



The Gilwell Gazette

DAY TWO

CUB SCOUT CROSSOVER

Troop One to Welcome New Scouts

DAY TWO SCHEDULE

7:00AM AT GILWELL HALL
Blue and Gold Banquet

8:10AM AT GILWELL FIELD
Gilwell Field Assembly

8:30AM AT TRAINING CENTER
Diverse Talent

9:45AM AT PATROL AREA
Leadership
Connections

10:10AM AT TRAINING CENTER
Troop Meeting

11:45AM AT TRAINING CENTER
Patrol Leaders Council

12:40PM AT GILWELL HALL
Lunch

1:30PM AT PATROL AREA
Learn to Listen, Listen
to Learn

2:25 AT TRAINING CENTER
Plan with a Bias for
Action

3:20PM AT PATROL AREA
Newton Cars

4:25PM AT TRAINING CENTER
Develop Individuals
and Teams

5:35PM AT PATROL AREA
Leadership
Connections

5:55PM AT PATROL AREA
Ticket Time

6:30PM AT TRAINING CENTER
Dinner

7:20PM AT PATROL AREA
Patrol Meeting

7:40PM AT TRAINING CENTER
Know the Territory



A Day of Gathering - Pack One Meets at Gilwell Field

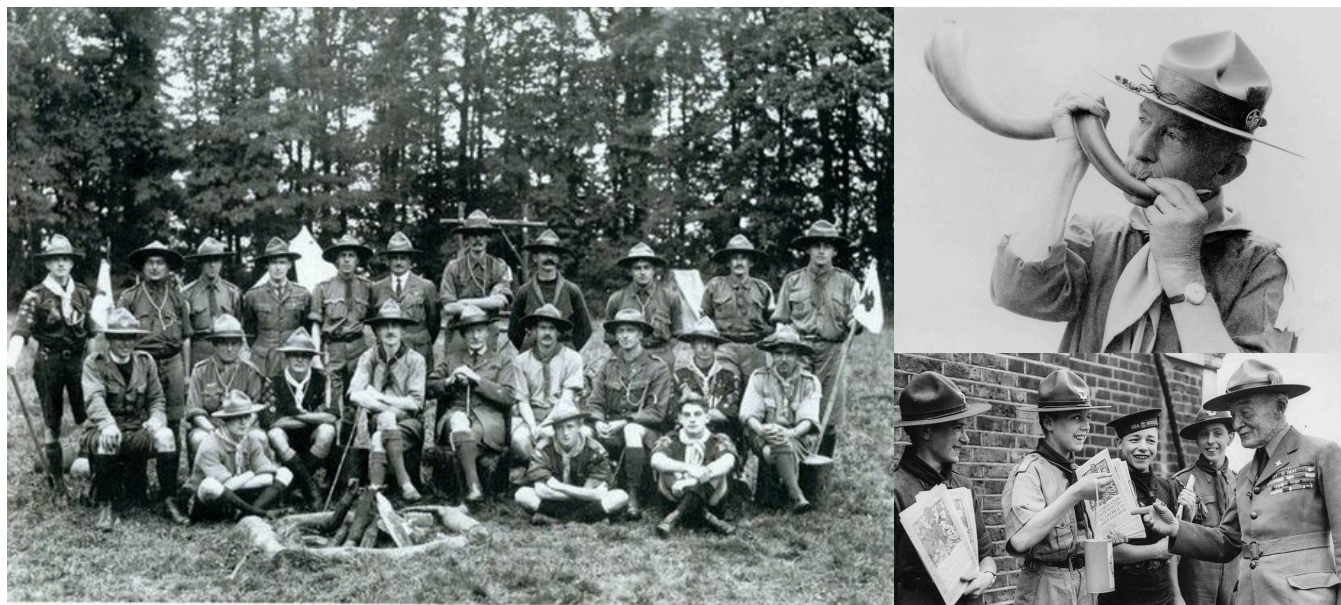
The first day of Wood Badge training began with energy and anticipation as Pack 1 arrived at Camp Perry, ready to embark on Scouting's premier leadership journey. Participants gathered in their patrols, meeting their new team members and preparing to take on the challenges of the course.

