



## Are You Ready??

### Before you arrive:

- **Basic Training:** Complete basic training for your registered position.
- **Participant Photos:** Please submit a few action shots of yourself to the Scribe team ASAP ([wb2025summit@gmail.com](mailto:wb2025summit@gmail.com)).
- **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 last day of the course.
- **Technology:** Bring a WiFi-enabled laptop, tablet, or other means of interacting with some of the course materials electronically.
- **Uniform:** You will be expected to have a complete uniform. Day 0 - complete uniform. On Day One (Monday), you may wear an activity uniform (i.e., casual activity shirt from your home unit or position). For Sunday dinner and Days Two through Five, plan to wear your complete field uniform. (This information is subject to change!)
- **Pre-course Assignment:** Complete and bring the [Pre-course Assignment](#).
- **Pre-course Modules:** More info [HERE](#)
- **Participant Notebook:** These materials will be made available on the course website (included in registration) to access and download during and after the course. *If you would like a hard copy of the Participant Notebook, we can provide you with one for \$15 cash, payable at check-in or via [THIS LINK](#). We will print only as many as are requested, so please fill out [THIS FORM](#) no later than January 10 if you would like to order one.*

### Don't forget to bring:

- **Packing List:** Review the [Personal Equipment List](#) on the website. Sheets, a blanket, a pillow, and a towel will be provided.

### On Sunday, January 19 (Day 0)

- **Start Time:** Registration starts at 2pm and our first event is at 5pm!
- **Uniform:** Wear your Scout field uniform
- **Enthusiasm:** Your smile and willingness to learn.

## WOOD BADGE



 SBR-25-1

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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: Sheila Graham

**Hometown:** Cheney, WA

**Participant Year:** 2019

**Critter:** Bobwhite

**Council:** Blue Mountain

**Pack#/Troop#:** Pack #150/Troop #150

**Current Scouting Role:** Troop Committee Chair/District Executive/MB Counselor

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 1 (TG)

**What do you feel is one of the best take-aways from your Wood Badge experience?** Being surrounded by enthusiastic Scouters and the sense of community.

**How has Wood Badge helped you in your personal life?** Leadership skills have been used daily in every aspect of life.



### Name: Marilyn Yasko

**Hometown:** Windsor, NJ

**Participant Year:** 2022

**Critter:** Owl

**Council:** Washington Crossing

**Pack#/Troop#:** Troop 87G

**Current Scouting Role:** ASM, Council DEI committee, Council UoS Chair

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 1 (TG)

**What do you feel is one of the best take-aways from your Wood Badge experience?** The patrol quickly became a group of lifelong scouter friends. They have been there every time I needed to talk to someone, whether it was to celebrate or to get a new perspective on something going wrong.

**What advice would you like to impart to the new participants?** Take the time to connect and bounce ideas off one another. You are all here from all over - see what other councils do or how they do something your council does.



## Gray Troop Guides

**Name:** Laurie Ritzko

**Hometown:** State College, PA

**Participant Year:** 2024

**Critter:** Beaver

**Council:** Juanita Valley

**Pack#/Troop#:** Pack 67

**Current Scouting Role:** Assistant Cubmaster (soon to be Cubmaster)



**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 1 (TG)

**How has Wood Badge helped you in your personal life?** During Wood Badge, participants learn and test out new tools to put in their leadership toolbox that are just as applicable in personal life as they are in Scouting. As a result of Wood Badge, I am also more intentional in prioritizing how I spend my time in and out of Scouting. Life is short; make the most of it!

**Name:** Alexandra Smallberger

**Hometown:** Blue Bell, PA

**Participant Year:** 2022

**Critter:** Eagle

**Council:** Cradle of Liberty

**Pack#/Troop#:** Pack 67

**Current Scouting Role:** Committee Chair and OA Chapter Adviser



**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 1 (TG)

**What advice would you like to impart to the new participants?** Don't get overwhelmed; we are all different and bring different experiences.

**What does Wood Badge and/or Scouting mean to you?** Wood Badge has allowed me to bring my best self to help youth in my troop, district, and council.

