three of them directly with my job. These lessons helped me listen better, communicate more effectively, and not only helped me set better goals but helped my peers set smart goals too. This ended up making our facility more efficient.



What do you feel is one of the best takeaways from your Wood Badge experience?

The lessons were phenomenal, but the thing that has aided me many times over has been the people that I met and became friends with. They helped me many times when I was facing something that I had no experience with. They have all become a tremendous resource for me to throw a line out into my pond of friends. And when I cast out that line, it's not uncommon to catch three fish one the same hook. I also don't think anyone has a better fishing story than that!

Gray Troop Quartermaster



Name: Elizabeth Stoner Hometown: Sumter, SC Participant Year: 2010 Council: Palmetto Council

Current Scouting Role: District Committee and Assistant Council

Commissioner

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 4

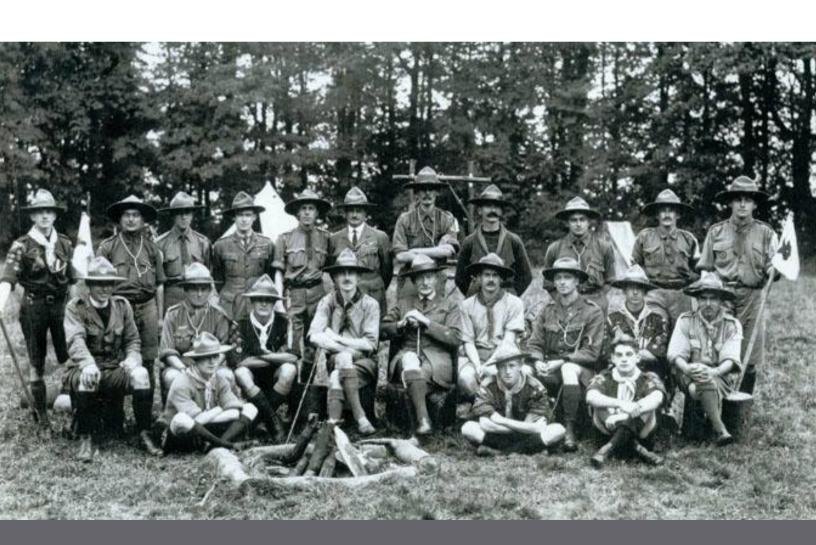
How would you describe Wood Badge to someone who has never been?

Value-based life/management skill training with like-minded friends.

What has Wood Badge taught you about yourself? I can contribute more than I thought I could.

What do you feel is one of the best takeaways from your Wood Badge experience?

True leadership takes many forms and there IS a leadership bone in everybody.



Orange Troop Quartermasters

Name: Tony Kassekert

Hometown: Silver Spring, MD Participant Year: 2001

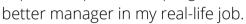
Council: National Capital Area Council

Current Scouting Role: Assistant Scoutmaster

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 1

Has Wood Badge helped you in your personal life? If so, how?

Wood Badge made me a better Scout leader, but the more impressive part of the program was how much it helped me be a







Name: Ben Brown

Hometown: Odenton, MD Participant Year: 1997

Council: Baltimore Area Council

Current Scouting Role: Assistant District Commissioner

Number of Years as a WB Staffer: 5

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

Wood Badge is an opportunity to understand and practice the values and methods of Scouting, to exchange ideas, skills, and capabilities among committed Scouters, and to have fun in a "mountaintop" experience."

What has Wood Badge taught you about yourself?

Wood Badge has taught me that it is possible to grow from and overcome failure and that I am the only one that needs to acknowledge the resulting success.

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

Renew my commitment to Scouting, learn about new ideas in Scouting, and build new Scouting relationships.

"If you make listening and observation your occupation you will gain much more than you can by talk."



Have questions? Contact the Scribes!!

Now that Wood Badge is nearly here, you probably have questions. Your Scribe team is happy to answer them; just send us an email at wb2022summit@gmail.com.



Follow us on Facebook and visit the official BSA-22-1 website!







Did you miss earlier editions of the Gilwell Gazette? Prior issues can be found on our website: https://bsa-22-1.com/.