The day officially began at Gilwell Field, where the group assembled for the first time as Pack 1. Standing on the historic field, they joined together in song and ceremony, embracing the sense of unity and purpose that has defined Wood Badge for over a century. From there, the day was filled with leadership sessions, team-building exercises, and spirited discussions designed to develop skills that will serve their units and communities for years to come.

As the day came to a close, Pack 1 made their way to the banks of the Arroyo Colorado for an opening campfire, where they reflected on the day's lessons, shared laughter, and looked ahead to the days of growth and fellowship to come. The camaraderie and lessons shared along the arroyo symbolized more than tradition—it marked the beginning of a transformative experience in leadership and Scouting service.

WOOD BADGE - 7-775-25

The History of Wood Badge



From Baden-Powell's Lectures to Modern Leadership Development

In 1911 (4 years after Scouting began in Great Britain) General Robert Baden-Powell began training Scout leaders through a series of lectures. This led to the first Wood Badge training course for Scoutmasters, held eight years later at Gilwell Park near London. An experimental U.S. Wood Badge course was conducted at the Schiff Scout Reservation in 1936. Twelve years later, the first American Wood Badge course was introduced as advanced training for trainers of Boy Scout leaders. Later the program was extended to include troop committee members, commissioners, and Explorers leaders. Experiments began in the late 1960's with a leadership development Wood Badge course emphasizing 11 leadership skills or "competencies." This program was launched in 1972 in support of a major revision of the Boy Scout phase of the program.

In 1978, an evaluation of the Boy Scout Leader Wood Badge course revealed a need for greater emphasis on the practical aspects of good troop operation. The course now provides a blend of Scoutcraft skills and practical troop operation, mixed with a variety of leadership exercises. The course is under constant review for possible areas of further refinement.

In 2001, Wood Badge for the 21st Century was introduced. Developed for all Scouters. Cub Scout leaders, Boy Scout leaders, Venturing leaders, and council and district leaders, its curriculum focuses on leadership skills, rather than outdoor skills. The first part reflected unit meetings, while the second part uses a troop camping activity as its delivery model.

The current version refines that curriculum a bit. It's no longer "...for the 21st Century;" it's just Wood Badge. But the ideal remains the same: Leadership for Scouting—Leadership for America. (Source: Scouting.org)

"The most worthwhile thing is to try to put happiness into the lives of others."

-Robert Baden-Powell

Patrol Positions and Responsibilities

Patrol Member:

- Fully Participate in the Wood Badge course and achieve all he or she can.
- Practice using the team development skills introduced during Wood Badge presentations.
- Help the patrol fulfill assignments including the development and presentation of the patrol project.
- Set a good example by living up to the Scout Oath and Law.

Assistant Patrol Leader:

- Assume the duties of the patrol leader whenever the patrol leader is unable to do so.
- Encourage patrol members to fully participate in the Wood Badge course and to achieve all they can.
- Set a good example by living up to the Scout Oath and Law.

Patrol Leader:

- Take a leading role in planning and conducting patrol meetings and activities.
- Encourage patrol members to fully participate in the Wood Badge course and to achieve all they can.
- Represent the patrol as a member of the Patrol Leader's Council (PLC).
- Set a good example by living up to the Scout Oath and Law.
- Practice using the leadership and team skills being presented during Wood Badge presentations.
- Ensure that daily patrol self-assessments are done in a timely, effective manner.
- Provide patrol members with all the resources and information they need to succeed.
- Empower the patrol to become a high-performance team.
- See that the patrol is prepared for all course presentations and activities.

Patrol Chaplain Aide:

In concert with the chaplain aides for the other patrols and the Assistant Scout Master Chaplain, the patrol chaplain aide will:

- Learn what resources are available that can be used for religious observances during the course and make that information available to the rest of the patrol.
- Develop and help present the participant's Interfaith Service.
- Assist in conducting any other religious observances that may arise during the Wood Badge course.

Patrol Scribe:

- Provide interesting and timely material about the patrol to the Scribes of the Gilwell Gazette - the daily newspaper of the Wood Badge course.
- Set a good example by living up to the Scout Oath and Law.

