



GILWELL GAZETTE

Knox Trail, Mohegan and Nashua Valley Councils, Massachusetts

Sunday, September 18, 2011

Day 2
Issue 4

Living the Values ❖ Bringing the Vision to Life ❖ Models for Success ❖ Tools of the Trade ❖ Leading to Make a Difference

WEATHER



Sunday: 65°F | 41°F

Mostly sunny skies. High around 65F. Winds NE at 5 to 10 mph.



Monday: 65°F | 46°F

Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 60's.

DAY 2 SCHEDULE

- 7:00 A.M. Breakfast and Assessments
- 8:00 Gilwell Field Assembly
- 8:30 Troop Meeting
- 10:15 Break
- 10:30 Troop Presentation: Inclusiveness
- 11 :00 Troop Presentation: Stages of Team Development
- 11 :50 Break
- Noon- Lunch
- 1:00 Patrol Leaders' Council Meeting
- 1:30 Patrol Presentation: Communication
- 2:20 Break
- 2:30 Troop Presentation: Project Planning
- 3:20 Break
- 3:30 Rocket Competition
- 4:50 Break
- 5:00 Patrol Meeting
Program Patrol Retires the Flags
- 6:00 Dinner
- 7:00 Wood Badge Game Show
- 7:50 Break
- 8:00 Troop Activity: Win All You Can Game (The Game of Life)
- 8:50 Cracker Barrel
- 10:00 Lights Out

PROGRAM PATROL :

Fox

SERVICE PATROL :

Eagle

A Game with a Purpose

When we think about Scouting, the first thoughts that come to mind are probably of camping and Eagle Scouts, popcorn and pinewood derbies, Philmont and Sea Base. As fun as they may be, it is important to remember that these activities are the *methods* we use to achieve a higher purpose. They are the game we play during our quest to help young people fully realize their potential by develop in them good character, strong citizenship, and personal fitness.

It is particularly important to remember this higher purpose, the *aims* of Scouting, when the program is not running as smoothly as we would like. When dishes are not cleaned, activities do not go according to plan, or opportunities for advancement are missed. As adults, it is tempting to try to resolve these issues as quickly and as efficiently as possible. However, as our youth get older, it becomes increasingly important to stop and ask ourselves, "How would having the opportunity to face this challenge allow our youth to developing citizenship, character, and fitness?"

When we correctly use the *methods* of Scouting then—whether the individual games along the way are won or lost—we will succeed in preparing our youth for bright and happy futures.

All Visions: Great and Small

During yesterday's presentation on *Values, Mission, and Vision*, four examples of individuals with extensive, world-changing visions were shared. However, a vision doesn't need to be large or expansive to be significant and impactful. Each one of the example visions we reviewed were developed by people just like you. No one starts out with the ability or capacity to change the world – although we can all have the desire to try. Each of these people started somewhere – when they were young and their visions were smaller. One of the most interesting items displayed at the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston is a letter from a young JFK to his mother and father, imploring them to allow him to attend Boy Scout summer camp and detailing all the different ways he would benefit from it. Young JFK had a clear vision of something he wanted to accomplish; and had thought through the steps necessary to bring his vision to life. We can be sure that that experience – and many others like it – prepared JFK to develop increasingly expansive visions, and achieve them, throughout his lifetime, culminating in his Presidency and America's achievements in space exploration.

Visions don't need to be big to be significant – but they must be genuine. As you continue to develop your own personal picture of Scouting success, open yourself to the thoughts, experiences, and examples that will help you develop a truly impactful plan to put your Wood Badge skills to work in making Scouting better for the youth you serve.

The Power of Listening

One of the most important parts of communication and leadership in general is listening. Through listening, we develop familiarity with other people that can lead to trust and lifelong relationships. In order for listening to be effective, it must be both active and empathetic: we must seek to understand not only what a person is saying, but why they are saying it. This is not easy and takes practice to master. However, when it is done correctly, listening can have a profound impact on those you lead.

Listening can be a particularly effective tool when working with youth. Among school and parents and sports, youth spend a majority of their time being told what to do. Imagine how it must feel, at the end of a long day, to go to a Scouting meeting and have an adult genuinely interested in hearing what you have to say; asking, "What would you like to do tonight?" The relationship between youth and adult is an important method within each of the Scouting programs: family involvement in Cub Scouting, adult mentoring in Boy Scouting, and peer-to-peer association in Venturing. Effective listening strengthens and builds that youth/adult relationship allowing us to successfully achieve the aims of Scouting: development of citizenship, character, and fitness

Listening is also an essential part of the feedback process. Often times, it is not pleasant to hear that we are not perfect and it is easy to become defensive and to make excuses for our mistakes. However, it is only when we can objectively evaluate both our strengths and weaknesses that we can improve. Making the effort to listen to feedback, both actively and empathetically, can provide us with the information we need to become better leaders.



GILWELL: WHERE THE BUFFALO ARE AT HOME!

