

**NOTICE OF TROOP #212 ANNUAL PIONEER CHALLENGE WEEKEND TRIP year 3011**  
**PEASE READ CAREFULLY AND COMPLETELY**

Dear Scout and Scouters;

Since this is the 201st year of Scouting in our country, and the years is 3011, this trip will be unusual, since The National Scouting and Home Land Security Office has given us special permission to have the old NASA shuttle bring us to the far side of Mars and land on the newly discovered third moon on the back side of Mars, where they have a relatively new BSA Outpost for deserving scouts to use. The moon's name is Tricepia and the Outpost number is 201. This trip scouts will be challenged to use their Scout skills because the Shuttle limits baggage to each Scout to have with them what they can carry on their backs or in their hands to transport Personal and Patrol gear. These items will be on their laps during transport or in the Shuttle baggage storage area. There will no other supply vehicles with gear or food on this trip, so troop coolers, troop food boxes, troop cook boxes, and troop stoves will not be available. Scouts are expected to "pioneer" this Outpost and have only what they can carry individually or as a Patrol.

This moon Outpost has some interesting characteristics;

- While there is no firewood for the Scouts to cook on, there are plenty of "Burn Stones" available scattered around. Some fire wood may be available at the Outpost Trading Store, but they only accept Tricepia money at his Trading Store, so scouts will have to figure out the best way to earn some of this local currency, if they decide to visit the Trading Store.
- There is good drinking water at this Outpost, but it has to be discovered....and the source might move around at this Outpost.... A strange feature of this moons geology.
- There is very little shade but plenty of tall, green grass.
- There are some "ground bugs" to be watchful of. While there are no large wild animals we know of on this moon, past troops that visited this Outpost have reported some food stuffs eaten occasionally, when not packaged properly. We will have the famed "Chubble" on canvassing duty watching for these ground bugs, if possible....more about Chubble alerts during the weekend.
- It sometimes rains on this moon....so mud issues and proper boot need to be considered.
- The magnetic field and gravity on this moon is exactly the same as back home on Earth.
- There is no high altitude sickness at this Outpost....temperatures are mild...about the same as on earth now.
- There are outhouses available, but no other bathroom or wash facilities.
- There are some tables left over from the last group that was allowed at this Outpost....conditions unknown at this time. We will check with the Outpost Director for more info when the transport shuttle drops us off at the Outpost entrance.
- Fire pits are not available, so basic ground fire skills and set up will be necessary.

**While on this trip, there will be 5seperate "Patrol Challenges" for Scouts to attend.** For Tricepia Dollars, Scouts will be performing feats of greatness using their Scouting Skills and Leadership Skills, which will include, but are not limited to, knots and lashings, compass work, cooking, first aid, shelter building and much more. All meals will also be part of the competition, using only food purchased from the supermarket. The winning Patrol members will receive special recognition rewards.

**We will meet at the Church parking lot at 7:00 pm Friday, Feb 25<sup>th</sup>, with plans on departing at 7:30 PM.** The next stop will be the Outpost entrance at about 8:30 PM. The scouts will then walk by flashlight and compass to seek out their campsites. We will be returning to the Church Parking lot on Sunday at about 1 PM. So Sunday lunch will not be part of this trip. The exact time of return is unknown because of things that may be

beyond our control, such as how efficient we are during Sunday pack up time, general weather conditions, and even traffic conditions.

**If you wish to attend this adventure, please bring \$35.00, and the standard permission slip found on our web page, to the Troop meeting on Monday February 21<sup>st</sup>.** The Patrol Leaders will collect the money and slips that evening from their patrol members. The money will fund as follows;

Food/supplies/ice for 4 **meals**: 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 supper....\$15.00  
Camp Fees, Patch & event costs.....\$15.00  
Gas costs.....\$5.00

**The location of this adventure will be in the new Outpost location as outlined above, with some trees, but mostly an open field of tall green grass.** Full uniform is required during auto travel on Friday and Sunday. All Scouts should plan on leaving their uniform in a parked car in order to keep their backpack weight down. Should pack, as a MINIMUM:

- Extra Socks & Sturdy Shoes & Personal Eating Utensils & Bowl & Mug & Brim Hat
- Scout Handbook & Emergency Quarters & Pocket Knife & Whistle & Insect Spray & Sunscreen
- Warm Jacket for evenings & Personal Flashlight & First Aid Kit & Fire starter & Matches
- Long pants & Boots & Compass & Poncho & Canteen & Sunglasses
- Pencils or Pens & Notebook & Soap & Comb & Chapstick & Sun Screen & Bathing Suit
- Hat & Energy Bar & Tooth brush & paste & Towel & Day Pack
- Sleeping bag & ground cloth & Insulated pad or air mattress & 10 feet of rope per person
- If you do not own a compass it is recommended that your purchase a "Silva compass without a bubble for less than \$20.00"as presented during the recent Troop and Adult Meeting.

**Since the Shuttle limits each Scout to have with them only what they can carry on their backs or in their hands to transport Personal Gear ( the list above) and Patrol Gear ( Food, shelter, and cooking pots ) . The limited supply of troop backpacks will be available** at the troop meeting, Monday, February 21<sup>st</sup> for those scouts that wish to borrow this....remember some item may be carried by the Patrol Members by hand as well.

**All four of the meals will be part of the general Patrol Style competition. There will also be the Saturday Supper Desert Competition.** All foods are to be carried in gear bags or backpacks, which will include Patrol Cooking pots, which will be made available to the patrols on at Thursdays shopping on Feb 24<sup>th</sup>. Shelters for Friday and Saturday nights, are also in the same gear bags, and will be up to the patrols to arrange and implement.

**As extra opportunity for additional Tricepia Money, used at the Outpost Trading Store, may be earned by a Patrol if** they can show our Judges a useful camp gadget they prepared/built in the field before dark on Saturday night.

Yours in Scouting,

John Douglas

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