

Gilwell Gazette

October 6, 2007 - Day 2

SR-866

Steep in Scouting Tradition

When Gilwell Park was purchased for the Scout Movement in 1919 and formal Leader Training introduced, Baden-Powell felt that 'Scout Officers' (as they were then called) who completed a training course, should receive some form of recognition.

Originally he envisaged that those who passed through Gilwell should wear an ornamental tassel on their Scout hats but instead the alternative of two small beads attached to lacing on the hat or to a coat button-hole was instituted and designated the Wood Badge. Very soon the wearing of beads on the hat was discontinued and instead they were strung on a leather thong or bootlace around the neck, a tradition that continues to this day.

The first Wood Badges were made from beads taken from a necklace that had belonged to a Zulu chief named Dinizulu, which B-P had found during his time in the Zululand in 1888. On state occasions, Dinizulu would wear a necklace 12 feet long, containing, approximately 1,000 beads made from South African

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Cubs Crossover to Troop 1

Yesterday, the Cubs of Pack 1 demonstrated a strong desire to be Boy Scouts as they crossed over the bridge to Troop 1. As members of the pack cubs were lead through the traditions and features of Cub Scouting. The Den Chiefs were there to provide guidance along the way.



Cub Scouting is an important part of the programs of the Boy Scouts of America and during the time that are Cubs, Wood Badge Participants gain in knowledge of the Scouting movement and the traditions that link Wood Badge courses.

Crossing the bridge both figuratively and literally, the new Boy Scouts were welcomed to Troop 1 by Scoutmaster Kim Barker and SPL (Senior Patrol Leader) Jeff Seely.

At lunch, the new Boy Scouts found out which Patrol they were in and "critters" were plentiful around the dining hall.

After lunch, the new scouts were inducted into the troop and received their Troop 1 neckerchief.



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"Footprints in the sands of time were not made sitting down."

Author Unknown

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Acacia yellow wood. This wood has a soft central pith, which makes it easy for a rawhide lace to be threaded through from end to end and this is how the 1,000 beads were arranged. The beads themselves in size from tiny emblems to others 4 inches in length. The necklace was considered sacred, being the badge conferred on royalty and outstanding warriors.

When B-P was looking for some token to award to people who went through the Gilwell training course he remembered the Dinizulu necklace and the leather thong given to him by an elderly African at Mafeking. He took two of the smaller beads, drilled them through the centre, threaded them onto the thong and called it the Wood Badge.

The first sets of beads issued were all from the original necklace but the supply soon ran short. So one exercise on the early courses was to be given one original Acacia bead and be told to carve the other from hornbeam or beech. Eventually beech wood beads became the norm and for many years were made by Gilwell staff in their spare time. Again in the early days Wood Badge

participants received one bead on taking the practical course at Gilwell and received a second bead on completing the theoretical part (answers to questions) and a certain length of inservice training.

The other important part of the Wood Badge, apart from the beads, is the leather thong itself. Baden-Powell was originally given one during the course of the Siege of Mafeking in 1899/1900 when things were not going too well. An elderly man met him and asked him about his unusually depressed appearance. Then the man took the leather thong that he had been wearing from around his neck and placed it in B-P's hand. 'Wear this,' he said. 'My mother gave it to me for luck. Now it will bring you luck.' So from these two souvenirs of his military career in Africa, the leather thong from an old man at Mafeking and from Dinizulu's necklace, B-P fashioned what is now known all over the world as the Wood Badge.

The conferring of wooden beads as a sign of recognition is an old Zulu tradition. We read of them first in the story of Charles Rawden Maclean who was shipwrecked off the Zululand coast in 1825. He was one of the first white people to meet the great Zulu king Shaka. In his description of the Festival of the First Fruits he wrote:

'They now commence ornamenting and decorating their persons with beads and brass ornaments. The most curious part of these decorations consisted of several rows of small pieces of wood ... strung together and made into necklaces and bracelets... On inquiry we found that the Zulu warriors set great value on these apparently

