

TROOP 212 2085 PIONEER CHALLENGE WEEKEND

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AND COMPLETELY

Dear Scout and Scouters;

On this, the 50th Anniversary of the heroic rescue of Mark Watney from the surface of Mars, we celebrate by journeying to the red planet for our annual pioneer challenge weekend.

Since the colonization, and subsequent commercialization of travel to and from Mars, boy scout troops have made Mars a premier place to test their skills. Starting in 3011, Boy scout troops across the Milky Way will be able to travel to Outpost 201, on the newly discovered Mars moon called Tricpepia, but until then, we travel to the surface of the red planet for this trip.

Scouts patrols will be pitted against each other to see whose skills reign supreme. Scouts will be expected to show their prowess in **first aid, fire building, orienteering, field repairs, knots and lashings, and cooking**. There will be a special competition to commemorate the favorite food of rescued astronaut Mark Watney, come prepared. The winning Patrol members will receive special recognition rewards.

Despite all the terra-forming to make the planet inhabitable, Mars is still a desert environment. Proper boots or sturdy shoes are a must. **Mars weather is unpredictable. BE PREPARED!**

Departure: **Friday, April 15th at 7:00 PM** – Church parking lot. Please arrive promptly.

Return: **Sunday, April 17th, at approximately 4:00 PM** – Church parking lot.

Location: **Mars (AKA Red Rock Canyon State, Cantil, CA)**

Cost: **\$25.00 / \$15.00** (1 dinner, 1 lunch, 2 breakfasts, camp fees, patch, and other program costs / \$15 includes gas).

Please bring \$40.00 CASH or a Check made out to "BSA Troop 212" to the Troop Meeting on Monday, April 11th, with the standard permission slip which can be found on the website.

Preparation: Meal planning will happen at the Troop Meeting on April 11th.

Food Shopping: Thursday, April 14th, Stater Bros at 7:00 PM

Uniform: **Full uniform during auto travel on Friday and Sunday.**

At a minimum, the following items should be packed with owners name on them;

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate clothing and sleeping attire
(Day 69-80°/Night 42-52) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag, Wicking Layer, and Pad | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 -2 Granola Bars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothes suitable for hiking in cool to warm temps during the day and warm cloths for night | <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Cloth Daypack – with essentials | <input type="checkbox"/> Insect Spray |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hoodie and thermals or fleece for sleeping | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydration pack or Canteen | <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Lunch – Patrol provided |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brim Hat, Wide | <input type="checkbox"/> Compass, approved as per demo | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Warm Jacket, ski cap, gloves for night | <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kit, personal | <input type="checkbox"/> Large black plastic trash |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sturdy hiking boots and extra socks | <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight | <input type="checkbox"/> Mess Kit (utensils, bowl, mug, etc) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Matches or Flint | <input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush & paste |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Pencils, Pens, Notebook | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen and Chapstick |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocket Knife | <input type="checkbox"/> Soap and Comb |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Poncho | <input type="checkbox"/> Small towel bag |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Rope – 10 Feet | <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet paper |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Handbook | <input type="checkbox"/> Tote N Chip patch or card |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Firem'n Chit patch or card |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter supplies, tarp, rope, etc. |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra gum |

Sunday lunch will be a stop in Lancaster. Please send scouts with money to purchase their own lunch.

As is the tradition of Troop 212, this will be a very safe outing, despite the undead. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Russ or John before the trip (refer to the ScoutTrack directory for phone numbers).

Yours in Scouting,

Shawn Fife, Adult Trip Leader

Michael K., Scout Trip Leader

Russ Turley, Matt A., Adult Theme Leaders

Adam T., Andy L., Joseph S., Scout Theme Leaders