

June 14, 2013

Dear Scout Parents,

Every boy dreams of going to camp...of living in the great out of doors and experiencing the thrill of adventure with his buddies and just plain getting away from " the city" . This opportunity is within reach of your son this year, again, if he has been signed up this year for summer camp at Lost Valley Camp located near Warner Springs. We are working and planning for camp in most of our activities during the year in order to prepare all of our Scouts for this exciting and meaningful experience.

Just think of it! During the 7 action filled days your son will acquire a host of wonderful lifetime memories, make new friends, acquire new interests and skills, as well as develop resourcefulness, which result in being better prepared for manhood. Of special interest to many of our boys is the Wrangler Program opportunities offered at this camp. Our one week period at camp will be from Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>.

The following 20 items below are actions based on experience, you and your Scout need to be aware of: Please review it with him.

1.Please note that we expect all Scouts to meet promptly at the Camp, 12 noon on Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup>, in FULL uniform for check in with the Scoutmaster, submit their banking envelopes and meds, then eat their bag lunch, while waiting for the gates to open at 1 :00 PM.

2.There may have been some confusion about the Medical Forms required for this trip; all Scouts and Adult Leaders must have the yearly form completed by a doctor and submitted to Dana BEFORE camp day....not the first day of camp. If a completed medical is not submitted, entrance to the camp will be denied.

3.We need to collect multiple signed permission slips BEFORE the first day of camp as well. The camp version requires FIVE parental signatures. The Scoutmaster is NOT allowed to sign any permission slips.

4.Each Scout should plan on bringing his bike and safety helmet along, because of how spread out all the event sites are. This bike needs to be documented on the permission slip in the area noted for that purpose. The safety check of this bike, prior to trip departure, is the responsibility of the Scouts' parent.

5.All Scouts should have a day bag type of pack on this adventure containing the 10 essentials.

6.All trip drivers will need to make sure their vehicles are in fine working order since we are expecting to drive an unpaved road for the final 10 miles into camp.

7.Extra spending money for each Scout may be placed in two envelopes, as discussed at the recent Parents Meeting; one should be marked for more Merit Badge support, in case the pre-payment you and Rick are working thru, turns out not to be enough money. The second envelope should be marked for Trading Post Goodies. Both envelopes should have the Scouts name on them, as well as the amount enclosed, and given to the Scoutmaster on Sunday, the 14<sup>th</sup> during the check in period between 12 noon and 1 PM. These dollars should be fives or singles...nothing larger. Anything larger will be interpreted as "opportunity money" for the adult patrol to use on ice cream treats for themselves.

8.All medicines the Scout is expected to consume on this trip should be placed in the original container, and given to the Scoutmaster on Sunday, the 14<sup>th</sup> during the check in period between 12 noon and 1 PM. Please make sure the Scouts name is clearly marked on the container along with clear instructions.

9. A copy of the Lost Valley map is on our web site. Each Scout must be familiar with the camp layout BEFORE he arrives at camp. This is a very large facility.

10. Please make sure that everything the Scout brings has his name on it, and, ideally, our Troop number as well.

11. All Troop 212 Adult Leaders attending Camp should make sure they have attended the BSA Youth Protection Training, and present the completion certificate to Rick BEFORE the first day of camp. Keep a copy handy for yourself, just in case.

12. A complete list of what each Scout might want to bring to camp may be found on our web site as well. Please use it.

13. From an advancement point of view, it would be beneficial to first and second year scouts, and their families, to read paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of page 9 in this summer camp's leaders guide. We would like to emphasize the importance of paragraph 2 which says, "Scouts will be expected to take responsibility for the merit badges they decided to work on. Just showing up for class is not enough", in order to avoid future drama.

14. We believe there is a special Order of The Arrow supper on Thursday...not confirmed as of this writing, but will be soon. Anyway, please remember to pack your OA Sash, just in case.

15. Parents should purchase the required Merit Badge Booklets way before camp begins....because experience has taught us often the summer camp trading post stock runs out quickly, leaving some scouts without the tools they need to be successful. We encourage scouts to donate these MB books to the troop library when they are done using them.

16. Blue cards will be provided to the scouts by the troop during summer camp. Parents have no need to purchase these in advance.

17. The Camp provides the Scouts with tents, platforms, and cots. We suggest each scout bring their foam pad or air mattress anyway, because these cots often have wooden platforms.

18. We request each adult bring their own/personal dome tent, and cot.

19. For adults bringing electronic devices, there are very few charging locations. Please plan accordingly.

20. Policy dictates there should be no food in the tents, and nothing in the tents that requires a match or lighter to light it. Please do not send your scout to camp with any version of these things.

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