**How would you describe Wood Badge to someone who has never been?** A week of intense training and friendship with hand on activities where you learn to be a better leader not just in Scouting, but in personal life.

## Orange Troop Guides

### Name: Jason Ball

**Hometown:** Bolingbrook, IL

**Participant Year:** 2009

**Critter:** Bear

**Council:** Three Fires

**Pack#/Troop#:** Pack 104

**Current Scouting Role:** Assistant Cubmaster, Council Board Member - YPT Chair

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 2 (TG), guest presenter (2)

**What does Wood Badge and/or Scouting mean to you?** It's the opportunity for all of us to stretch as leaders as we develop other leaders.

**What is your goal as a Wood Badge staff member this year?** To provide the participants with as rich an experience as I was gifted when I participated.



### Name: Peter Basler

**Hometown:** Burbank, CA

**Participant Year:** 2024

**Critter:** Owl

**Council:** Verdugo Hills

**Pack#/Troop#:** Troop 209

**Current Scouting Role:** Scoutmaster

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 1 (TG)

**How has Wood Badge helped you in your personal life?** I

loved making connections to other Scouters from all over the country. Meeting and befriending folks who inspire me with their energy and dedication to our program!

**What advice would you like to impart to the new participants?** Ask for help if you need it. Enjoy the ride. Soak up as much knowledge as you can and bring your personal Scouting experiences to the course to share!

**What is your goal as a Wood Badge staff member this year?** Don't mess up! Ha. But in all seriousness, be a source of information and camaraderie for the participants in my patrol!



*"What is really important is what you learn after thinking you know it all."*

~ Waite Phillips

## Orange Troop Guides

### **Name: Dave Beachem**

**Hometown:** West Jordan, UT

**Participant Year:** 2020

**Critter:** Bear

**Council:** Crossroads of the West

**Pack#/Troop#:** Pack and Troop 5

**Current Scouting Role:** Training Chair

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 2 (scribe, TG)



**What advice would you like to impart to the new participants?** Yes you will have so much information given to you, in such a short time & you will NEED to look back and study the material to get the most out of it. BUT you will have SO MUCH FUN doing it. This course, in my mind will teach you so much, but done in a manner that you will be having the greatest time of your life. Time passes fast, and you will be having the greatest time learning. It truly felt like a FUN week of adult camp!

### **Name: Mike Matzinger**

**Hometown:** High Point, NC

**Participant Year:** 2006

**Critter:** Eagle

**Council:** Old North State

**Pack#/Troop#:** Ship 3, Troop 219, Troop 600

**Current Scouting Role:** Skipper, Scoutmaster (2x), CST15

Membership Lead, NCST Marketing and Communications Chair,

BSA AA Vice Chair

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 2 (scribe, TG)



**What does Wood Badge and/or Scouting mean to you?** To me, Wood Badge is a pathway to developing crucial leadership skills, embracing diversity, and fostering a sense of stewardship for the environment and society.

**How would you describe Wood Badge to someone who has never been?** Wood Badge can impact your personal growth and capacity to inspire positive change within yourself and the teams you lead in and out of Scouting. Graduates of the course often report increased confidence, motivation, and a deepened commitment to serving youth and the community.

# Orange Troop Guides

## **Name: Rebecca (Becki) Veeneman**

**Hometown:** Cincinnati, OH

**Participant Year:** 2022

**Critter:** Owl

**Council:** Silicon Valley Monterey Bay

**Pack#/Troop#:** Troop 2219

**Current Scouting Role:** Assistant Scoutmaster

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 1 (TG)

### **How has Wood Badge helped you in your personal life?**

WoodBadge gave me the confidence to apply for a new position with my company and relocate across the country. I then applied the ticket process to my new role in the troop we joined, giving me clarity in what I wanted to achieve and what I needed to do to achieve that vision.



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## **Name: Andrea Marron**

**Hometown:** Miami, FL

**Participant Year:** 2024

**Critter:** Eagle

**Council:** South Florida

**Pack#/Troop#:** Crew 007, GTroop 941

**Current Scouting Role:** National Venturing President

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 1 (TG)

### **What do you feel is one of the best take-aways from your Wood Badge experience?**

One of my biggest take-aways from Wood Badge was our ability to include and optimize diverse talent as it allows us to present youth and adults with new opportunities and experiences and allows us to experience greater variety in opinions and perspectives.

