



**Who Are The Geezers?**

The Honorary Title of "Wood Badge Geezer" is bestowed on visionary men and women who have served Wood Badge Courses in the Northeast Illinois Council as Course Director.

Past NEIC Wood Badge Course Directors

- Bill Gregory—Ec-96 & EC-168
- Don Swanson—EC-376W
- Bob Mueller—EC-461W
- Don Martin—C-07-98
- Dixon Brandt—C-20-00
- Vickie Henderson—C-14-02
- Jim Lindemann—C48-03
- Earl Knodel—C48-04
- Felicia Brandt—C-27-05
- Dick Raup—C47-06
- Rich Zahnle—C22-07
- Bill Pepito—C-22-08
- Milt McDougald—C-18-09
- Joanne Osmond—C-03-10
- Tim McKeown—C7-129-11-01



What's the NEIC Wood Badge Website?  
[www.neic-woodbadge.org](http://www.neic-woodbadge.org)



*The First Scoutmasters' Course at Gilwell Park, September, 1919  
 Baden-Powell is seated center in the front row.*

**First Wood Badge Staff, 1919**

In 1919, Mr. W. deBois Maclaren purchased an estate in Epping Forest, near London, called Gilwell Park and presented it to the Scouting movement. On the morning of September 8, 1919, the 61 year-old retired general of the British Army, General Baden-Powell, stepped out into the center of a clearing at Gilwell Park. He raised to his lips the horn of a greater Kudu, one of the largest of African antelopes. He blew a long sharp blast. Nineteen men dressed in short pants and knee socks, their shirt-sleeves rolled up, assembled by patrols for the first Scoutmasters' training camp held at Gilwell. The camp was designed and guided by Sir Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of the World Scouting Movement.



**How do I register for Wood Badge?**  
*The process is simple...*

**Fill out an application and Pay the \$50 Deposit**  
 Applications are available here at the Breakfast  
 You can also find applications at your District Roundtable or you can download from the NEIC website.

**Complete the new BSA Medical Form**  
 Everyone must complete the medical form Parts A, B & C to participate. The completed Medical form can be sent to Jeff Hoeflich, our Staff Health & Safety Officer. You should also advise him of any special dietary needs or health concerns.

Jeff Hoeflich (firefighter/EMT)  
 Staff Health and Safety Officer  
[Jeffrey.Hoeflich@skokie.org](mailto:Jeffrey.Hoeflich@skokie.org)  
 40267 N. Regina Rd.  
 Antioch, IL 60002  
 847-838-5762

**Complete the Participant PRQ**  
 PRQ = Personal Resource Questionnaire  
 We want to get to know you

**Attend the Pre-course Meeting**  
 August 11, 2012 Jadel Center Camp Crown, Wil-mot, WI

**Be ready for a great time and to make lifelong friends!**



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**A LETTER FROM THE COURSE DIRECTOR**

Does anyone ever have enough tools?

The song written by Pete Seeger and Lee Hays in 1949 included the following lyrics:

*If I had a hammer  
 I'd hammer in the morning  
 I'd hammer in the evening  
 All over this land.*

A hammer is one of many tools and almost every tool ever invented had a simple purpose—to aid in the accomplishment of a task. Those of us involved in Wood Badge are all about accomplishing a task and our singular purpose is to provide you with the tools you need to fulfill the mission of the Boy Scouts of America at every level of the program—Packs, Troops, Teams, and Crews.

But more than the Boy Scouts, the tools and techniques included in NEIC's Wood Badge course will equip you skills and abilities that can improve your work life, relationships at your place of worship and possibly even at home with your family. While the focus remains helping Scouters become better equipped to help the youth of northeast Illinois, we are more than happy to help out in all phases of life.

Legend has it that a woman approached a Course Director of Wood Badge in another part of the country and asked this question "I understand you can make my husband listen?" The Course Director assured the woman that Wood Badge included a session (think "tool") entitled "Listening to Learn" and that if her husband took the course he might, indeed, become a more attentive listener. The woman immediately pulled out her checkbook and paid for her husband to take Wood Badge.

We can help you listen too. And build teams, and plan projects, and solve problems, and coach & mentor, and leverage diversity, etc. etc. Come join us for the most exciting, fun filled learning environment available within NEIC. We've got hammers, screwdrivers, wrenches.....

Add tools to your tool box this summer.

*Chip*

**Wood Badge Fee Information**  
 Total Fee—\$250.00  
 (\$50 with application; \$100 June 1, \$100 July 1)  
 Scholarships are available. Please see page 4.

**NEW THIS YEAR**  
**"BUDDY" discount** if two or more participants from the same unit sign up together paying the full course fee at registration. The discount is 5% for a fee of \$237.50 each.

Also, many organizations like the VFW, trade Unions, Knights of Columbus will pay for members to attend.