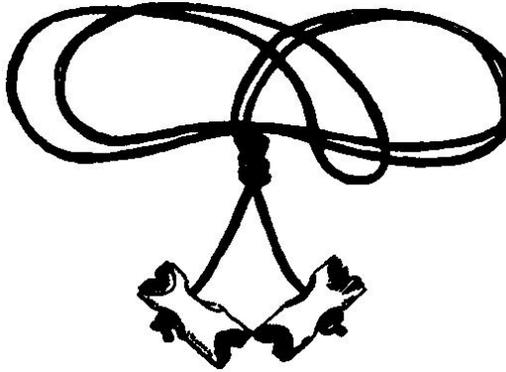
useless trifles, and that they were orders of merit conferred by Shaka.

Each row was the distinguishing mark of some heroic deed and the wearer had received them from Shaka's own hand.' Later when Maclean met the royal party he

observed that Dingane, Shaka's half brother, was 'dressed in the same manner as the king but without so large a display of beads.'

There is little doubt that the beads of Dinizulu were identical to those which Maclean saw Shaka wearing and it is quite extraordinary that B-P should have chosen these beads as an award, to be conferred by his own hand, without knowing that Shaka had used them in the same way.

Today thousands of Zulu boys are Scouts and in 1987 the Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi of KwaZulu (the founder of the Inkatha Freedom Party and later South Africa's Home Minister) was the guest of honour at a large Scout rally. Chief Buthelezi's mother, Princess Magogo, was a daughter of Dinizulu. At the rally the Chief Scout of South Africa took from his neck a thong on which four Wood Badge beads were strung and handed it to Chief Buthelezi in a symbolic act of returning the beads to their rightful heir.



From:

The Origins Of The Wood Badge, Archives Department, The Scout Association

Expose yourselves to the possibility of doing something remarkable.

C. Cunningham

Meet Your Staff



Karen Hook
Chaplain, Instructor

District Training Chair
Crew 350 - Crew Committee

She has served Pack 394 as Den Leader, Advancement Chairman, Webelos Den Leader, and Den Leader Coach. She has been a Committee member for Troops 394 and 325, and Merit Badge Councilor in Troops 394, 325 and 328. She has been the Long Term Camping Coordinator for Troop 325 and has been acting Scoutmaster for Summer Camp. Karen is an Owl of Woodbadge 495 and had the privilege of serving on staff of Woodbadge 626 as the Fox Patrol Troop Guide. Karen is active at the District and Council level as a BSA Trainer, YPT Trainer, Cub Scout Training Coordinator, District Training Chair, Webelo program Coordinator for Day Camp, and serving on PowWow Staff as Book coordinator, Program chair and Director. In addition she has also served on BAC Summer and Winter Camp staff for several years at Camp Karankawa. Karen has been honored with the District Award of Merit, Distinguished Scouter award, Scouter's Key and as member of the Order of the Arrow. She and her family have been honored as Cradle of Texas Family of the Year.



Dwayne Woodruff
Quartermaster

Cradle of Texas, Lake Jackson



Moe Kluksdahl
Assistant Quartermaster

Coastal District, Dickinson

Troop 696 - ASM

Moe is an electrical engineer, and has worked at the Johnson Space Center for NASA the past 18 years. An émigré from South Dakota (where he was born and grew up), he and his wife moved to Dickinson, TX, in 1989, where they currently live with their three children: a Star Scout; Benjamin, a Webelos 2, and a future Venturer we hope!. Like many Scouters, Moe got into Scouting when his oldest son volunteered him to be a Tiger Den Leader. Since then, he's been a Den Leader, a Webelos Den Leader, an Assistant Cubmaster and is currently Cubmaster of Pack 696. He also does double duty as Committee Chair of Troop 696. Moe has staffed at several Twilight Camps, Webelos Camps, and a Summer Camp at Camp K. He served 3 years as District Commissioner for Coastal District, and currently serves on the District Committee. He attended Wood Badge class SR626 in the Owl patrol, and was beaded in May of 2005.



