

# WHITE STAG – JUNIOR LEADER TRAINING CONFERENCE

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June 8, 1996

Ryan Augustine  
Troop 961  
Senior Patrol Leader

Dear Ryan,

Tonight, we conclude staff development and you are about to bring a “mountain top” experience to a new group of participants. Commit yourself to doing your best to bring the White Stag experience to the participants of Troop 961.

Reflect on these words:

*“The White Stag has a message for you. Hunters of old pursued the miraculous stag, not because they expected to kill it, but because it led them in the joy of the chase to new and fresh adventures, and so to capture happiness. You may look on the White Stag as the true spirit of Scouting, springing forward and upward, ever leading you onward to leap over difficulties, to face new adventures in your active pursuit of the higher aims of Scouting --- aims which bring you happiness. These aims are duty to God, to your country, and to your fellow man by carrying out the Scout Law. In that way you will bring about God’s kingdom upon earth --- the reign of peace and good will.”*

**Lord Baden-Powell 1933**

Now look into the candle before you and take a few minutes to reflect in your heart what White Stag means to you.

1. Why did you accept a position on this White Stag staff? Have you accomplished all that you wanted? Have you made this experience all that it can be for you? What have you given to the other staff members?
2. “Be Prepared.” Are you prepared to offer the participants your best effort? Why? Why not? Are you prepared to offer each participant the best Scouting experience he can have?
3. How are you different today than when we started this staff development? Are you a better leader? Are you a better Scout? Are you a better person?

You have worked very hard to arrive here this evening. I want to thank you for being a unique and valuable member of this team. I am proud to be your Scoutmaster. I believe you are ready to offer a “mountain top experience” to each participant.

Earlier this evening you spent time together as the youth staff, then came together as a whole conference with Mr. Jones. It is time to come together as Troop 961 staff. When you have read this letter and considered my questions fully, please extinguish your candle and join me around the troop campfire.

In the Scouting Spirit,

Kirk Mangold  
Troop 961  
Scoutmaster