### **What is your goal as a Wood Badge staff member this year?**

My goal is to be a friend to all participants and ensure that we all take away the most we can from a once in a lifetime experience.



## Gray Troop Scribe

**Name:** Colleen Lewy

**Hometown:** Milwaukie, OR

**Critter:** Eagle

**Council:** Cascade Pacific

**Current Scouting Role:** VP of Program

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 2 (TG, Scribe)



**How has WoodBadge helped you in your personal life?** Wood Badge helped me expand my scouting network and let me connect beyond my own unit to a larger community of passionate people all interested in supporting the next generation of youth.

**What advice would you like to impart to the new participants?** Embrace the experience. Let it unfold and dive in!

**What does Wood Badge and/or Scouting mean to you?** It represents people who care are are willing to invest in themselves and others through attending or staffing.

**What has Wood Badge taught you about yourself?** It's taught me to reach out for help and that I can rely on others (I'm still a work in progress).

## Gray Troop Assistant Scribe

**Name:** Rima Lintakas

**Hometown:** Downers Grove, IL

**Participant Year:** 2018

**Critter:** Owl

**Council:** Rainbow, Lithuanian Scout Association

**Pack#/Troop#:** Crew 422, Živilės Draugovė

**Current Scouting Role:** Committee Member, Scoutmaster

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 2 (TG, Asst. Scribe)

**What do you feel is one of the best take-aways from your**

**Wood Badge experience?** I have always been passionate about the Scouting movement, and the people I met at Wood Badge were just as passionate! It is rare to find people like that.

**How would you describe Wood Badge to someone who has**

**never been?** The most tiring AND most rewarding five days of training you'll ever have!



## Orange Troop Scribe



**Name:** Don Fowler

**Hometown:** Sparta, NJ

**Participant Year:** 2020

**Critter:** Fox

**Council:** Patriots' Path

**Pack#/Troop#:** T95B/S1510

**Current Scouting Role:** ASM/Mate

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 1 (Scribe)

**How has Wood Badge helped you in your personal life?** Wood badge helped me understand different personality types and how they interact with each other.

**What advice would you like to impart to the new participants?** Stay hydrated, take notes, make friends.

**What has Wood Badge taught you about yourself?** That everyone's viewpoint deserves consideration.

## Orange Troop Assistant Scribe

**Name:** Gary Carroll

**Hometown:** Portland, OR

**Participant Year:** 2008

**Critter:** Buffalo

**Council:** National Capital Area

**Current Scouting Role:** Scout Executive

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 2 (TG, Scribe)



**What do you feel is one of the best take-aways from your Wood Badge experience?** The friendships that come from meeting people with different perspectives and a passion for serving youth.

**How has Wood Badge helped you in your personal life?** Wood Badge recharges me in my professional relationships with Scouting's amazing volunteers. It creates a place for understanding and shared experiences that help me to grow as a servant leader.

## Gray Troop Quartermaster and Religious Coordinator

**Name: Jennifer Conklin**

**Hometown:** Hot Springs, AR

**Participant Year:** 2022

**Critter:** Owl

**Council:** Northeast Georgia Council

**Current Scouting Role:** Scoutmaster

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 2 (TG, QM)



**What advice would you like to impart to the new participants?** Be very open-minded to everything on course.

**What does Wood Badge and/or Scouting mean to you?** Wood Badge and Scouting have taught me how to be a better scout leader, parent, co-worker, and spouse.

**What has Wood Badge taught you about yourself?** It brought to light what my personal values are and how those factor into the decisions I make.

## Gray Troop Asst Quartermaster

**Name: Rebecca Eisel**

**Hometown:** Mokena, IL

**Participant Year:** 2014

**Critter:** Bear

**Council:** Rainbow

**Current Scouting Role:** Committee Chair

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 5 (TG, Asst Scribe, ASPLx2, Asst QM)



**How has Wood Badge helped you in your personal life?** Wood Badge reminds me to think of how I am communicating with people, and to keep in mind other people's experience when interacting with them.