Jimmy Geesing
Facilities

Coastal District, Santa Fe

Troop 628 - Scoutmaster



David Barker
**Facilities Assistant,
Instructor**

Coastal District, League City

Troop 609 - Scoutmaster

I was a Cub Scout as a youth, earning the Wolf, Bear, and Lion Badge. My family moved, when I was 11 years old, and I did not continue with Scouting in our new community.

I became involved in Scouting, again, when my oldest son, joined Pack 609 in League City, as a Tiger Scout. I was his Bear Leader, Webelos Leader, and was the Achievements Leader, for the Pack for five years. My youngest son, also joined Pack 609 as a Tiger Scout.

Both sons crossed over to Troop 609. I was an Assistant Scoutmaster for three years, and have been the Scoutmaster for the last three years.

I have led a Troop Northern Tier expedition, and have participated in three Philmont Council Contingencies -- leading the Contingency in 2004 and 2007. I have staffed Pow Wows, University of Scouting, Scouters Success Seminar, the BSA 2005 Jamboree in Virginia, am a member of the Coastal District's Training Team, and was an Assistant Scoutmaster for the Council's Youth Leadership Training at Camp K in 2005.

I attended college at Angelo State University and earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. I have worked for Amoco/BP for 28 years.

I am married to Kim Barker (20 year anniversary during the Wood Badge), and as noted above, have two sons, aged 18 and 16 -- both Eagle Scouts.

I have been awarded the District Award of Merit and was a member of the Owl Patrol from Wood Badge Course SR-795.

PATROL NEWS

Slap It Up!

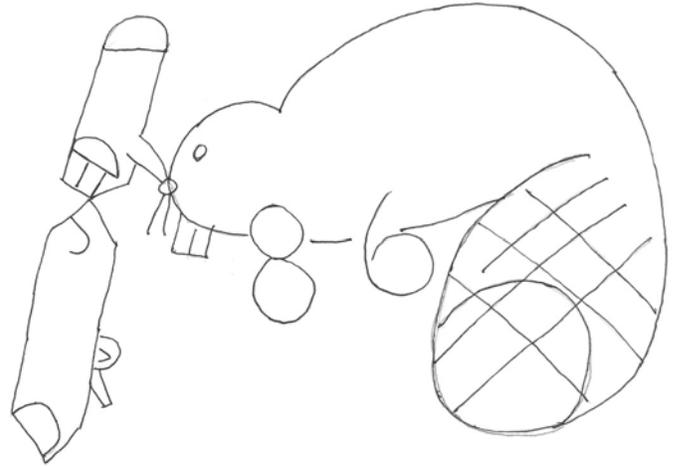
The Beaver Patrol of Troop 1 at Wood Badge Session SR-866 sends out a huge tail-slapping round of applause to our session leaders for their great work in getting this program off to an excellent start.

We are also eager (as Beavers always are) to introduce ourselves to you. We are:

Rob, an attorney and Wolf Den Leader from Pack 615
Juli, a Music Teacher and Scoutmaster from Troop 525
David, a Consultant and Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 609
Erik, an Engineer and Charter Organization Representative from Pack 503
Dave, a Professor and Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 464
and our Troop Guide Tom, a Regional Manager.

We look forward to meeting all of you, and invite you to drop by our campsite and gnaw on a tasty tree branch or two with us.

P.S. Please check out our nifty Patrol Totem as well.



You can eat us, but
you can't beat us!
Bobwhites! Things we
learned today—
bobwhites are hard to

draw! We are a diverse group covering all 4 districts in the council. We have designed our totem and flag and have a great idea working for our project.

Bobwhite Scribe



No News From The Eagles.

PATROL NEWS



The five fine foxes had a feverishly fantastic first day. The first fabulous facts the five fine foxes learned about was communication skills, and practice training skills. Followed with a famous Italian lunch served by our fantastic staff. Later the five fine foxes team together to create a funny fast Chant and brainstorm to create the finest flag forever seen. The five fine foxes teamed together to elect the five positions which are:

- PL—Sherry Woodruff
- APL—Jim Gerry
- Scribe—Ann Geissen
- Chaplain Aide—David Gautreaux

All of the other patrols have done a fantastic job keeping their areas clean and orderly. That has made our job easy. Thanks to everyone for following one of our important Scout laws. A Scout is CLEAN,

Bear Patrol Scribe



The awesome owls are forming our own parliament; which includes some good old Texas rivalry between the Aggies and the Longhorns. All are getting along well. Woggle making provided good times for bonding and we are proud to announce everyone has completed this task. Work on the flag and totem is progressing smoothly. Keep a keen eye out at night for your OWLS.



