



# Gilwell Gazette



Saturday... Day 2

## Troop 1 Adds 49 New Members!

Forty nine Cub Scouts from Pack 1 bridged into Troop 1 at Gilwell Field on Friday morning. The eager new Scouts quickly

formed into patrols with experienced Troop Guides assigned to help them along the Scouting trail.

The new patrols are (in Gilwell order) Beaver, Bobwhite, Eagle, Fox, Owl, Bear, Buffalo, and Antelope.

At Troop 1's first Troop Meeting, patrol leaders were elected and inducted. They later attended their first PLC with the SPL.

The Beaver Patrol has accepted the responsibility as the Program Patrol, and the Owl Patrol took on the role of Service Patrol.

Senior Patrol Leader Viola Hollaway reports that she was very impressed with the enthusiasm and Scout spirit of all the patrols. However, she has had some difficulty getting all the Patrol leaders to synchronize their watches.



### Inside This Issue:

Meet Your SR-637 Staff 2

Staff Continues! 3-5

A Plaid Neckerchief 8

Critter Tails 6-7



### Listening To Learn

I know you think you understand what you think I said. But I am not sure you realize that what you heard

### Saturday - Weekend #1 - Day 2

7:00	AM	Troop Assembly	Gilwell Field
7:30	AM	Breakfast	Dining Hall
8:30	AM	Troop Meeting #2	Green
10:30	AM	Troop Presentation	Meeting Room
11:10	AM	Troop Presentation	Meeting Room
12:10	PM	Lunch	Dining Hall
12:40	PM	Switch to Activity Uniform	
1:00	PM	Patrol Leader's Council	Meeting Room
1:00	PM	Patrol Chaplain Aide's Meeting	Dining Hall
1:50	PM	Patrol Presentation	Patrol Table
2:50	PM	Troop Presentation	Meeting Room
3:40	PM	Troop Activity	
5:00	PM	Patrol Activity	
5:20	PM	Flags Down	Gilwell Field
6:00	PM	Dinner	Dining Hall
6:45	PM	Patrol Meeting	Dining Hall
7:30	PM	Troop Activity	Meeting Room
8:30	PM	Troop Activity	Meeting Room
9:30	PM	Troop Cracker Barrel	Dining Hall
10:00	PM	Patrol Self Assessment	Dining Hall

### Mission Statements

It is the mission of the Sam Houston Area Council to *lead youth to lifelong values, service and achievement.*

It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to *prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.*

## The Staff of Wood Badge Course SR-637...



**Ed Simmons, Assistant Scoutmaster for Program.** Ed is a member of the Mustang District and has been active in Scouting for 20 years. He has served for 7 ½ years as Scoutmaster for Troop 567 in Katy. Ed and his wife, Glynn have a daughter in college at Texas Tech and an Eagle Scout son in college at Texas A&M. Ed has served on previous Wood Badge courses SR-356, SR-467, SR-472 and SR-477. He has also served on several Junior Leader Training Conferences. Ed has previously been a 2001 Jamboree Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop Chaplain, District Roundtable staff member and numerous training positions. He is an Eagle Scout, has received the Silver Beaver Award, District Award of Merit and the Cross & Flame Award. Ed is a Minister in the United Methodist Church serving at Memorial Drive United Methodist Church.



**Viola Halloway, Senior Patrol.** Viola has been a member of the W L Davis District for the past ten years. She currently is Assistant District Commissioner and OA Advisor for W L Davis District and Assistant Scout Master for Troop 434. She previously held the offices of District Commissioner, Health and Safety Officer, Cub Round Table Staff and Den Leader for Pack 3434. She is the proud parent of one child, Samuel who recently completed his board of review for the Eagle Scout Award. She is a member of Wood Bage SR 301 "Thundering Heard of Buffalos". Some of the awards she has received are the Silver Beaver Award, Distinguished Commissioner and District Award of Merit.



**Kathy Wallace, Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop Guides.** Kathy is a member of Polaris District and has been active in Scouting for 15 years. Kathy currently serves as District Commissioner, Advisor for Crew 469, COR for Pack 469 and Committee member of Troop 469. Kathy and her husband Tim have 3 sons, 2 Eagle Scouts and a Star Scout. Before his death in January her oldest son, Greg, attended and played basketball for West Point and Stephen F. Austin. Ryan, her second son, attends and plays basketball for West Point in New York. Reid, her youngest son, is very active in the 8th grade. Kathy has completed a 10-day trek at Philmont with her older sons and is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow. She has served as both Pack and Troop Committee Chairman, Den and WEBELOS Leaders, Assistant Cubmaster, Assistant District Commissioner and numerous staff positions for District events. She has received the District Award of Merit, the Silver Beaver Award and the Distinguished Commissioner Award.



