

BSA TROOP 212

WASHINGTON DC

ADVENTURE

NOVEMBER 2010

(This Booklet Updated May 26, 2010)

BSA TROOP 212, WASHINGTON DC ADVENTURE, NOVEMBER 2010

As you know, our Troop will be visiting our nations' Capital in November, during the Veterans Day long weekend, and part of the adjacent week. The departure/travel day will be Tuesday afternoon, November 9th, and the return day will be Sunday the 14th, evening. Properly registered Scouts and Scouters are welcome to take part in this. This booklet was prepared to answer the most commonly ask questions we received the last time we made this trip, and should be used as a planning and preparation guide. If you have any questions after careful reading of this booklet, please feel free to contact the Trip Leader, John Douglas, 310-628-4312 (cell).

DEPARTURE TIME AND PLACE...?

For departure, we are planning to meet at Long Beach Airport on Tuesday, no later than 12:00 noon, at the airline departure check area for ticket pick up and baggage check in. The direct Jet Blue flight is scheduled to be departing at 1:59 pm, and we will arrive at Dulles International Airport at about 9:45 PM local time.

RETURN TIME AND PLACE..?

Our best estimated schedule for return, subject to airline scheduling, is the same Long Beach Airport on Sunday the 14th, at about 8:45 PM local time. Updates on our return arrival time will be available by checking with the airlines anytime that Sunday afternoon.

ITINERARY?

This is a preliminary schedule, but our plans are to visit as many sights as possible, depending on the efficiency, and energy levels, of the participants. Currently, our plan is...

Tuesday: Travel Day. We will be picked up by bus and check in at Marriott Inn in Bethesda MD that evening and have late supper.

Wednesday: We plan on a 6:00 AM wake up call. Breakfast at 6:30 AM...Then meet in the Lobby at 7:15 for a 7:30 AM departure. By using the underground Metro, we plan on visiting the US Mint, Air and Space Museum and lunch, then Fords Theater where Lincoln was shot, and Petersen House where he died. After that we will visit the Spy Museum, the National Portrait Gallery and have supper at the Hard Rock Café. In addition we are working towards a special Washington Monument night visit and night walking tour to include the WWII Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, Korean War Memorial, Nurses Memorial, . We expect to be returning to the room at about 10:30 PM.

Thursday: We plan on a 6:00 AM wake up call. Breakfast at 6:30 AM ...Then meet in the Lobby for Metro departure to Arlington Cemetery to take part in the Official Veterans Observance Ceremony with the President of the United States, The Tomb of The Unknown Soldier, Kennedy Grave Site. Afternoon schedule TBD.

Friday: We plan on a 6:00 AM wake up call. Breakfast at 6:30 AM...Then meet in the Lobby at 7:15 AM for a 7:30 AM departure by bus, a quick stop off at Iwo Jima Memorial and on our way to the Manassas Civil War Battlefield in

Virginia, which is one of the most famous battlefields of the war. On our way back if time allows, we will visit the Washington National Cathedral.

Saturday: We plan on a 6:00 AM wake up call. Breakfast at 6:30 AM..Then meet in the Lobby at 7:15 AM for a 7:30 AM departure. By using the underground Metro, we plan to visit St Johns Church, Lafayette Square, White House Visitors Center, Boy Scout Memorial, The National Archives, Natural History Museum, US Capital Visitors Center, and then the Kennedy Center at 4:00 PM with supper at 4:30 PM. Then at about 5:30 PM we take in a play at Kennedy Center. We expect to be returning to the room at about 9:30 PM.

Sunday: Morning schedule TBD, but lunch will be at the Ugar-Hazy Air and Space Museum, as well as a few hours of aircraft artifact viewing. At 3:30 PM we depart for Dulles Airport by tour bus with plans to catch our 5:50 PM departure flight back to Long Beach.

EXPECTATIONS..?