Owl Patrol Scribe

Scoutmaster Minute

Fishing is something that Baden-Powell knew a lot about. While I don't know if he ever caught a fish, I do know that he realized a fisherman needs to use the right bait. In his discussions, he talked about having the right bait to attract and retain boys in the Scouting program. I wonder how he would approach the development of an exhibit?



DAY 1 HIGHLIGHTS

BEAVERS SET THE PACE FOR DAY 1 AT GILWELL FIELD

The Beaver Patrol was “spot on” today and due to their attention to details received several items for the flag.

The first Patrol to correctly answer the Totem Survey they also were the first to answer the trivia question and the first totem approved and turned in.

The Bobwhites were the first patrol to turn in an article for the Gilwell Gazette and will be recognized on day 2.

Foxes, foxes, foxes had their creative juices flowing in their posting to the Gilwell Gazette—can you say **27** words beginning with the letter F! WHOA that’s a lot of F’s! Good article and way to go foxes!

Was it hot today? - You betcha it was! Several folks were heard remarking that “hey is this summer camp?” and who needs a shower—we’re soaked already!

CAN you define SMART?

Danny Carson spoke to the Troop on what it takes to “make your tickets” an achievable goal. In the process he shared with the Troop some “seeds” for the future when he shared tulips bulbs.



While playing the “Who me” game the patrols came to better understand each other and continued their team building.

The Wood Badge Players showed us the importance of the 4 S’s of Campfires; showmanship, songs, stunts and stories. Planning a camp fire involves more than lighting the wood on fire and stressed the importance of building memories for the boys.

The campfire was such a success that the Ghost of Baden-Powell joined us and spoke to participants about scouting and that his goal is not done yet. He encouraged us to continue to strive in our efforts with the young men and scouting.

Those who attended the Cracker Barrel had a good time and some really good eats thanks to Dewayne and Moe.

WHO will set the pace for Day 2 at Gilwell Field.

The Beaver

The forest creatures pause in awe as the mighty Beaver passes.
They stare from rock and fallen log, from tree top and from grasses.
The bear, the fox, and buffalo, and all their feathered neighbors,
Bend a knee and bow a head,
And somewhere grateful prayers are said,
For every creature hoped to see the Beaver as it passes.
The Beaver's strength is legend, it's noble, wise and good,
And word goes out to every corner of that primal wood.
The coming of the Beaver means an end to hardships here.
The mountain stream will halt its course;
Provide a bounteous water source;
For one thing every creature knows is Beavers dam good!



I know you had other plans, but could you get me a lemonade?

Yesterdays Trivia Answer:
Seal of New York City. Note the two beavers.



TRIVIA

How far is the seasonal movement of Bobwhites?

How many eggs does a bobwhite lay?
Per Day and Total?

Submit your guess to the Troop 1 Scribe.



TODAY'S SCHEDULE

WHAT	WHERE
Breakfast	Dining Hall
Troop Assembly	Gilwell Field
Troop Meeting	Dining Hall
Troop Presentation—Inclusiveness	Leaders Lodge
Troop Presentation—Stages of Team Development	Leaders Lodge
Break	
Lunch	Dining Hall
Patrol Leaders Council (PLC)	TBA
Chaplain Aides meet with Chaplain.	Handicraft
Patrol Presentation	Patrol Sites
Break	
Troop Presentation—Project Planning	Leaders Lodge
Break	
Inter-Patrol Activity—Rockets	Dining Hall
Break	
Patrol Meeting—Planning for October Experience	Patrol Sites
Dinner	Dining Hall
Troop Activity—Wood Badge Game Show	DH
Break	
Troop Activity—Win All You Can	DH
Break	
Cracker Barrel	DH