**Bob Christopher, Historian.** Bob is an Eagle Scout and a member of the George Strake District. He has been in Scouting for eighteen years. Bob is a Silver Beaver, Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow, recipient of the OA Founder's Award, a Colonne Lodge Numbered Certificate, the District Award of Merit, George Strake Leroy Golson Scouter of the Year Award and the Honor Medal with Crossed Palms for lifesaving. Bob served as the Scoutmaster of Wood Badge Course SR-467. Bob has been married to his wife Vicki for twenty-seven years. He lives in Conroe where he has been a dentist for over twenty-four years. As a youth, Bob attended the 1969 Jamboree. When not Scouting, Bob is an avid Scuba diver and wood worker.



**Jay Walker, Scribe.** Jay has been an active Scouter for over 20 years in the George Strake District. He is presently Advisor for Crew-911. Jay has received the Silver Beaver, District Award of Merit, and the George Strake District Leroy Golson Award. He is an OA Vigil Honor Member. Jay is the co-founder and CEO of The NBO Scout Training Team. This not for profit Texas Corporation sponsors the Deer Lake Canoe Clinic and provides American Red Cross First Aid/CPR and aquatic training programs to over 1,500 Scouts and Scouters annually. Youth instructors from Crew-911 support the largest ARC Basic Aid Training program for WEBELOS in the country, a program that was started in the SHAC by Jay's Eagle Scout and Vigil Honor Member son James. Jay has been married to his wife Trina for 29 years.



**Brian Foster, Assistant Scoutmaster for Facilities.** Brian has been in Scouting for 39 years and is a member of the Mustang District. He is currently serving as District Commissioner for Mustang and Troop Committee Chair for Troop 424 in Katy. He has served as District Training Chair, Camp Director for WEBELOS Woods, and the Scoutmaster Specific Training Team. At the unit level he has served as Assistant Scoutmaster, Crew Advisor for the High Adventure trip to Charles L. Sommers Northern Tier Canoe Base, WEBELOS Den Leader, and Den Leader. He is an Owl from SR-356, an Eagle Scout, Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow and recipient of the District Award of Merit. Brian and his wife of 25 years Terri live in Katy. They have two children - Jennifer is a senior at University of Houston with plans to go to Law School, Steven is an Eagle Scout, a Junior at Katy High School with his sights set on Texas A&M.



**Gary Greer, Assistant Scoutmaster for Housing.** Gary and his wife, Melissa, have a daughter, Chloe (14), and a son, Stirling (11), a Tenderfoot in Troop 1659. Gary serves on the Troop Committee as Chaplain for Troop 1659 in Spring, and was previously Cubmaster at Pack 1323 in Spring. He presently serves Polaris District as a Unit Commissioner and is on the Membership team as the Webelos Transition Chairman. Gary has served the past two years as Polaris District's Family Friends of Scouting Chairman and has received the District Award of Merit. Gary has served on two previous Wood Badge Courses, SR-472 and SR-577, and is in the Eagle Patrol of SHAC's inaugural 21st Century Wood Badge course, SR-446.



**Drew DeFoor, Assistant Scoutmaster for Camping.** Drew is a member of the Mustang District and has been active in Scouting for 14 years. He currently serves as Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 567, Assistant District Commissioner, and as the chairman for the Mustang District Merit Badge Fair. He has also served as Troop Committee Member, Outdoor Activities Chairman, and Summer Camp Coordinator. Drew is a member of the Order of the Arrow and a Buffalo from SR-467. Drew has received the Red Cross Certificate of Merit, which is the highest honor given by the Red Cross for lifesaving. Drew lives in Katy with his wife Carol, son Andy, 15, a Star Scout, and his three daughters, April, 17, Amanda, 14, and Katherine, 16 months.



