



## Troop 212 – Marooned on Catalina

Aug 2022

Dear Scouts and Scouters,

Since we are a High Adventure troop and with an eye towards “being prepared”, On Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, we are going on a three hour boat ride to Catalina Island where we are going to “maroon” our scouts on a remote beach on the island to see how they will survive in the wild for a night. During the next two Troop Meetings, the Junior Leaders will be conducting education demonstrations for the basic survival skills everyone who ventures into the outdoors should understand and be fully prepared for this adventure. This will include:

1. **Fire** – Fire is the king of survival techniques! Fire can purify water, cook food, signal rescuers, provide warmth, light and comfort, help keep predators at a distance, and can be a most welcome friend and companion.
2. **Shelter** (and proper attire) – Shelter is the survival technique by which you protect your body from excess exposure from the sun, cold, wind, rain or snow.
3. **Signaling** – Signaling is unique among survival techniques in that it gives you the means and ability to alert any and all potential rescuers that you are in need of HELP. Fire, flashing light, bright color markers, flags, mirrors, whistles all will help you be found.
4. **Food/Water** – Food/Water are vital towards your survival. Ration your sweat not your water intake.
5. **First Aid** – First Aid as a survival technique is not just the basic medical needs, it is the primary way in which you act to survive. DO NOT PANIC, remain calm and do what you have to do to take care of YOU. STOP means Sit, Think, Observe, and Plan.

The Pack:

Please pack all necessary gear into a daypack/backpack as we will be simulating survival conditions. Make sure your gear is packed in waterproof bags to keep as much of your gear as dry as possible because everything will be tossed into the water and most likely drug across the sandy beach as if you were truly marooned or shipwrecked. A well packed bag would also serve as a handy floatation aid or you could bring a small piece of rope, where you can drag the pack behind you as you swim to shore. There is no loading dock at the beach site, so it is up to you to try and keep your gear as clean and dry as possible.

Since we are going to be marooned, there is no need to go food shopping as a group. Participants are responsible for their own food on this trip. The campsite will be primitive, so the scouts are encouraged to pack using the list below, and anything else a prepared scout can think of for the adventure. As part of the program, there may be some MRE food rations hidden on the island or possibly washed ashore during the shipwreck, along with some other ancillary items to help the scouts cope during the marooned adventure. It should be an exciting and educational experience, so we hope you can join us.

Word of Caution; As much fun as this sounds, this trip is not for everyone. There will be no bathrooms, no shelters for shade, no fresh water, and the troop will **not** be providing troop tents, lexan food boxes, wood cook boxes or any other gear from troop storage. All you will have is what you bring in your pack, More detailed instructions will be shared with the boys during the Monday meetings leading up to the excursion.

We will be using the two private sailboats at the Long Beach Yacht Club (Long Dock), captained by Mr. Brownett, and Mr. Talbot, for transport to Cabrillo Harbor Beach on the North side of Catalina. We will be loading personal gear and troop gear onto the sailboats, on Friday, August 19 at 6:00 pm and then you will be heading home to sleep comfortably in your own bed for the night. We will meet back at the Long Beach Yacht Club the next morning, Saturday, August 20 at 6:00 am sharp and will be departing for a three-hour boat ride.

The uniform for this event is Class B t-shirt, hat, swim trunks, sunscreen, and water shoes. All participants should expect to get very wet when departing the boat for the beach shoreline.

**Location:**           **Next to The Crab Pot in Basin #1 at the end of Dock #4**

**Loading Meeting:** **Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 PM** – **Next to The Crab Pot in Basin #1 at the end of Dock #4)**  
For gear loading, please be prompt.

**Boat Departure:** **Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 AM** – Same parking lot. Please arrive promptly to load up and do a quick safety check and boat will leave no later than 6:30a.

**Return Arrival:**   **Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, at approximately 2:00 PM** – Same parking lot

**Cost:**               **\$40.00** per person to cover the cost of camp fees. **Please bring \$40.00 CASH or CHECK to the troop meeting on Monday, August 15<sup>th</sup> with the standard permission slip which can be found on the website. There is no extended deadline past the 15<sup>th</sup> for both the money and Permission Slip.** All checks need to me made out to "BSA Troop 212".

Space on this trip is limited to 36 participants, so sign-up early to reserve your spot, submit the completed Permission Slip, and pay on time. If we fill up during final enrollment on the 15<sup>th</sup> and you did not place your name on the reservation list during the troop meeting, you will be placed on the "stand-by" list, in the event of any last-minute cancellations. As always, we will maintain two-deep adult leadership, but if there are any last minute Scout additions, we may have to ask some adults to step aside to make more room for qualified and interested Scouts.

And of course, as in any BSA water event, for safety, an additional qualification to attend this trip is having passed the BSA swim test, or equivalent swim capable certification, as determined by the Scoutmaster. Life vests will be used this trip. While the troop owns some, and the boats has some, we will need those of you that have your own life vest to bring them (ensure your name is on them.)

We expect the days to be quite warm, but the nights will be a little chilly. Please bring warm clothes for the evening. Fishing gear on this adventure is allowed. If you are 16 years of age or older, you will need to have a California Fishing License with you.

The rescue boats will provide a lunch on Sunday during the trip home to any famished participants. Also, we will have a five-watt Ham radio with us to be in touch with the transport boats at all times, and we will have SPOT with us, so families can monitor our return transport progress for timely Sunday pick up in Long Beach. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**At a minimum**, the following items should be packed with owner's name on them;

- |                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate clothing<br><b>(Day high ; 85°/Night low; 55°)</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> Insect Spray                                                                                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brim Hat, Wide                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Matches                                                                                                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Towel                                                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Disposable Mess Kit (utensils,<br>bowl, mug, etc)                                                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kit, personal                                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocket Knife                                                                                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Poncho                                                                                                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Cloth                                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Rope - 10 Feet                                                                                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handy-wipes                                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses                                                                                                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydration pack or Canteens (FILLED<br>at home)                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dry clothes for evening                                                                                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen and Chapstick                                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter or tent, no troop tents<br>provided                                                                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet paper                                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Light blanket/folded<br>sheet/sleeping bag liner, or<br>sleeping bag, but it must fit in<br>your daypack/backpack. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Light jacket                                                   |                                                                                                                                             |

Yours in Scouting,

John Douglas

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