



Dear Friend in Scouting,

In 1911, four years after Scouting began in Great Britain, Lord 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 outside London. In 1936, an experimental Wood Badge course was conducted in the United States at the Schiff Scout Reservation, NJ. Then in 1948, the first American Wood Badge course was introduced in the United States as advanced training for trainers of Boy Scout leaders. Wood Badge soon became recognized as the premier training program for Scouting's adult leaders.

In June 2008, Transatlantic Council will carry on this great Scouting tradition by conducting Wood Badge for the 21st Century Course # NE-II-187. This course is for all registered Scouters: Cub Scout leaders, Boy Scout leaders, Venturing leaders, and District and Council leaders. There is no "time in grade" requirement to attend Wood Badge since the primary focus is on leadership skills development, not outdoor skills.

Wood Badge training consists of two parts, a one-week practical phase taught here in Germany, and an application phase in your own Scout unit. During the practical phase, training will be modeled around unit meetings followed by a two night unit camping activity. As you go through the week, you'll define a set of personal goals that forms your "Wood Badge Ticket." The ticket specifies ways that you will apply the skills you've learned during the week to help your unit and Scouting grow and improve. In the second phase of Wood Badge training, you will accomplish your ticket goals - "work your ticket." You can take as long as 18 months to complete your ticket, and you determine when your ticket is complete. And yes, many TAC Scouters complete their ticket after they have returned to the Unit States. Upon completion you will be entitled wear the Wood Badge consisting of two wooden beads on a leather thong. Accompanying the Wood Badge is a taupe neckerchief with a bit of MacLaren tartan, a leather woggle, and a parchment certificate.

As a result of attending Wood Badge, you will be able to:

- View Scouting globally, as a family of interrelated, values-based programs that provide age-appropriate activities for our youth.
- Recognize the contemporary leadership concepts utilized in corporate America and leading government organizations that are relevant to our values-based movement.
- Apply the skills you learn from participation as a member of a successful working team.
- Revitalize your commitment by sharing in an overall inspirational experience that helps provide Scouting with the leadership it needs to accomplish its mission on an ongoing basis.

The course will cost approximately \$260 - \$275.00 per participant. (I am working the budget and trying to bring down the cost). This includes lodging, meals, and course materials for the week. It does not include personal uniforms and equipment. Final cost will be availability shortly.

I hope you will join me next June for a mountain-top experience. We'll share ideas, learn more about our selves, experience some great training, create some lasting friendships, and have fun during these 6 exciting days. If you would like to know more please call or write to me today.

Yours in Scouting,

W. MIKE LARDIE

Scoutmaster
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Just the facts...

Course Title: Wood Badge for the 21st Century

Course number: NE-II-187

Location: To be Determined

Date: Friday XX June 2008 to Thursday XX June 2008

Reporting Time: Registration starts at 1500, Friday, XX June; early arrival possible with advance approval of the SM

Departure Time: Participants will be able to depart before dinner on the following Thursday

Fees: The course fee is approximately \$260.00 - \$275.00: A reservation fee of \$100 is due with your Acceptance of Invitation. The remainder must be paid not later than 1 June 2008 but can be paid in full at any time. Any cancellation within 1 week of the course will result in loss of fees; each extenuating case will be reviewed by Council Officials.