**John Richard, Quartermaster.** John is a member of the George Strake District and has been active in Scouting for over 20 years. John currently serves as Council Training Equipment Quartermaster and an Advisor for Crew 240. John and Moira's son, Joe, is an Eagle Scout, a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow and quite a musician. John has served as Roundtable Commissioner, Cub & Boy Scout Leader, National Jamboree Staff-Merit Badge Midway, Trainer for University of Scouting, Cub Scout Leader and Boy Scout Leader Trainings. John is an Eagle Scout, Silver Beaver Recipient and Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow.



**Jim Woods, Assistant Quartermaster.** Jim is a member of the Mustang District and has been active in Scouting for 6 years. He has served as Committee Chair and Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 567 in Katy for the past 5 years. Jim and his wife Ruth have a son, James, a Life Scout in Troop 567 and a daughter, Joanna, a Junior in Girl Scout Troop 5580. Jim has served as Unit Commissioner, a Friends of Scouting presenter, and a presenter for the Troop Committee Challenge. He is a Fox from Wood Badge Course SR-356.



**Ray Alverson, Troop Guide.** Ray is a member of the Tatanka and Brazos Districts. He has been a Scouter for 21 years. He has served as a Venture Crew Advisor, Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Chairman, Cubmaster, Den Leader, Pack Committee Member. In the Tatanka District, he has served as the District Commissioner, Assistant District Commissioner, Unit Commissioner, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner, and on the Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Venturing Training Teams and on the District Committee. In the Brazos District, Ray has served as a Unit Commissioner. For the Order of the Arrow, he has served as Associate Lodge Advisor, Interim Chapter Advisor, and Associate Chapter Advisor. He is a Vigil Honor Member of Colonneh Lodge. He has received the Tatanka District Mullet Award, the District Award of Merit and the Silver Beaver. Ray and Bonnie have been married for thirty years. Ray and Bonnie chaired the Cub Scout Leader Pow Wow. Their son, Shawn, is a Vigil Honor Member of the Order of the Arrow and an Eagle Scout. Shawn is a Senior at the University of Texas, majoring in Physics.



**Ginny Boucher, Troop Guide.** Ginny has been a volunteer with the Boy Scouts of America for the last 10 years. She has served in each Cub Scout leader position, and has earned the training knot for each. Most recently, she has assumed the duties of District Commissioner for Raven District. She was Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner for 2½ year prior to becoming District Commissioner. She has received the District Award of Merit, and the Silver Beaver from Sam Houston Area Council. She is a member of the Wood Badge class SR-356 and the "Singing Foxes" patrol, having received her beads in July, 2002. Ginny, her husband Allen (Scoutmaster, Troop 707), and son Jeff (Life Scout), have been living in Baytown for the last 5 years.



**Tina Cullum, Troop Guide.** Tina is a member of the Polaris District has been in scouting for 8 years, serving as a Den Leader for Tigers through WEBELOS in Pack 1565, then moving to Boy Scouts and now a Venture Crew. She has served on many District teams. She is a Friends of Scouting presenter, is on the School Night for scouting training team, and has been the chairman for BALOO training. Tina is currently holding the Unit Publicity position for Polaris District. She helped in presenting the Junior Achievement Success Skills Program to Crew 1565, Polaris District and Crew 655, Rising Star District. Tina received the Spark Plug award from the District for her unit in 2004. She has 1 child, a 14 year old son, Dustin, who will soon be an Eagle Scout. Her husband Don is also involved in Troop, Crew, and District activities as well. Tina and Don took Wood Badge training together and celebrated their 17th wedding anniversary on the course. She is a proud Beaver of SR472.



**Mark Mabile, Troop Guide.** Mark is a member of the George Strake District and has been active in scouting for 14 years. Mark currently serves as Vice Chairman of Program and as a Unit Commissioner. Mark and his wife have three daughters and one son, Gregory who is an Eagle Scout. His oldest daughter is married and teaching grammar school. His other three children are enrolled at Louisiana State University. Mark has served as Outdoor Coordinator, High Adventure Coordinator, Scoutmaster for a Boy Scout troop in Malaysia, Roundtable Commissioner, and Scoutmaster for Troop 204 in The Woodlands. Mark has received four "50 miler" patches and his trips include: Boundary Waters (2), 100 Mile Wilderness in Maine, Ozark Highlands Trail, Buffalo River Trail, and the Canadian Rockies (2). He has received the Scoutmaster of the Year Award, George Strake District Pine Tree Award and the District Award of Merit.