As you can see we expect to present you a very broad and full visit of our Nations Capital, in order to make this once in a life time visit a good value for your money. Experience has shown us that many of our participants will not have the opportunity to return to the DC area for many years for a variety of reasons. Therefore, this trip is designed to make available for your enjoyment as many DC sites and exhibits possible. However, we will endeavor to custom design elements of this trip to meet the needs and requirements of all participants by accepting reasonable requests well before the trip, which may be more easily accommodated. Also, we will remain flexible during the trip, which may prove to be more difficult to accommodate, but we will make every attempt.

QUALIFICATIONS TO GO?

Anyone who is a BSA registered Scouter or Scout with Troop 212, or parent of a current Troop 212 Scout, may come along as long as they have demonstrated an ability to travel effectively on this type of outing. If a Scout or Scouter registered with another Troop wishes to attend, we will consider this on a case by case basis, assuming their request has been received early enough by the Trip Leader to give it serious consideration. Although this is still a Scouting Trip, this trip will also be very Family focused, so we want to encourage parents to attend in order to share this unique experience with their Scout. At one time, this trip was heavily Scout focused and few parents came along. In those days a rank and age minimum requirement was imposed. In response to many parents seeking a family focused trip, we have elected to not impose such minimums. However, parents are encouraged to apply their own rank achievement requirements as they wish.

GROUP SIZE LIMITATIONS?

Due to tour bus capacity limitations we are holding to 32 participants which should assist in keeping the schedule punctual.

SECURITY?

All the Washington DC officials we have contacted so far to make the arrangements for this trip have expressed this subject is still taken very seriously. Therefore, we will be passing through metal detectors many times during the course of this trip. These are the same type used at the airlines

and will be found at almost every Washington DC museum and monument entrance. We have it on authority that the ones used at Arlington Cemetery for the Veterans Day Ceremonies will be set at minimum threshold, so be prepared by not carrying any metal items on your person and expect to have your bags search as well as you cameras well inspected. Everyone is also required to have an official pictured ID.

WEATHER?

November days in Washington DC, at about 40 degrees, can be changeable, and often unpredictable, but not a problem since most of the sights are indoors. It's a bit cooler at night, about 30 degrees. Participants should be prepared for some cold night time photography as well. It often rains in Washington DC, so an umbrella would be useful as well. A small black one, easy to carry, can be found in most stores in Long Beach. In order to prepare for this colder weather eventuality, each participant should plan on having a warm overcoat. We would like to request these overcoats be red in color to match the provided red vest. (See Uniform below)

COSTS, RESERVATIONS, AND CANCELLATIONS?

All monies are being collected in payments made out to BSA Troop 212. These payments will be deposited into the Troop checking account for prepayments and deposits needed for this trip. The estimated cost of this adventure will be about \$1300.00 per person to cover the cost of food, air transportation, souvenir patch, lodging fees, vehicle fees, as well as other major costs inherent to a trip of this caliber. We believe this to be a reliable estimate, and we will do everything possible not to increase this cost. Our goal is to have a "pay one price policy", which means the only items not covered in this price would be souvenirs you may wish to purchase.

You may choose to pay the full amount of \$1300.00 at any time prior to final deadline. All checks should be made payable to BSA Troop 212. All Parent Release Forms (The last page of this booklet) must be submitted by the November 1st. Troop meeting. Sorry, but any bounced checks will be treated as an automatic cancellation. All requests for cancellation must be received in writing. In this case, refunds are limited to the amount we have not spent as deposits or other payments on the trip participants' behalf.

RISK?

This trip is not for everyone because there is a great deal of walking and we are up attending breakfast every day at 6:30 AM as well as out late some evenings, for example the show at the Kennedy. To join us in the fun, you must be in good health, free of heart conditions, back problems and other physical conditions which could be aggravated by this adventure.

RESPONSIBILITY?

