**Troop 212 Kickback Trip to Lake Cachuma, August 17-19, 2018**

Our trip for August will be held at Lake Cachuma in Santa Barbara County. The theme for this month is REST AND RELAXATION! This will be a chance to kayak or canoe or fish or swim in one of the pools or bike or hike the area trails or visit the Nature Center or cruise around the lake on the Nature Center’s boat. Take your pick! Evening activities could include a live music concert and star party. So grab your kayak or canoe, your bicycle, rent a boat from the marina, or improve your Scoutmaster nap skills ALL DAY LONG, if you wish.

Our journey will begin on Friday 7:00pm, meeting at the church for the roughly 3 hour drive to Lake Cachuma, one of the important drinking water reservoirs for Santa Barbara. After camp set-up at the Barona Butte Group Site and a good night’s sleep, activities will begin promptly on Saturday…whenever you happen to crawl out of your tent!

Daytime temperatures are expected to be in the 80-90’s so brim hats and sunscreen are imperative. Night-time temperatures should be in the 60’s. Weather updates will be issued on Monday (13th) and Thursday (17th) by Dylan, Sam Miller and Sebastian, the Trip/Theme leaders for this event.

Since this campout will have no specific program other than R&R, this will be the perfect opportunity to plan your next Scoutmaster Conference, Board of Review, discuss Eagle Project Plans or some other advancement you have been putting off for lack of time. Each patrol will be responsible for its own meals so this might be your chance to cook for rank advancement (Tenderfoot, Second and First Class) or the Cooking Merit badge. (Attention Badger Patrol: for the sake of ENHANCED R&R, breakfasts will be Continental Plus (regular continental + Cook-Your-Own-Eggs) allowing for breakfast at your leisure.)

Here are some important details on possible activities for this trip.

Kayaks and Canoes: The principle theme will be water-based: kayaking/canoeing and/or fishing on the lake. We encourage everyone who has a kayak or canoe to bring it so that we can take full advantage of this opportunity. (Please note, the minimum length of boats allowed on the lake is 10 feet.) If you intend to bring your kayak/canoe, please let me know no later than money collection night on Monday, August 13. We need to ensure that all kayaks/canoes have some means of being transported to the lake. Since we are encouraging boat play on the lake, the troop will pay for all kayak/canoe inspection and use fees. Quagla Mussell inspection protocol is strictly enforced for all watercraft (including kayaks/canoes) so be prepared by thoroughly cleaning and drying your vessel before leaving for this trip. For more information on the inspection process, see the Lake Cachuma website (Santa Barbara Parks Division).

Swimming: The Lake is the primary drinking water source for the County so body contact in the water is strictly forbidden by both human and canine friends. This includes wading and any water sport that allows contact such as water skiing. If swimming is your preferred form of R&R, a pool is available (for a $3 cash-only fee, see Hours of Operation).

Bicycling: You may bring your bicycle for fun. Don’t forget your helmet (mandatory at the lake for those under 18). Please inform me if you are bringing a bike at money collection night on Monday, August 13 so we can be sure to have a means of transporting your bike.

Important Fee Notes: Lake Cachuma is operated by the County of Santa Barbara and charges a fee for just about everything. Your camp fee covers our campsite reservation and parking fees, along with the kayak/canoe daily passes. Other fees will be your responsibility including pet ($3/night with mandatory proof of current rabies vaccination), use of the pools ($3 per person, cash only), showers (cash only) and a multitude of other items. Fishing at the lake requires the normal California Fishing License. Additional fees apply if you wish to take the Nature Cruise or other guided activities, or rent a boat from the Marina. For information, go to http://rockymountainrec.com/lake-facilities/listing/cachuma-lake (Special note: according to reviews, the Marina charges additional for PDF rentals. If you have your own PFD and plan to rent a boat from the Marina, consider bringing your own PFD) These fees will be your responsibility. I strongly encourage you to visit the Lake Cachuma website for more information on fees and to peruse the many amenities of Lake Cachuma. https://www.countyofsb.org/parks/cachuma.sbc.

Limit of 32 participants for this activity. Priority will be given to those who complete registration at the meeting on Monday, August 13th. In addition, we have a limit of ­­­­8 vehicles allowed (trailers do not count as a “vehicle”). Carpooling will be necessary, likely giving priority to vehicles capable of transporting kayaks, bikes, etc. This limit of 8 vehicles is the reason for needing to know what large “toys” (such as kayaks and bikes) will need to be transported. Let’s work together to facilitate this!

**Important Dates and Costs:**

**Cost: $33 / $15** covers 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 1 dinner + $15 for gas.  **Please bring $48 cash/check to the troop meeting on Monday, August 13th, with the NEW troop permission slip**,which can be found on the website.

**Departure: Thursday, August 17th at 7:00 PM** – Food shopping at Stater Brothers

**Friday, August 18th at 7:00 PM** – Church parking lot. Please arrive promptly for a timely departure.

**Sunday, August 20th at 3:00 – 4:00 PM,** back at Church Parking Lot. Do not leave the Church until your SPL has dismissed you

**Equipment:**

As a minimum, the following items should be packed in your duffel bag. If you are bringing a kayak/canoe, don’t forget the PFD’s and paddles!

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|  Appropriate clothing (Day 80 - 90’s,  Night-60’s)   Brim Hat and warm hat for night   Sunglasses   Closed-toed shoes   Poncho/Rain Gear   water bottle   Sunscreen and Chapstick   Helmet (if bicycling) |  Whistle   Compass   First Aid Kit   Pocket Knife   Toilet paper & trowel   Matches or Flint   Rope – 10 Feet   Swimsuit (for pool)   fishing gear (if you are fishing)   PFD (only if you already own it) |  Pencils, Pens, Notebook   Flashlight (small is best)   Warm Jacket   Sleeping Bag and Pad   Ground Cloth   Mess Kit (utensils, bowl, mug, etc.)   Small baggy of Handy-wipes,  Toothbrush & paste   2 Small towels   Money for Sunday lunch |

John Douglas