**Gary McFarland, Troop Guide.** Gary is a member of the Tomahawk District. He has been active in scouting for over 16 years and serves as the Tomahawk District Vice-Chair of Program, OA Adult Elections Advisor and Assistant Scoutmaster for T-103 in Sugar Land. He has served as Scoutmaster, Unit Committee Chair, Advancement Chair, Camping Chair, District Activities Chairman, Camporee Chairman, Training Staff, POWWOW Staff and University of Scouting Staff. Gary received the Cub Scouter Award, Den Leader Award, WEBELOS Den Leader Award, Boy Scout Trainer Award, District Award of Merit and Tomahawk District "Tomahawk" Award. He has participated in numerous High Adventure events including three Philmont Treks. He and his wife Cathy have 3 sons and 1 daughter. Stephen is an Eagle Scout and is part owner of his own business. Bobby is an Eagle Scout and is starting his 3rd year at Texas A&M. Bradley is a High School freshman and well on his way to becoming an Eagle Scout. Katie is anxiously waiting to become old enough for Venturing. Gary is the Director of Information Systems for the City of Sugar Land, having served in local government for over 26 years.



**Karen O'Toole, Troop Guide.** Karen is a member of the George Strake District. She became active in Scouting 10 years ago when her oldest son joined Cub Scouts in Colorado where she served as a Den Leader, WEBELOS Leader, and Pack Advancement Chairman. Upon moving to Texas Karen became active in Boy Scouting and Venturing and served as Troop Advancement Chairman for Troop 204 and Crew Committee Chairman for Crew 204. Karen also serves the George Strake District as a member of the Advancement Team, Training Team, Camporee Committee, and as a Unit Commissioner. Karen and her husband, Fred (also an active Scouter) are the parents of two Eagle Scouts, Daniel and Andrew.



**Larry Stehling, Troop Guide.** Larry has been a scouter for 16 years in the Mustang District. He has served as a Den Leader, WEBELOS Leader, Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Member, District Committee Member, Boy Scout Leader Training Chairman and Order of the Arrow Chapter Advisor. Larry currently serves as a District Vice Chairman and is a Colonneh Lodge Associate Adviser. Larry has received the Cub Leader Training Award, Cub Leader Award, Scouter Training Award, Scoutmaster's Key, District Committee Award, District Award of Merit and Silver Beaver. Larry is an OA Vigil Honor member and has received a Colonneh Lodge numbered certificate. Larry has served on staff at the National Boy Scout Jamboree 2001 and the National Order of the Arrow Conference 2002. Larry has been married 28 years to Joan and they have two children, Kelly in her last year at Stephen F. Austin and Kyle, an Eagle Scout, OA Vigil Honor Member attends the University of Houston.



**Luis (Louie) Valazquez, Troop Guide.** Louie is a member of Golden Arrow District and has been involved in Scouting since 1998 with Pack 80 and Troop 80 at Saint Francis de Sales Church in Sharpstown. He has served as Assistant Committee Chair, Den Leader and Cubmaster and is currently Assistant Scoutmaster, Patrol and Librarian Advisor. Louie has been married to his wife Mary for 20 years and has 4 children. His son Gabe is a First Class Scout and Troop Historian, his younger daughters Angela and Rosie are both Girl Scouts. His older daughter Theresa works full time. Louie enjoys music, art and writing. He is a Telecommunications Supervisor for a Houston based energy company.



**BEAVER PATROL.** "Beavers! Beavers! Chop – Chop – Chop! Tiiimmber!" The cheer of the mighty Beavers can be heard for miles. The Beaver Patrol is setting the standard at SR-637: As the first Program Patrol, we nailed the Friday evening flag ceremony, used teamwork to submit the winning entry in the Whatizit? Contest, are the only patrol with a patrol Dance, and have the coolest patrol yells. Under the outstanding leadership of our Troop Guide, Luis Valezquez, the Beaver Patrol also created a fantastic Totem.

The Beaver Patrol is: Maggie – Patrol Leader, Pauline – Asst. Patrol Leader, Steve – Chaplain, Tom – Scribe, Leonard and Mark.

Eager Beavers – We can chew through anything!



**BOB WHITE PATROL.** Go Mighty Bob White. We are off to a flying start. The Mighty Bobs won 2nd place during the patrol games and 1st place for integrity. On the first day we selected James Mulkey as PLC and Layne Scholl as APLC. Tammi Culp is the Chaplain Aide and Marion Edwards is the Scribe. The Mighty Bob White patrol wants to send out a flying high to our Troop Guide Mark Mabile. Thanks Mark



**EAGLE PATROL.** The SR 637 Eagle Patrol successfully made it through DAY ONE of SR637, under the skill and experience of veteran Troop Guide Tina Cullan.