We reserve the right to cancel or make changes in itinerary. This might happen if it were deemed advisable for the comfort and well being of participants. In circumstances which our organization has no control, we accept and assume no responsibility whatever for any damages, injuries, losses or delays, whether to person or property. A Boy Scouts of America Tour permit has been submitted for this trip, therefore BSA Insurance coverage amounts and regulations apply.

BAGGAGE?

Ideally, most of your personal belongings, (do not bring a sleeping bag) should fit in one duffle bag or suitcase with your name on it. You may also wish to have a small carry on bag for your camera, reading material and other small, personal items...also properly name tagged. The large duffle bag/suit case will be checked in to the airlines luggage storage under the plane. Remember to not have any metal items in your carry on bag, or on your person...including the metal lugs on your hiking boots, and heavy metal belt buckles, and bottled water, which will delay entry to the flight area.

WHAT TO BRING?

We want you to "be prepared" for all kinds of weather. However, please try to hold your baggage to the bags mentioned above. It might be helpful if you keep in mind you are carrying your own bag(s) from the vehicle area pack line to the lodging area, as well as bring it back. So bring only the items you really need, which, as a minimum, should include:

- RAIN SUIT or PONCHO.....(Important!)
- WARM SOCKS(As a minimum, take many pairs)
- 212 HAT, ISSUED BY NOV 8TH....(For day/evening use)
- HAT, WARM WOOL TYPE.....(For late evening use, just in case)
- WARM HIKING SHOES.....(For use each days' walking)
- LONG PANTS.....(For cold days and nights)
- SWEATER(For use under the uniform)
- WARM OVERCOAT, Red Preferred..(It does get cold at night)
- PERSONAL ARTICLES.....(Important medicines, sunglasses etc.)
- FEW BAND AIDS.....(Personal first aid supplies)
- WASH KIT.....(Soap, hair brush, toothbrush etc)
- DAY PACK.....(Fanny pack or small backpack)
- CAMERA AND EXTRA FILM.....(In carry bag)
- GLOVES & SCARF.....(With name on them)
- SUN BLOCK OUT.....(Even for those that "don't burn"!)
 - SPARE UNIFORM.....
 - TROOP RED VEST, ISSUED BY NOV 8TH.
 - UNDER WEAR.....
 - PAJAMAS.....
 - SUNGLASSES.....
 - WRIST WATCH.....
 - ALARM CLOCK...
 - MEDICINES.....(Permission slip must indicate what these are.)

Personal nametags must be on all items. The above suggestion list may not be complete. You should complete it based on your personal needs/desires. If you are unsure about what to bring, please contact the Trip Leader. Don't guess...be prepared!

CAMERAS...?

A trip to Washington DC calls out for many picture opportunities. Please do not plan on purchasing film, if that is what you are still using, while in DC because it will prove to be very expensive and we do not wish to loose any site seeing time. If you are relying on charging your camera, the only outlets for use will be in your rooms, so please play on standby batteries

accordingly. Night time pictures work best when using a tripod with release cable process. However, everyone need not bring one. For weight saving, we suggest sharing these items.

MEDICINES?

If a parent is not accompanying the Scout on this trip, all medicines must be properly marked with the Scouts' name as well as attached to easily understood directions, and submitted to the Trip Leader or his authorized assistant just prior to departure. The Trip Permission Slip must also indicate the names of the medicines and the use directions.

UNIFORM?

We take very seriously the values the Scouting uniform represents in public. So, while on cold days our over coats cover the Scout uniform, the Troop 212 Washington DC Trip tradition has been to outfit each participant with a Troop 212 baseball style cap and red vest for use when the overcoat is removed. These two items (cap & vest) are covered in the cost of the trip and will be issued to all trip participants shortly before the departure day. In addition, FULL BSA uniforms will be worn at all times by all Scouts during this trip. Experience has shown us we all receive better services in DC when we ALL look the part. We will not be taking time out to wash any uniforms, so we suggest you bring more than one. We suggest borrowing uniforms from those Scouts not attending this trip. The few parents that do not currently own uniforms need not buy them for just this trip. They will fit in just fine with just the cap and vest. In order to look really sharp, we would like to encourage all trip participants be in red overcoats to match the red vests.

