

dTHE CAMPFIRE ASHES

Legend has it that Lord Baden-Powell would always take a small amount of ashes from the campfire and spread these ashes into the next campfire.

The main purpose of these ashes is to bring to all Scouts and Scouters the international aspect of the world brotherhood of Scouting.

Ashes taken from a campfire are sprinkled into the flames of the next campfire. The next morning, when the ashes are cold, they are stirred, and each Scout takes some along to mix with his next campfire. If more than one Scout brings ashes to the same campfire, the lists are pooled, with the dates and places of all campfires recorded and passed on.

It is traditional that only those present at the ceremony carry ashes from that ceremony.

Through one pedigree alone, these ashes were first taken in Brownsea, England in 1907 and have traveled around the world to campfires in over 53 countries, 35 U.S. States, 4 Canadian Provinces, 7 World Jamborees, and the list goes on including a Canadian campfire with Lady Baden-Powell and soil from the grave of Lord Baden-Powell. They have been to 14 Wood Badge Reunions, 152 Wood Badge Courses, 25 OA Ceremony fires (incl. Germany & Switzerland) and more. And that's just the contribution from one set of ashes. (<http://www.armory.com/~tessien/scouts/AshHistory.txt>)

I received my first ashes here at Woodbadge in 2001. Since then they have been blended and stirred with BSA ashes at International Rendezvous at Camp Hi-Sierra, at campfires with my home troop, and district training courses as well as additional Woodbadge courses. They have become an important addition to my Scouting activities.

The Charge of the Ashes

“We carry our friendship with us in these ashes from other campfires with comrades in other lands. May the joining of the dead fires with the leaping flames symbolize once more the unbroken chain that binds Scouts and Guides around the world. With greetings from Scouts of all nations, everywhere.”

To view various pedigrees from 1907-present included in these ashes, see Brian Belet (1933-2002), Keith Blackey (1907-2005), and Chris Kroninger (1907-2002) pedigrees. Keith Blackey's pedigree history is applicable to most "WE" Wood Badge courses. Ashes from the council fires of the Lakota people, dating back to the time before the horses came were added into this list in Oct 2002.

- | | | |
|------|-----|---|
| 2001 | USA | WE3-55-01 Woodbadge Course, Boulder Creek (Rick Silveira) |
| 2002 | USA | International Rendezvous 2002, Camp Hi-Sierra, Closing Campfire |
| 2002 | USA | Outdoor Leader Skills training course campfire, Camp Chesebrough, Santa Clara County Council, California (September 28) |
| 2002 | USA | Outdoor Leader Skills training course campfire, Camp Chesebrough, Santa Clara County Council, California (October 26) |
| 2003 | USA | Troop 201, Intro. to Backpack Campout, Camp Chesebrough, Santa Clara County Council, California (March 29) |
| 2003 | USA | Mene Oto District Camporee, Chesebrough, Santa Clara County Council, California (May 3) |
| 2003 | USA | Troop 201, Camping Basics Campout, Coyote Lake Park, Santa Clara County, CA (September 27) |
| 2004 | USA | WE3-55-04 Woodbadge Course, Boulder Creek (Ronn Masuda) |
| 2004 | USA | Sierra District Camporee, Chesebrough, Santa Clara County Council, California (May 15) |
| 2004 | USA | Troop 201, Camping Basics Campout, Coyote Lake Park, Santa Clara County, CA |
| 2005 | USA | WE3-55-05 Woodbadge Course, Boulder Creek (Grant McCauley) |
| 2005 | USA | Sierra District Camporee, Chesebrough, Santa Clara County Council, California (May 14) |
| 2005 | USA | Troop 201, Camping Basics Campout, Coyote Lake Park, Santa Clara County, CA |
| 2006 | USA | WE3-55-06 Woodbadge Course, Boulder Creek (Craig Parker) |
| 2006 | USA | Sierra District Camporee, Mt. Madonna, Santa Clara County Council, California |

- 2006 USA Troop 201, Camping Basics Campout, Coyote Lake Park, Santa Clara County, CA
- 2007 USA Sierra District Camporee, Mt. Madonna, Santa Clara County Council, California
- 2007 USA Camp Hi-Sierra, Miwok, CA. (with ashes from Ed Sheldon's memorial campfire at the Clavey River)
- 2007 USA WE3-55-07 Woodbadge Course, Cutter SR, Boulder Creek (Jim Fuller)
- 2008 USA Carver Overnight Experience, Camp Whitsett, CA.
- 2008 USA Troop 201, Wesley United Methodist Church of San Jose, CA - Family Camp, Pinecrest, CA
- 2008 USA WE3-55-08 Woodbadge Course, Boulder SR, Boulder Creek, CA (Flora Tzeng)
Received ashes from Don Pannel, SPL, Pacific Skyline, CA which included ashes from the Lakota.
- 2009 USA WE3-31-09 Woodbadge Course, Boulder SR, Boulder Creek, CA (Sandy Nall)
- 2009 USA Parson's Beach War Canoe Overnight, Camp Emerald Bay, CA (July 1, 2009)