**What do you feel is one of the best take-aways from your Wood Badge experience?**

Renewed sense of purpose.

**How would you describe Wood Badge to someone who has never been?** Scouting is more than tying knots. Wood Badge will help you become a better leader by helping you become a better person.

## Orange Troop Quartermaster



**Name:** Tom McClain

**Hometown:** Huntingdon, PA

**Participant Year:** 2020

**Critter:** Beaver

**Council:** Juniata Valley

**Pack#/Troop#:** Crew 201

**Current Scouting Role:** Venturing Crew Advisor and District Chairman

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 2 (TG, QM)

**How has Wood Badge helped you in your personal life?** WoodBadge has and continues to be a revitalization of why I enjoy the Scouting program.

**What do you feel is one of the best take-aways from your Wood Badge experience?**

The successes that I've had in my professional career are 100% due to my Scouting experiences as a youth and as an adult.

## Orange Troop Asst Quartermaster

**Name:** Bob Brady

**Hometown:** Byram, NJ

**Participant Year:** 1994

**Critter:** Beaver

**Council:** Patriot's Path

**Current Scouting Role:** Council Executive Vice President (will become President in February). I am also the Committee Chair of my kids' troop.

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 3 (TG, SPL, AQM)

**How has Wood Badge helped you in your personal life?** I took WoodBadge as a young adult. It helped me transition from youth to adult and continue my scouting journey.

**How would you describe WoodBadge to someone who has never been?** It is a high level leadership training disguised as a fun scouting experience. No matter how long you have been involved in scouting, it will make you a better scouter. And you might be surprised that it will likely to help you in your professional endeavors.



## Orange Troop Instructor

**Name: Scott Beckett**

**Hometown:** Charlotte, NC

**Participant Year:** 2018

**Critter:** Beaver

**Council:** Northern Star

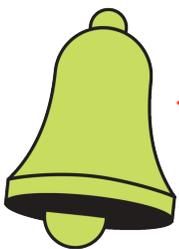
**Current Scouting Role:** National Executive Board Member

**Number of Years as a WB Staffer:** 3 (TG, ASM-L, Instructor)



**What advice would you like to impart to the new participants?** For a week, we're going to do some pretending about different roles and situations. Just play along!

**How would you describe Wood Badge to someone who has never been?** An opportunity to see how – when run well – the power of a Scout unit, the experience of learning and growing, and being shaped by Scouting's values and spirit.



**Reminder!**

**There will not be time during the course to perform non-Wood Badge activities.**



### Reminder! Things You Need Before the Course

#### Participants must:

- Be registered as an adult (18 or over) member of Scouting America.
- Be able to function safely in an outdoor environment.
- Submit parts A, B, and C of a BSA Health and Medical Record with a physician's signature dated within one year of the start of the course.
- Have completed the basic leader training appropriate for their current position in Scouting.
- Have currently valid Youth Protection Training.
- Complete the pre-course assignment and modules **(FOUND HERE)**.

#### Pre-Course Modules

- All participants must complete these modules before the start of the Wood Badge course
- To access:
  - [training.scouting.org/home](http://training.scouting.org/home) You will be asked to log in and then you'll be taken to the Learn Center
  - Click Catalog, then Courses, then type Wood Badge into the search field
  - Complete the Wood Badge Pre-Course Orientation

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

~ Robert Baden-Powell

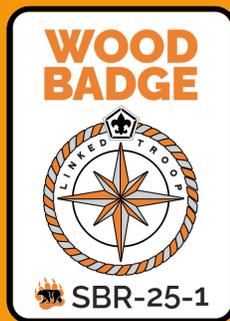


## Have questions? Contact the Scribes!!



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 **WB2025summit@gmail.com**.

Follow us on Facebook and visit the official Linked Troop Wood Badge SBR-25-1 course website



Did you miss earlier editions of the Gilwell Gazette? Prior Gazettes can be found on our website: <https://linkedtroopwoodbadge.org>.