MENU?

As is the tradition of Troop 212, we are planning on good meals while on this trip. They will be prepared for us in either restaurants or cafeterias. You will be issued a meal voucher or other instructions prior to each meal. Details of the day will be announced each day during the Morning Announcements period in the lobby, just after breakfast.

LODGING?

We will be staying at the Residence Inn by Marriott in Bethesda Maryland and families will be kept together. We will respect the BSA regulations regarding proper mixed gender and non-family trip participants. Each room will have its own bath, and linens/towels. Long distance phone calls are the responsibility of the callers and will not be paid for by the troop. However, this practice is discouraged due to the high expense associated with making calls from a hotel phone.

TRIP ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES?

As has always been the tradition of this adventure, we will be gathering as a group every evening prior to turning in for the night, in order to review the day's events and give some idea of the next day's schedule. We will also be gathering every morning after breakfast to give more information about the days events and to also make sure we are all prepared for the day and that we are all accounted for (see Buddy System & Trip Teams below).

BUDDY SYSTEM & TRIP TEAMS?

While on this adventure, there will be teams of participants made up of both Scouts and Scouters. In fact, there are two ways each person is accountable

to another, for safety reasons.

(BUDDY SYSTEM) During all Monument/Museum free time visits, and most meals, the standard Scouting Buddy System, usually 2 or 3 participants, will be employed. You all get to choose who your Museum/Monument Visiting Buddy will be. This process need not be family driven, however for younger Scouts, this might be considered. The expectation is that you will link with someone of common interests and walking speed in order to better and more safely enjoy what each monument and museum has to offer at a pace you can enjoy.

(TRIP TEAMS) During all other times and especially during train, plane and walking travel and at the end of each free time visit in a museum or monument, there will be a Check In Time (CIT) procedure in each lobby or open area to follow. During this Check In Time (CIT), a designated CIT Leader will carry out the very important task of taking a quiet roll call (not just a head count) of the Scouts/Adults assigned to them as a team for this trip. We will not proceed to the next visiting location until each CIT Leader has reported in to the Trip Leader (John Douglas) or Senior Patrol Leader that everyone is accounted for. Team size and Team Leaders will be announced prior to departure day.

PRE-TRIP PREPARATIONS?

There will be a Trip Review Meeting all participants must attend, on Tuesday November 2nd, at 7PM, Church Meeting Hall, which is just a few days before departure day. Helpful documents and any updates will be presented during this meeting. Please bring your copy of this booklet to the meeting. Also keep in mind some updates about this trip may also be announced during the October Parents Committee Meeting.

PRE-TRIP PLANNING..?

Long before this adventure begins in November, detailed preparations need to make well in advance. Individual Scouts and Scouters will be needed to assist. Many of the trip participants will be given research and reservations assignments.

SOUVENIR PATCH?

All participants will receive a custom prepared WDC souvenir patch. This patch will commemorate this trip to our nation's Capital this year and will be given out at the completion of the trip.

CITIZENSHIP IN THE NATION MERIT BADGES?

Scouts may be eligible to earn this Merit Badge. If, after reading the M. B. requirements, you wish to work for this badge during this trip, you are encouraged to inform the M.B. Counselor on your own prior to trip departure.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS?

We will be using our cell phones during this trip. If you plan to bring a personal cell phone, please let the Trip Leader know that number. Our FM Family Radios may also be used during Tour Bus Operations. For security reasons in Washington DC, there may some sensitive areas where cell phones or radios are not allowed. As more information becomes available, we will keep you posted.

MAPS?

We plan to hand out walking maps as soon as they become available.

GROUND TRANSPORTATION?