Meet the Wood Badge Critters



MEET THE STAFF

Daniel Mendez

I'm Daniel Mendez, and I've been a scouter in the RGV for over 10 years now. I'm a Scoutmaster of Troop 84 from Mission, TX. My wife, Sarah and I joined as a way to experience the outdoors with our boys and have enjoyed everything the program offers for youth and families. I'm a proud Christ follower, husband, dad, veteran and volunteer in the community through Scouting. I've flown Blackhawk, Huey, and Kiowa helicopters in Iraq and Afghanistan. I graduated with a degree in architecture from Texas A&M in 2004, and an MBA from Texas A&M in 2021. I also played baritone in the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band. I was baptized in College Station in 2001 from one of my favorite churches I've ever attended, St Mary's Catholic Church. I hope to continue serving my community through the scouting program.



Jerry Driscoll

Jerry Driscoll is a father to two scouts and has been active in scouting since 2018. Not being a scout himself, his scouter experience began in the Rio Grande Council with Troop 40, in McAllen, with his son. He later served as a leader with Troops 84 and 1854, both in Mission, and later joined Troop 73 in Edinburg.

When a work assignment required him and his family to relocate, Jerry stayed active and became a part of the National Capital Area Council as a leader within Troop 1998 in Frederick Maryland. During this season, his youngest daughter was drawn to the Scouting spirit and decided to become a part of Pack 278 in Middletown.

Returning to the valley, Jerry returned to Troop 73 and soon joined Pack 78 as a parent volunteer to support his daughter's scouting journey in Edinburg. After earning her Arrow of Light, his daughter crossed over to Troop 1065 in Mission, while his son stayed with Troop 73 and earned his Eagle rank. His son would go on to join Venture Crew 1065 a few months later.

Jerry has served as an Acting Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, Committee Member, Assistant Den Leader and is a member of the Wewanamo Lodge. He has also lead contingents to Sea Base as well as the National Order of the Arrow Conference. Finally, Jerry has completed Wood Badge and is a University of Scouting alumn, and is active in both the Rio Grande and Alamo Area Councils.



Michael Hall

Michael is currently the Scoutmaster of Troop 73 at Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church in Edinburg, and Arrowhead District Training Chair for Rio Grande Council. He is a Merit Badge Counselor for the Rio Grande Council. He also serves on staff for various trainings for the Rio Grande Council including NYLT, IOSL, BALOO, Winter Camps and Cub Adventure Camps. Michael's scouting experience started in Beaver Falls PA with Pack 409, Allegheny Trails Council, PA, where he earned his Arrow of Light. He moved to Florida and started in Karate and other sports. When he graduated from High School in Spring Hill FL, he joined the U.S. Navy. He served 16 years in the military and moved to Edinburg TX. He re-entered scouting as an adult when his son became a Tiger Cub. He has served as A Tiger Den Leader, Wolf Den Leader, Bear Den Leader, Webelos Den Leader 2 years as well as a Cubmaster for 3 years for Pack 78 at Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church in Edinburg. He transfers to Troop 73 as Asst. Scoutmaster for 2 Years and Scoutmaster for 4 years. Became Member of Order of the Arrow in 2022.

Michael was a participant in Wood Badge class S3-775-17-1, Received Wood Badge Beads on April 20th, 2018. He served as a Troop Guide on the S3-775-19-1 course. Was course Director for NYLT 2020 course. Was course Co Director for NYLT 2021 course. When he is not scouting, he is a Senior Business Analyst for Texas State Technical College. He holds a BS Degree in Computer Information Systems from UTPA. His hobbies include Playing Sports, Karate, BBQ, Playing Darts, and spending time with his family. He has 1 son and 4 stepchildren that are in Scouting. His Son is a Life Scout in Troop 73, and his stepson was a Life Scout when he aged out with Troop 73, and all 3 Stepdaughters are in Girls Scouts. Scouting is Life in his Family.