The day quickly proved to be very productive as Joan Corney stepped up and began to soar in the position of EAGLE patrol leader, with Michael McKenna as Assistant Patrol leader. Working as a team the EAGLE's quickly came up with a great totem design and then managed to get it approved with the hard work and skill from Cindy McNamara. Lou Perez worked hard to compose the 637 eagle patrol yell. Then the Eagles completed the What-Z-it box before lunch and continued to soar after lunch, the Eagle patrol quickly selected Jeff Greer as Scribe, with Gerry Francis as Chaplain Aide and Flag Bearer. Then the sun began to set at the Camp Strake, another great day of



**FOX PATROL.** The fabulous, feisty, funky Foxes are fascinated by the festive frivolity frequently forthcoming from our fellows. Nevertheless, we are thrilled at the serious stuff we have learned today and thank all of the staff for their outstanding efforts. Our team is coming together as we finish our totem and never the completion of our project definition. Go Foxes! The fickle finger of fate award looms large on the horizon.

**OWL PATROL.** The Great Owl patrol flew into Gilwell field this morning for a bit of Wood Badge challenge and caused quite a stir. The mere presence of the owls caused the bears to run in fear and the bob whites to dive for cover. The antelopes being the mentally challenged of the local animals were obviously confused and wet themselves. The Scoutmaster was quoted saying, "I've not seen anything this chaotic since the Houston Oilers blew a 34 point lead to Buffalo in the playoffs!". The owls look to dominate at Wood Badge this year and are the local favorites. Gene Simmons from the rock group Kiss was heard shouting "The owls rock!".



**BEAR PATROL.** Let us tell you the real story about Goldilocks and the Six Bears. She wasn't interested in porridge, beds or chairs (although her eyebrows raised for the chocolate). Was only interested in those "Tickets"...



OK, now about Da'Bears. Six unknown adults before today we quickly came together as a team. What will happen in the days to come we can bairly wait. We learned about how to be a better listener and how to write our "Tickets". It was a full day with more hard work ahead...

#### BUFFALO PATROL

Buffalo Thunder  
Don't be slow or blunder  
We'll run you under  
You'll be left to wonder  
Hear the Buffalo Thunder



**ANTELOPE PATROL** The roaming antelopes of SR-637 would like to extend a hoof-pounding tank you to all the staffers at Wood Badge. We would like to also let the Quartermaster and Assistant Quartermaster know that lunch was excellent and much better than the cuds we normally chew.



# A Plaid Neckerchief



When you were inducted into Troop 1 you were issued a plaid neckerchief embroidered with a number one and an axe and log. Each component of your neckerchief has a significance.

When Wood Badge started in 1919, Mr. W. F. MacLaren, a district commissioner in Scotland, purchased Gilwell Park near London, England, and presented it to the Scouting Association as a training center. The tartan (plaid) of your neckerchief is a replica of the MacLaren clan's hunting tartan.

The number 1 embroidered on your neckerchief signifies that at Wood Badge we are all members of Boy Scouts of America Pack or Troop 1.

The axe and log embroidered on your neckerchief is the symbol of Gilwell Park.

The neckerchief symbolizes service to all that see it worn: service to the unit, the district, and the council. Whenever Scouters gather, at camporees, summer camp, pack activities—look around—you

will see a Troop 1 neckerchief at work.

To a participant, the Troop 1 neckerchief is a reminder of joining together as a team, bridging to become a Scout, coming together as a patrol and as a team; learning skills, working together, and growing in Scout spirit.

To a staff member, the Troop 1 neckerchief is a reminder that we are *all* members of the same unit and together with the participants work to create an atmosphere of teamwork and fun.

At the end of the Wood Badge course, the plaid Troop 1 neckerchief may continue to be worn with pride at any time Wood Badge Scouters answer the call for service.

## SR-637 Day 1 Began Early!



## Campfire's Fluke Visions...

**Dennis The Menace**



"IF YOU WERE AN EAGLE SCOUT WHEN YOU WERE A KID, DOES THAT MEAN YOU'RE A BALD EAGLE NOW?"