While in Washington DC, we will be using a combination of Metro subway lines, and private buses, depending on the location of the monument/museum. We will be going over and rehearsing the subway travel procedures during the Tuesday, November 2nd Meeting. When using the Metro System each participant will use the ticket vending machines to purchase the full weeks fare card. This ticket card must be kept in a safe place at all times! Parents that have difficulty operating the Metro Fare Card vending machines might want to ask for assistance from a "helpful" Scout.

TRIP SURVEY?

We will be distributing a Survey Form at the completion of this adventure in order to receive feedback asking you three things you liked best about the trip and three things that need to be improved. For the most part, the information from the last 6 trip surveys have been incorporated in this trip.

OTHER IMPORTANT & HELPFUL TIPS?

1. Jewelry, rings, and other valuables should not be taken on this trip.
2. Extra spending money needs for the Scouts has been kept to a minimum because all meals and entry fees will be paid for Troop style.
3. Before we enter every monument/museum we will be traveling through a metal detector, so you must not be carrying unapproved items.
4. While we plan for cold and rain on this trip, last year was very warm, so please plan on being flexible and pack accordingly.
5. Rules of Conduct include following Scout Spirit this trip.
6. When it has been cold, a sweater vest under the uniform has been very successful in keeping us warm while still being able to "show our uniform".
7. Watches worn by each participant are highly recommended.
8. Small backpacks have been useful in the past, however, we want them removed and held in your hands during times of train travel, or other close contact conditions.
9. Wallets are best kept in pants front pockets, rather than the traditional rear pockets.
10. Each trip participant is required to have an official pictured ID on them at all times.
11. Having your own plug in headset for use on the plane is encouraged.
12. Walking during this WDC trip with a personal headset on and connected to any electronic device will result in its confiscation.

CLOSING SUMMARY

This is a rare opportunity for our boys and their families to visit an exciting place most people only see in the movies, or on TV, especially for the price quoted above. The Trip Leader has made this trip several times, so you can expect this trip to be highly active throughout.

PARENT RELEASE FORM

I hereby make application for Scout: _____ of B.S.A. Troop #212 for a place in the camp, trip, or cruise, as described below. Said member is to be amenable to such rules and regulations as may be made by the Executive Board or its representatives.

It is expressly understood by the parents or guardian that the member for whom this application is made is in a condition of health that warrants his taking part in this event, and that the leader of this outing is hereby granted permission to take the named member to a medical doctor for examination and treatment of any accident or illness that may arise during the term of said outing. (See authorization below.)

AUTHORIZATION TO CONSENT TO TREATMENT OF MINOR

(I) (We), the undersigned parent (s) of _____ a minor, do hereby authorize the Scoutmaster or his authorized representative as agent(s) for the undersigned to consent to any X-ray examination, anesthetic, medical, or surgical diagnosis or treatment and hospital care which is deemed advisable by, and is to be rendered under the general or special supervision, of any physician or surgeon licensed under the provision of the Medicine Practice Act on the medical staff of a licensed hospital, whether such diagnosis or treatment is rendered at the office of said physician or at said hospital.

It is understood that this authorization is given in advance of any specific diagnosis, treatment, or hospital care which the aforementioned physician, in the exercise of his best judgment may deem advisable. This authorization shall remain effective for the date of the event given below.

PLACE: _____

DATES: _____

MEETING TIME & PLACE: _____

RETURN TIME & PLACE: _____

MODE OF TRANSPORTATION: Troop vans, trucks and cars

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS AND LOCATION WHERE PARENT MAY BE CONTACTED:

(#1) CELL: _____

(#2) _____

(#3) _____

ALLERGIES OR ALLERGIC REACTIONS:

PRIVATE INSURANCE CARRIER:

POLICY #:

CARRIER PHONE NUMBER:

SPECIAL MEDICATIONS:

BLOOD TYPE:

ADDITIONAL MEDICAL INFORMATION MUST BE DETAILED ON THE BACK OF THIS FORM.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____