Jake Margo Jr., MD

Javier D. "Jake" Margo, Jr., MD, is a Board-Certified Family Physician who lives and practices in his hometown of Rio Grande City, Texas, where he currently works at Starr County Memorial Hospital in the emergency department & provides newborn coverage and serves as the high school team physician. Jake is a lifetime member of the Texas Exes and in 2010 was named an Outstanding Young Texas Ex.

Jake is a past president of the Texas Academy of Family Physicians and still serves on the Board of Directors for the TAFP Foundation. He is the past president of the TAFP Valley Chapter and of the Hidalgo Starr County Medical Society. Dr. Margo is a Fellow of both the American Academy of Family Physicians and the Academy of Wilderness Medicine. He is a past Grand Commander of the El Cid Caravan #106, Order of the Alhambra and an active member of his KC Council #2597.

Jake was born into a scouting family, but his direct scouting involvement started at the age of 8 in Cub Scout Pack 93, where he earned his Arrow of Light. At 11, he joined Troop 93 and earned his Eagle Scout rank at 13yo before earning 2 sets of Eagle Palms by 18yo. Jake is a Vigil Honor member of Wewanoma 272 and proudly earned his Wood Badge beads in 2021.

At the age of 18, Jake became a Junior Assistant Scoutmaster, then Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 93 under Rev James Gebhart until 1999. More recently, after helping revive both Pack 93 and Troop 93 in 2016/2017, he has served as Cubmaster/Asst SM, then Committee Chair of both, before becoming Scoutmaster of Troop 93 last summer. At the council level, he has served in many capacities starting in 2019: Member of the Camping Committee, Enterprise Risk Management Comm, and the Council Board of Directors, Chair of the Camping Comm 2021-22, Chair ERMC 2019-present, Council Health Supervisor 2019-present, and has served as Council President since 2021.

In 1996, Jake was awarded the BSA Young American Award. More recently, was awarded the Spark Plug Award, the District Award of Merit, named a James E. West Fellow & NESAs Legacy Fellow, & was awarded the Silver Beaver Award in 2025.

Jake's wife, Lisa is a Girl Scout Leader in Rio Grande City for their daughter Ella, who recently earned her Silver Award. Their son, James, is a Life Scout in Troop 93 and a brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow.



Rollie Hernandez

Rollie is a proud Eagle Scout from the Class of 2022 and completed his Wood Badge course in 2023 as a member of Troop 4031. Rollie joined scouting in 2018 and served as Lodge Chief for two years. He is a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow and currently serves as the Program Director for the Rio Grande Council's Summer Camp, bringing energy, leadership, and a love for Scouting to hundreds of youth each season. Hailing from Weslaco, Texas, Rollie comes from a family deeply rooted in the Scouting program—his parents are active on the troop committee, and two of his three brothers are currently youth in Scouting. At just 21 years old, Rollie continues to serve as a strong example of servant leadership and youth empowerment in his council.



Gabriel Rodriguez

Gabriel Rodriguez joined Scouting in 2004 at the age of six and has been actively involved in the program for over 20 years. An Eagle Scout from the Class of 2015 with Troop 73, Gabriel currently serves as the Summer Camp Director at Camp Perry, a role he has held since 2024. He has been a dedicated member of the Camp Perry staff since 2016, serving in various capacities over the past decade.

An active Arrowman in the Order of the Arrow, Gabriel is a Vigil Honor member and Founder's Award recipient. He is also a James E. West Fellow, a former Lodge Chief, and currently serves as the Associate Lodge Adviser for Wewanoma Lodge #272. Gabriel completed Wood Badge in 2017 and has served on staff for multiple Wood Badge and National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) courses.





Pack One Opening Campfire

As the sun dipped below the horizon on the banks of the Arroyo Colorado, Pack 1 gathered for a starlit campfire at Camp Perry to open their Wood Badge course. After a full day of intensive leadership training, the group shared reflections, songs, and camaraderie under the South Texas sky. The evening campfire not only honored Scouting traditions but also set the tone for the days ahead — a journey of personal growth, teamwork, and servant leadership.

Send cool photos and daily scribe reports to:

EMAIL



GABE@GABEROD.NET

Gabriel Rodriguez, Scribe

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